

# **Town of Lyons**

## **Annual Report for Fiscal Year Ending December 31, 2024 and 2025 Budget**



Containing reports from Town departments, boards and commissions, affiliated districts and other Lyons-area organizations covering the period January 1 to December 31, 2024, as well as plans for fiscal year 2025.

## Elected Town Officials

### Trustees (terms expire April 2024)

Hollie Rogin, Mayor  
Paula Williams, Mayor Pro Tem  
Mark Browning  
Tanya Daty  
Glen Delman  
Dave Hamrick  
Greg Lowell

## Town Staff and Departments

**Note:** Links to departments, information, and forms available at: <https://www.townoflyons.com>

### Administration and Elections

|  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| Victoria Simonsen, Town Administrator  | 303-823-6622, ext. 19 |
| Dolores Vasquez, Town Clerk            | 303-823-6622, ext. 12 |
| Maria Marquez-Rubio, Deputy Town Clerk | 303-823-6622, ext. 21 |
| Brandi Johnson, Utility Billing        | 303-823-6622, ext. 11 |
| Jenifer Fredricks                      | 303-823-6622 ext. 10  |

### Parks and Public Works

|   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| Dave Cosgrove, Director                       | 303-823-6622, ext. 20 |
| Justin Nittman, Public Works Lead             | 303-823-6622, ext. 27 |
| Lisa Ramsey, Parks and Recreation Coordinator | 303-823-6622, ext. 30 |

### Utilities and Engineering

|   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| Aaron Caplan, Director                        | 303-823-6622, ext. 42 |
| Justin Doles, Town Engineer / Project Manager | 303-823-6622, ext. 47 |
| Lance Stromberg, Permit Tech/Admin Assistant  | 303-823-6622, ext. 33 |

### Community Development

|   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| Vacant, Lead Planner                          | 303-823-6622, ext. 25 |
| Cassidy Davenport, Planner II/Code Compliance | 302-823-6622, ext. 13 |

### Community Relations and Programs

|   |                       |
|---|-----------------------|
| Kim Mitchell, Communications Director / Main Street Manager | 303-823-6622, ext. 35 |
| Kristen Bruckner, Arts and Culture Coordinator              | 303-823-6622, ext. 66 |
| Visitor Center Staff  | 303-823-6622, ext. 26 |

### Finance

|                              |                       |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Cassandra Eyestone, Director | 303-823-6622, ext. 17 |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|

### Grants and Project Manager

|                     |                       |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Tracy Sanders, Lead | 303-823-6622, ext. 48 |
|---------------------|-----------------------|

### Lyons Town Hall Address:

432 5th Avenue  
Lyons, CO 80540

### Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 49  
Lyons, CO 80540

Cover photo: Firefighters at the July 2024 Stone Canyon Fire

## **Dedication of the Annual Report**

### **To the Firefighters and First Responders who fought the Stone Canyon Fire**

On the morning of July 30 last year, a wildfire erupted on Eagle Ridge above Stone Canyon.

Fueled by summer heat and dry conditions, the fire, which started in a residence, quickly spread eastward, threatening homes on the ridge, in the canyon below and, if the wind shifted, the town of Lyons itself.

The wildfire was met by some 225 firefighters from more than 40 fire districts as well as aerial firefighting planes. Among the firefighters were Lyons Fire District personnel - both full-time and volunteer.

The fire burned 1557 acres, destroyed five structures and, sadly, killed one person. But it could have been worse.

Firefighters were able to save many homes in the canyon – those untouched by flames stood out as islands of greenery among the charred landscape after the fire.

“Because of the efforts of fire crews and slurry bombers, our house was saved,” said Robyn Sloan, an unincorporated Boulder County resident of Eagle Ridge. “Fire crews stayed near our house for four days and nights, defending hot spots and creating fire breaks. Without their dedication and great skill, I would not have a home today.”



The skill of the firefighters and aerial attack planes, combined with a fortuitous wind shift that took the flames out into open country, prevented the fire from jumping the ridge and coming down into the town.

It is to these firefighters, first responders and pilots that this annual report is dedicated:

- Hygiene Fire Protection District
- Lefthand Canyon Fire Protection District
- Boulder County Sheriff's Office
- Boulder County Sheriff Fire Management Office
- Boulder County Sheriff Emergency Services
- Boulder County Sheriff Communications
- Allenspark Fire Protection District
- Longmont Public Safety Department
- Boulder Rural Fire
- Boulder Fire Department
- Boulder Emergency Squad
- Berthoud Fire Protection District
- Mountainview Fire Protection District
- Boulder Mountain Fire Protection District
- Four Mile Fire Protection District

- Colorado Division of Fire Prevention and Control
- Squad 1-1 U.S. Forest Service
- Big Elk Fire Protection District
- Jamestown Fire
- Sugarloaf Fire
- Sunshine Fire
- Lafayette Fire
- Louisville Fire
- Frederick Firestone Fire Protection District
- Westminster Fire
- Aurora Fire
- Arvada Fire
- Manitou Springs Fire
- Brush Volunteer Fire
- Jackson 105 Fire
- Larimer County Sheriff
- Larimer County Sheriffs Emergency Services
- Sable Altura Fire
- Eaton Fire Department
- South Adams County Fire
- Pueblo West Fire
- Foothills Fire Protection District
- Hoehne Fire Protection District
- Pennsylvania Wildland Team
- Crook Fire Protection
- El Paso Fire
- Nederland Fire Protection District
- Cimarron Fire
- Colorado River Fire
- SEAT pilots T827 and T-857
- Sonya and FTC Interagency Dispatch, Tanker 10 and all the aircraft crews

## **Mayor's message**

Dear Community,

Once again, I have the great honor of thanking you for a wonderful year. Last April, a new Town Board was seated. Trustees Mark Browning and Greg Lowell returned to serve our town after a two-year hiatus, Trustees Glen Delman, Tanya Daty and Paula Stone-Williams were re-elected, and Trustee David Hamrick (formerly chair of the PCDC) was elected for the first time. We are very fortunate to have such thoughtful, intelligent, dedicated people serving our community.

By far the most impactful event of 2024 was the Stone Canyon Fire. Within hours, Town Staff stood up an entire city of disaster management in our town. Resources from around the region and country joined the Lyons Fire Protection District and our regional firefighting and law enforcement partners to keep us safe and battle the blaze that could have been much more deadly.

We mourn life lost in the fire; we mourn the homes, wildlands, and wildlife affected. And we thank our lucky stars (and the hero firefighters!) for saving our town. So many individuals stepped up to help over those trying days. The Command Center at the fire station was overwhelmed with donations of food, personal hygiene items, and more, from local businesses and individuals alike. Planet Bluegrass even delivered a refrigerator to keep water cold!

Mayor Pro Tem Williams helped evacuate her neighborhood and visited residents at Lyons Valley Townhomes to share information and support. Town Administrator Victoria Simonsen and her staff worked with Boulder County Office of Disaster Management and others literally around the clock. Like it always does, the Town of Lyons came together with cool heads and strong hearts for our community. I could not be prouder.

2024 also saw some intense community conversations around growth and development, which are ongoing. This is nothing new; Lyons residents have historically been very involved in shaping the future of our town. We face the same pressures our neighboring communities do, with fewer resources to address them. As these conversations move forward, I am confident that our history of finding innovative and creative solutions to thorny issues will serve us well.

Finally, thank you to all of the caring, dedicated, talented people of Lyons who show up, work hard, and really know how to have fun. In this report, you'll see information from our dedicated volunteer Boards and Commissions, our community partners, and others. Lyons wouldn't be Lyons without them, and Lyons certainly wouldn't be Lyons without *you*.

All the best,

**Hollie Rogin**  
**Mayor, Town of Lyons**

## Table of Contents

|  |    |
|--|----|
| <i>Mayor's message</i> .....   | 4  |
| <i>2024 Town Administrator's Report</i> .....                                  | 7  |
| <i>Finance Director's Report</i> .....   | 10 |
| <i>Town Clerk's Report</i> .....   | 13 |
| <i>Lyons Municipal Court 2024 Report</i> .....                                 | 15 |
| <i>Flood Recovery Report</i> .....   | 16 |
| <i>Department of Parks and Public Works</i> .....                              | 18 |
| <i>Community Development</i> .....   | 30 |
| <i>Utilities and Engineering Department</i> .....                              | 32 |
| <i>Code Compliance</i> .....   | 35 |
| <i>Community Programs and Relations Department</i> .....                       | 37 |
| <i>Legal</i> .....   | 40 |
| <i>Lyons Urban Renewal Authority</i> .....                                     | 41 |
| <i>Planning Community and Development Commission</i> .....                     | 43 |
| <i>Boulder County Sheriff's Office Annual Report 2024 (Lyons)</i> .....        | 45 |
| <i>Lyons Fire Protection District 2024 Report</i> .....                        | 60 |
| <i>LETTER FROM THE CHIEF</i> .....   | 62 |
| <i>DISTRICT OVERVIEW</i> .....   | 63 |
| <i>Lyons Regional Library District</i> .....                                   | 69 |
| <i>Board of Adjustments</i> .....  | 75 |
| <i>Lyons Main Street and Economic Vitality Commission</i> .....                | 76 |
| <i>Kim Mitchell, Director of Communications and Community Relations,</i> ..... | 76 |
| <i>Ecology Advisory Board</i> .....  | 78 |
| <i>Historic Preservation Commission 2023 Report</i> .....                      | 82 |
| <i>Housing and Human Resources Commission 2023 Report</i> .....                | 85 |
| <i>Parks and Recreation Commission</i> .....                                   | 87 |
| <i>Sustainable Futures Commission</i> .....                                    | 92 |
| <i>Utilities and Engineering Board</i> .....                                   | 94 |
| <i>Rocky Mountain Botanic Gardens 2024 Report</i> .....                        | 96 |
| <i>Redstone Museum/Lyons Historical Society</i> .....                          | 98 |

|   |            |
|---|------------|
| <i>Lyons Arts and Humanities Commission 2024 Annual Report.....</i> | <i>100</i> |
| <i>Lyons Lions Club .....</i>                                       | <i>104</i> |
| <i>LEAF, Lyons Emergency &amp; Assistance Fun .....</i>             | <i>105</i> |
| <i>Lyons Community Foundation.....</i>                              | <i>107</i> |
| <i>2025 Budget Details .....</i>                                    | <i>111</i> |

# 2024 Town Administrator's Report

## Victoria Simonsen, Town Administrator

The Town of Lyons is a statutory town organized with six trustees and one mayor who are elected at large by the voters to set legislative and financial policies for operating the town government. Trustees are elected for two-year terms. A town administrator is appointed to implement the policies, manage personnel, and oversee daily operations. The town government comprises several departments, including finance and the clerk's office, parks and public works, utilities and engineering, community development, community relations, and communications. The town continued to have a part-time position dedicated to flood recovery grant reporting in 2024.

In addition to paid staff, the town has an experienced board and commission structure that supports the Board of Trustees in their research and recommendations, with a board liaison and staff liaison assigned to each group. These committees are advisory (except for Planning and Community Development and the Board of Adjustments) and consist of residents and non-resident volunteers. Most groups are made of seven members. The agendas and minutes of each of these boards and commissions are available online on the Town of Lyons home page.

Currently, the boards and commissions are as follows (their reports can be found elsewhere in this Annual Report):

- Planning and Community Development Commission
- Board of Adjustments
- Budget and Audit Advisory Committee
- Ecology Advisory Board
- Economic Vitality Commission
- Historic Preservation Commission
- Housing and Human Services Commission
- Lyons Arts and Humanities Commission
- Parks and Recreation Commission
- Student Advisory Committee
- Sustainable Futures Commission
- Utilities and Engineering Board

The board has two ongoing subcommittees: the Revolving Loan Fund Committee, which actively administers loan applications to the business community, and the Staff / Board Relations Committee, which did not meet in 2024. A task force was initiated in 2024 to review and make recommendations on the Lyons Planning Area Comprehensive Development Plan Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA). Their goal was completed, and the task force disbanded.

The trustees also serve as the Lyons Urban Renewal Authority, along with representatives from Boulder County, St. Vrain Valley School District, Lyons Fire Protection District, and one member at large. They meet regularly to consider the Urban Renewal Authority's business (See URA update in this report). Their minutes can be found online or at town hall.

In addition to these roles, the Board members serve as the Lyons Liquor Licensing Authority and the Lyons Marijuana Licensing Authority. As the law requires, the authorities meet to review applications and actions regarding these two areas of licensing. See the town clerk's report for more details.

As we reflect on 2024, we are proud to share the achievements and progress made in our community. This year was marked by legislative advancements, infrastructure improvements, and continued public safety, sustainability, and community engagement efforts. Below is an overview of the key accomplishments that helped shape our town's success.

Legislatively, the Board of Trustees updated numerous codes, including those related to:

- ADUs as a Permitted Use
- Adopting Model Traffic Code
- Amending PUDs
- Overlay PUD-C Riverbend
- Update Flood Damage Prevention
- Five Acre Rule Amendment Language
- Variance for 1929 Plat Lots
- Historic Local Designation of Depot
- Allowing Farmer's Markets in Commercial

Affordable Housing continued as a priority for the Board of Trustees in 2024. Bohannan Huston completed a housing needs assessment as required for Proposition 123 funding. The Board of Trustees was not satisfied with the study's results and chose to conduct their own Local Housing Survey, resulting in significantly different outcomes. The trustees have since decided to continue to support our commitment to Proposition 123, our Boulder County Housing goals, and support of Accessory Dwelling Units. Moving forward, we will have a more opportunistic approach to affordable and attainable housing.

We expanded our community footprint by annexing the Martin Parcel and obtaining the Bell Lots in Lyons Valley Park. Several development projects were approved, including a PUD for 517 Main Street. Public meetings focused on housing, land use, and flood prevention, ensuring informed decision-making and community involvement in future growth options.

Interest rates continued to prevent several developments, including the development of Moss Rock Hotel planned for Main Street and 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue and the Eastern Corridor plans. The Board of Trustees saw slightly increased sales tax revenue compared to the previous year, partially due to the retainage of the sales tax vendor administrative fee. A Wayfinding Study was completed, and the first installation phase is anticipated in the coming year. Staff negotiated an incidental use permit with CDOT to allow public seating on Main Street at no cost to the business owner. Economic development efforts are ongoing with local land regional advertising campaigns and the use of social media.

Natural disasters continue to top the headlines in 2024, ranking as the second highest year for the number of billion-dollar disasters, with 27 weather and climate events. Most notable in the U.S. was Hurricane Helene. The town has been providing support and mentorship to small towns in North Carolina and working with FEMA, as requested, to answer questions and provide suggestions.

Recognizing the need for proactive wildfire mitigation, staff worked with Lyons Fire Protection District and Boulder County Wildfire Mitigation to conduct multiple limb drop-off and curbside pick-up events. Increased tree-trimming efforts, perimeter clean-ups in high-risk areas, and the use of goat mowers were conducted, and we partnered on strategic wildfire fuel reduction grants to bolster community resilience. Wildfire mitigation will be a high priority in 2025, especially following devastating wildfires in California recently.

Our sustainability initiatives included expanding public transit options like the Lyons Flyer midday route. We hosted waste diversion events and improved recycling initiatives, partnering with Boulder County to further eco-friendly efforts in the community. We anticipate additional resources toward sustainability in 2025.

The trustees requested more communication and transparency with the public. Staff developed a comprehensive communications plan to enhance engagement with residents. Efforts included monthly newsletters, weekly e-blasts, and active social media updates. Transparency remained a priority through live-streaming meetings and summarizing Board of Trustees meetings. Additionally, we promoted local businesses and events through regional media and advertising campaigns.

We hosted various cultural and recreational events throughout the year, including the Winter Wonderland Concerts, Ride the Rockies, and the Summer Concert Series. Public art installations continued with 14

new sculptures and quarterly art shows. Additionally, the installation of the LaVern Johnson statue and the Ute Trail marker plinth and plaque honor our local history.

Recreational improvements included the installation of dry camping at 2nd Avenue and the commencement of construction on the St. Vrain Corridor Trail. This federal, state, and county-funded project will eventually connect the Boulder to Lyons and the Longmont to Lyons trail systems, providing bicyclists with a much safer, enjoyable experience. The Lyons portion is anticipated to be completed in the summer of 2025. We enhanced our town's parks and public areas through projects such as the Depot Landscaping initiative, sport court resurfacing, and pathway enhancements in multiple places.

Our finance and administrative team updated the town's purchasing policy and moved the Town's financial software to a hosted/cloud environment to increase data protection, server space, and constant backups. They also secured a new benefits broker, leading to budgetary savings and improved employee health benefits. We also applied for and received significant grant funding, including \$1.3M in Congressionally Directed Funding and multiple infrastructure grants, ensuring continued development and investment in our community. The monitoring and enforcing sales tax and lodging tax collection will remain a priority.

We made significant strides in infrastructure development, completing major construction projects such as Broadway Avenue landscaping. Main Street lighting and landscaping received crucial upgrades, and we conducted street sweeping and chip sealing on multiple roads. Furthermore, we procured essential equipment, including a backhoe, plow truck, and golf carts, to support ongoing maintenance and development efforts.

Key utility upgrades included replacing PRV 4 and studying water pressure on Vasquez Drive. We also met state lead testing requirements, upgraded EV charging stations and battery storage, and completed the JVA Wastewater Treatment Facility Study, ensuring continued efficiency and sustainability in our utility management.

As we enter 2025, we remain committed to enhancing our residents' safety and quality of life, fostering economic vitality, and ensuring sustainability. Thank you to our dedicated elected officials, staff, community partners, and residents for their continued support and engagement.

[BACK](#)

# Finance Director's Report

Cassandra Eyestone, Finance Director

The Town of Lyons provides customary municipal services to its residents and businesses. These services include water, sanitation, stormwater, and electric utilities; street maintenance; law enforcement; park facilities; recreational and cultural activities; public improvements; building inspections; business and occupation licensing; land use planning; municipal court services; and general administrative services.

Sources of revenue for the Town include residential and commercial property taxes, sales taxes, charges for services, and other additional revenues. Additional revenues include licenses and permits, grants/revenue from other governments, court fines and rental income. Revenue and expenditure projections for the various funds are based on historical trends, various economic and inflation forecasts, rate changes, and known changes in operations.

## Finance Highlights

**Revenue:** Charges for services account for approximately 52% (\$4,283,800) of the Town's revenue. The majority of this revenue (\$3,611,900) is related to the electric, water, and wastewater user charges. This revenue can only be used to fund their respective expenses and cannot be used for general town use.

Taxes make up 38% (\$3,094,800) of overall Town revenue. Sales tax collections have started to reach a plateau. The Board of Trustees removed the allowance of the vendor collection fee which has allowed the Town to collect all sales tax in lieu of allowing vendors to retain a portion for the collection. This has contributed to the increase in 2024 sales tax when compared to 2023. The 2024 end of the year projections were developed based on current collection trends with revenue expected to be approximately 3.0% higher than the original 2024 budget estimates. The 2025 budget includes a 2.0% increase in sales tax revenue from the 2024 year-end projections.

The Boulder County Assessor's Office does a reassessment of all properties every two years. While it was not a reassessment year, the preliminary assessed value for the Town has decreased by approximately \$1,375,700 primarily due to demolitions and properties becoming tax exempt. The approved mill levy is 19.522 mills which would produce \$1,158,804 in property tax revenue based on the preliminary certification of valuation by the Boulder County Assessor's Office. Since the Town has not de-Bruced (voter approval to eliminate revenue retainage limit) for property tax with respect to TABOR, Colorado Statute restricts the Town's property tax revenue to a 5.5% increase over the prior year. In response to rising property taxes, the Board of Trustees opted to freeze the mill levy and not increase property tax revenue by the allowed 5.5%. The mill levy will remain at the 2024 level of 15.137 mills, giving property owners a temporary credit of 4.385 mills. The projected property tax revenue for 2025 is \$898,500 which is a decrease of approximately 0.8% from 2024.

**Department Operating Budgets:** Overall, operating budgets are increasing approximately 4.0% for 2025. The 2025 budget includes a 3.0% (\$73,400) increase in overall salaries and benefits attributed to a cost of living/CPI increase. The Town will be changing insurance providers in 2025 providing for better benefits for staff at relatively the same cost as 2024.

Budgeted full-time equivalents (FTEs) are budgeted to increase by 0.2 FTE. A part-time code compliance position that was included in the 2024 budget will become a full-time building inspector and code compliance combination position. This is due to the rising costs of contractual services.

Overall, supplies and service expenses increased by approximately 1.8% (\$207,800) in 2025. Much of this (\$147,900) can be attributed to the Water and Wastewater Fund. This is discussed further below.

**Capital Improvements:** Capital projects and purchases planned for 2025 include: streambank restoration at LMJ Park, street improvements, electric undergrounding, sewer line replacement, and equipment replacements. Additional details can be found in the capital section of the budget.

Additionally, projects budgeted for 2024 that will roll into the 2025 budget year include sidewalk installation and/or replacements and additional camera and WIFI upgrades.

## **Fund Summaries**

The Town has a total of five (5) operating funds all of which have a 2025 projected fund balance/reserve of more than three (3) months of operating expenditures. Four (4) of these funds are projected to utilize prior year fund balances in addition to the revenues collected throughout the year. By utilizing fund balances, it helps fund one-time expenses such as capital projects and purchases. The Parks and Recreation Fund must utilize the fund balance for both capital and operations as explained in more detail below.

**General Fund:** The total 2025 General Fund revenues, including transfers in for allocated costs, are projected to see a 1.0% (\$33,800) increase over the 2024 original budget. The increase is attributed primarily to sales tax and use tax income. General Fund operating expenses are projected to increase 5.6% (\$171,700) from the 2024 budget. This includes a \$130,000 increase in the Boulder County Sheriff's budget for the Town as well as decreases in other areas such as building inspections. The General Fund also includes \$32,000 in funding for substance abuse programs in the community. This is being allocated from the local marijuana tax revenue.

**Parks and Recreation Fund:** Revenues in the Parks and Recreation Fund are projected to remain flat compared to the 2024 budget. Additional fee adjustments are also being considered to help cover increases in operational costs but are not in the budget at this time. Overall operating expenses in this fund are projected to increase 2.1% (\$24,600) from the 2024 original budget. Much of this increase is related to personnel salary increases and adjustments in current staff fund allocations based on workload.

The fund is not budgeted to cover budgeted operating expenses with 2025 revenues, therefore must utilize the available fund balance to cover the shortfall. While the fund has sufficient balance to do this, it should not be a long-term solution to increasing expenditures.

**Electric Fund:** The year 2024 has shown an increase in overall electric revenue when compared to the unusually low 2023. Therefore, the projected 2025 revenue is more in line with prior years and has an increase of 9.4% from the 2024 budget. 2025 operating expenses are expected to decrease by 2.5% (\$35,600) from the original 2024 budget. Additionally, the 2019 refunding bonds were paid off in 2023 which has freed funds to be available for capital projects in future years.

**Water/Wastewater Fund:** The 2025 water revenue is projected to increase 8.7% (\$179,500) which is mostly attributed to one-time revenues for cash in lieu of water shares. The wastewater revenue is projected to see a 3.0% increase for 2025. Currently, per the Town's municipal code, any wastewater flat rate or standard monthly service charge per unit shall be adjusted by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) on January 1 of each year. The 2025 budget includes a 3.0% CPI increase in wastewater revenue. Operating expenses in this fund are projected to be 9.8% (\$138,000) higher than the 2024 budget. Of this amount, \$68,000 is due to Longmont's water service, which also includes a 6% increase. There are also increases in wastewater sludge hauling and wastewater utility fees for water, gas, and electricity.

**Stormwater Fund:** This fund has enabled the Town to start flushing storm drains and will continue each year in a different location in the town. Operational costs in the Stormwater Fund are relatively the same when compared to the 2024 budget, except for a \$10,000 decrease in professional services for jetting and sweeping. The Town has continually applied for stormwater grants; however, it has not been awarded funding to date. Identified stormwater projects are expected to cost over \$24 million dollars and researching outside funding continues to be a priority for Town staff to help fund these much-needed projects.

**Conservation Trust Fund:** The State of Colorado distributes lottery funds to the Town on a quarterly basis which are to be used for park-related expenses. In 2025, the Town's distribution is projected to be \$30,000. Together, with the available fund balance, this revenue source will fund expenses of \$60,000 planned for the year, for streambank restoration at LMJ Park. This project is also being funded by the Parks and Recreation Fund.

**Grants Fund:** This fund was created following the 2013 flood and is primarily used to manage flood expenses. While most of the expenditures are for capital projects, some outside-funded staffing and operational expenses are included as well. With the last of the flood projects being completed in 2023, the Grant Fund will have minimal expenses budgeted for 2025. Unspent grant project revenue and

expenditures from 2024 will roll over into the 2025 amended budget after the first of the year. This rollover will include the remainder of the flood advance payback to the State. This is estimated to be approximately \$5.0 million in 2025, most of which will come from FEMA project close-out revenue.

**Capital Fund:** Town voters approved a 0.5% sales tax increase to be used to fund capital projects. The collection of this revenue began mid-2024 and the 2025 budgeted amount is approximately \$238,000. The Town Board of Trustees has yet to decide what project(s) the additional revenue will fund.

Additionally, the 2025 budget includes a \$100,000 transfer from the General Fund to continue providing funding for much-needed street maintenance projects. \$300,000 is budgeted to be spent in 2025 to fund street rebuild projects and street rehabilitation and preservation projects per the recommendations in the Pavement Conditions Assessment Plan.

### **Conclusion**

The Town enters 2025 with minor revenue growth projected. Fund balances are healthy with a 3-month operating reserve in each of the applicable funds. Prioritization of capital projects and utilization of outside funding sources will continue to be an important part of the Town's budgeting process.

### **2025 Budget**

The Town of Lyons 2025 budget is available online at:

<https://www.townoflyons.com/DocumentCenter/View/2925/2025-Proposed-Budget>

### **PRINT VERSION:**

The Town of Lyons 2025 budget is linked available at the end of this Annual Report.

**BACK**

## Town Clerk's Report

**Dolores M. Vasquez, CMC**

The Town Clerk's office serves as the "hub" of information for the residents of the Town. The Clerk is the official keeper of all records for the Town, some duties of the Town Clerk include:

- Board of Trustees – document and facilitate all Board of Trustees meetings. Assist in drafting agendas, distributing packets, and publicizing all public hearings. The Clerk attends all meetings and takes minutes for posterity.
- Elections – conducts municipal elections, which are held every two years (even years) for the offices of Mayor and the Board of Trustees. Also, conducts Special Elections and will coordinate with Boulder County on off-years if needed. All election results are reported to Boulder County. Our next Regular Municipal Election will be held on April 7, 2026, please go to <http://www.govotecolorado.gov/> to register to vote or update your voter status.
- All CORA requests (requests by the public for information) are handled through the Clerk's office.
- Liquor Licensing – Lyons currently has 21 active liquor licenses, and the Town issued over 23 Special Event permits in 2024. All licensed businesses must comply with local and state laws.
- Marijuana licenses – Lyons has three active retail marijuana licenses and one Medical & Retail MIPS (Marijuana Infused Products). We work closely with business owners to make sure we are all in compliance with the ever-changing state regulations.
- Records Management – Retain all pertinent official town records including ordinances, resolutions, minutes, maps, permits and any historical data. Our office is in the beginning phases of digitizing all town records; a much-needed project that will benefit the town and residents!
- CIRSA is the Town's insurance provider; it handles all town-owned buildings, workers' compensation, and any claims filed against the town.
- Human Resources – advertising open positions with the town, onboarding/offboarding employees, safety meetings, CIRSA compliance and handling employee issues as needed.
- Municipal Court - The Boulder County Sheriff issues tickets that are processed through the Town of Lyons Municipal Court. Municipal Court is held once a month, on the third Thursday of each month.

The "front office" portion of Town Hall also:

- Issues dog licenses; these are due in May, and we have a promotion the month of April for "discount dog days." Proof of rabies vaccination is required, and all dogs must be on a leash.
- Issues parking passes for LaVern Johnson Park and Bohn Park.
- Administers bulk water sales - a service to our surrounding neighbors who are not on municipal water and local construction companies as well. This service is online with credit card capabilities, and we offer access to pipe water 24/7.
- Notarizes documents; there are four notaries on staff, and this is a free service.
- Process the Town's water, sewer, and electric utility billings. We handle new accounts, rentals and final billings for properties that have sold.
- Assist the walk-in public with everything from, "Where is Estes Park?" to "Has my phone been turned in here today?"
- Town Hall hours as Monday – Thursday 8:00 am – 4:30 pm and Friday 8:00 am – 12:00 pm.

## **My Staff:**

**Maria Marquez-Rubio**, Deputy Town Clerk since 2022, is a vital member of my team. She works with the Planning & Community Development Commission, Municipal Court and is responsible for other in-house, behind the scenes duties.

**Brandi Johnson** has served as the Utility Billing Clerk since 2019. Her goals are excellent customer service, accuracy and timeliness. Utility Billing is going green in 2025! Please sign up for paperless billing at [www.xpressbillpay.com](http://www.xpressbillpay.com) .

**Jenifer Fredricks** is our newest team member; she is the front office administrative assistant. We are excited to have her and look forward to a great working relationship. She has demonstrated excellent customer service skills and a willingness to jump in where needed.

We are always cross-training and reorganizing duties in my department to better serve the needs of our residents. We are a small but mighty crew here at Town Hall. My door is always open, so please drop by at any time if there is something we can help with.

My team and I are thankful to be working for this great community and we look forward to a busy and productive 2025!

**BACK**

## Lyons Municipal Court 2024 Report

The Lyons Municipal Court convenes monthly at Lyons Town Hall to adjudicate violations and summons handed out within the Town of Lyons. Court is held the third Thursday of every month at 9:30 a.m. Judge Kristin Brown and Prosecuting Attorney Jacob Starkovich serve the court, and Deputy Town Clerk Maria Marquez-Rubio serves as the Court Clerk.

The following table shows the cases handled by the court in 2024, their disposition and the fines and court costs paid:

| <b>Code</b>             | <b>Description</b>               | <b>Count</b> | <b>Amount</b>      |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| BENCH                   | Bench Warrant Issued             | 6            | \$2350.00          |
| CSF                     | Community Service Fee            | 9            | \$225.00           |
| DEF                     | Default judgement Fine Amount    | 50           | \$1,750.00         |
| DEFER                   | Deferred Sentence                | 4            | \$0.0              |
| FINE                    | Fine amount                      | 593          | \$83,105.00        |
| DISM                    | Dismissed                        | 1            | -\$175.0           |
| NSF                     | NSF Fee                          | 2            | \$50.00            |
| PBM & PIC               | Plea by Mail Conviction or court | 138          | \$0.0              |
| PMB                     | Pay by Mail                      | 346          | \$0.0              |
| <b>Total fines</b>      |                                  |              | <b>\$87,305.00</b> |
| <b>Surcharges</b>       |                                  |              |                    |
| COST                    | Court costs                      | 145          | \$5,075            |
| DEF1                    | Default judgement fee            | 10           | \$350              |
| <b>Total surcharges</b> |                                  | <b>155</b>   | <b>\$5,425.00</b>  |
| <b>Third Party</b>      |                                  |              |                    |
| VR                      | Victim Restitution               | 0            | \$0.00             |
| <b>Total VR</b>         |                                  |              | <b>\$0.00</b>      |
| <b>Grand Total</b>      |                                  |              | <b>\$92,730.00</b> |

**BACK**

# Flood Recovery Report

**Tracy Sanders, Flood Recovery Projects Manager**

The Town of Lyons experienced a 500-year flood event in September 2013 leaving much of the Town infrastructure of water, sewer, electricity, roads and bridges destroyed. In addition, many homes were flooded causing substantial damage. The Town has received more than \$70 million of grant funding from insurance, federal, state and local agencies to help with recovery efforts for public infrastructure and some assistance to homes in the floodway to either elevate or sell their property at pre-flood value (buyouts/acquisitions).

Over nine years the Town has managed over \$70 million, 72 projects and 106 grants. Construction of all recovery projects were completed in 2022.

However, the work is not done. The Town will be working with State and Federal agencies to complete the final closeout of projects and release all final payments and matching funds. Staff will be working on complete reconciliations of funding over the next several years.

## Projects Completed

It's important to note that closing out the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) projects takes years to complete. FEMA has closed only 7 of the 33 FEMA funding projects. Town staff are working closely with the state (Department of Homeland Security Emergency Management) and FEMA on closing the remaining FEMA-funded projects and receiving final reimbursements.

## Funds Spent to Date and How Funds are Spent

All Flood Recovery grants, with the exception of some very small allocations, are a reimbursement process; that is, the Town has to pay for the services and construction up front then request reimbursement from the granting agency.

The state was very generous in advancing the Town \$9.5 million to assist with cash flowing for these projects. As FEMA closes and releasing final payment of completed projects the Town is in turn sending payments to the State to pay down these Advance Funds. To date the Town has paid back \$4.4 million of the \$9.5 million.

It is also important for the community to understand that with the FEMA funding (\$35 million of the \$70 million) 75 percent was funded by FEMA; 22.5 percent was funded by the state and the Town is responsible for the remaining 2.5 percent. The Town was able to obtain other funding to cover their share; however, this cannot be collected until FEMA has completed their closeout. All other projects make final payment once the project is closed and usually the match is also completed shortly after.

## Closeouts and Possible “Clawbacks”

The closing-out includes final reconciliation with the accounting system, final reimbursements, and making sure all documentation of grant funds and project files are in order in the case of an audit by the Office of Inspector General (OIG) or other agencies years later. Each funding source has a different schedule for auditing; sometimes it is based on the date the grant is closed or when the program or disaster is closed. There will be a varied schedule of potential audits. Staff have prepared all documentation in the case of an audit.

With any audit there is a chance that a funding agency can determine that funding may not be eligible for various reasons; for example, the work was not within scope, or the work was not reasonable or necessary or perhaps procurement was not followed fully. There are many reasons “clawbacks” can happen. Town staff has worked very closely with the state and all funding agencies to help ensure that any clawbacks are low risk; however, nothing is a guarantee. The Town has been setting aside funding

annually for any shortfall in recovery work that was not covered by a grant and for any potential clawback requests.

Another thing to note is that with the FEMA funding was granted to the state and the Town is a sub-grantee. If there is clawback, the OIG will make a recommendation to FEMA who will then request it from the State. The State can dispute any request, and the State can turn around and ask the Town for the clawback/refund; in other words, FEMA will claw back from the State and now the Town directly, the State would have to request clawback funds from the Town. The State has been working very closely with FEMA during the closeout process to help minimize any clawback concerns. All other grants received were granted directly to the Town.

Further, it is the goal of the flood recovery team to close out all grants, pay back the state advance and wrap up all documentation so that it is ready for any potential future audits as soon as possible. However, the process is slow as FEMA has a large queue of projects that need to be reviewed and closed from the entire disaster. The Town is continuing regular communications with FEMA and State to keep the close out process going.

[\*\*BACK\*\*](#)

# Department of Parks and Public Works

**Dave Cosgrove, Director**

This department handles all aspects of the Town of Lyons Parks and Public Works.

## Parks

The Town of Lyons Department of Parks and Public Works is responsible for operating and maintaining community and neighborhood parks, open space, trails and associated recreational amenities. This includes all recreational and athletic facilities, buildings and structures, river corridors through town parks, greenways, and associated rights-of-way adjacent to trails and parks. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the operation and maintenance of all park facilities and equipment, turf management, snow removal, athletic facility operations and maintenance, irrigation system maintenance and repair, landscaping, seeding/fertilization, weed mitigation, forestry, trash pickup, and a wide variety of capital improvement projects. Operations and maintenance are currently provided by the department for approximately 90 acres of developed/in-development community and neighborhood parkland, nearly 100 acres of open space, over 6 miles of trails, and approximately 30 acres of acquired flood buyout properties. Staff coordinate with recreation and special events staff to reserve, schedule and implement operations as needed for events, recreational programming and regular park usage.



**2024 New Town of Lyons Electric Utility Golf Cars**

A breakdown of major Town parkland and associated facilities/amenities is as follows:

**Sandstone Park (1.5 acres)** - Located in the heart of Lyons, Sandstone Park is the home to the Lyons Visitor Center, the Raul Vasquez Community Stage, and several picnic areas. Live musical and cultural performances are scheduled throughout the year on Raul Vasquez Community Stage such as the Summer Concert Series.

The Lyons Visitor Center (open mid-April to October) provides visitor services including restrooms, maps, guidebooks, and local/regional information. The Center's staff is knowledgeable and friendly. Parks and Public Works staff provide maintenance for the visitor center and the park itself.

**LaVern M. Johnson Park (18 acres)** – Bounded on three sides by the North St. Vrain Creek and sandstone cliffs, Lavern M. Johnson Park is approximately 18 acres in size and offers an

abundance of facilities recognized by the Colorado Lottery for excellence in the use in lottery proceeds. Facilities include:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 19 RV sites with full hook-ups, 4 dry RV camping sites                        | 2 park host RV sites                                      |
| 20 tent sites w/ tables and grills  | Multiple picnic areas w/ tables and grills                |
| 2 playgrounds w/ climbing boulders, zipline, climbing nets and other features | Multiuse field  |
| Cornhole court  | Sand volleyball court                                     |
| Plaza/ice rink (winter)   | Zero depth splash pad                                     |
| Stream play feature   | Whitewater Park – kayak/tubing features                   |
| Swimming hole   | Multiuse trails/pedestrian bridge                         |
| Haines Habitat Island   | 3 shelters (avail. For rent): St. Vrain, Quarry, WPA      |
| 2 restrooms; one with pay showers   | Fishing/river access                                      |
| Parking areas (paid through kiosks)   | Lyons Ditch diversion/head gate, pumphouse for irrigation |

Camping is available year-round in LaVern M. Johnson Park. Park hosts assist with various maintenance within the park and with assisting campers, including collecting fees for both camping and parking, which generate considerable revenue for the department. The Park Host program has proven to be quite successful and very pivotal to the Lyons Park system.

**Bohn Park (53.5 acres)** – At the confluence of the North and South St. Vrain Creeks, Bohn Park has been recognized by the Colorado Lottery for creative use of funds. The park was destroyed in the 2013 flood reconstruction was finalized in 2020. Phase I was completed in 2017, and Phase II was completed in early fall of 2020. Bohn Park facilities include:

|   |   |
|---|---|
| 2 softball/baseball fields (Vasquez & Bohn)           | Off-leash dog area w/shelter, rails (10 acres)  |
| Skate Park w/ half-pipe                               | River fishing access, including ADA access      |
| Multiuse sport court (tennis, basketball, pickleball) | River access w/ in-stream structures            |
| Multiuse fields/soccer field                          | Parking (paid at kiosks), special event parking |
| Playground  | 2 restroom facilities/storage units             |
| Dirt jump bike skills park w/ shelter                 | Trails/pedestrian bridges                       |
| Picnic Pavillion and Picnic Area (available for rent) | Inlet/pumphouse for irrigation                  |
| Picnic areas w/ tables & grills                       | Public art                                      |



### 2024 Bohn Park Sport Court Resurfacing Project

**St. Vrain Corridor Trailhead at 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue** – East of 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue adjacent to Bohn Park, improvements were made to formalize a parking area, restroom and trailhead through funding made available by a grant awarded by GOCO in 2022. This area now consists of over 100 parking spaces with paid parking kiosk, restroom facilities with drinking fountain, trail and landscape improvements including irrigation, storm and other drainage improvements, and new fencing and site amenities. In 2024, Parks and Public Works staff installed 8 new dry camping spaces along the western edge of the trailhead parking area for additional camping space adjacent to Bohn Park.



### 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue Dry Camping at St. Vrain Trailhead

**Lyons Valley River Park/Corridor Trail (16.5 acres)** – Fully completed in the Spring of 2020 following the 2013 flood, Lyons Valley River Park has quickly become one of Lyons finest passive recreation areas. The original area was dedicated to the town with the development of Lyons Valley Park subdivision and consists of two ponds. The lower pond is available for flatwater recreation activities with access points. The upper (smaller) pond is strictly for habitat and off limits to recreational access. Amenities include multi-use trails, scenic overlook, wetland restoration, flood mitigation efforts and kayak masts for programs and events.

This area provides vital wildlife habitat along the St. Vrain River. Linking with the St. Vrain River Trail (Colorado Lottery Starburst Award, 1996) from Bohn Park to the west and the St. Vrain Corridor Trail to the north, these paths will be critical links to the east and eventually to the St. Vrain Greenway (Longmont) and the 36/66 junction underpass. The Corridor Trail along the right-of-way frontage that parallels Highway 36/66 from McConnell Drive to the Black Bear Hole has several existing planters, irrigation and associated landscaping that is the responsibility of the Parks and Public Works Department.



### **Lyons Whitewater Park-Black Bear Hole-October/November Hole**

**Lyons Whitewater Park** – The Lyons Whitewater Park in LaVern M. Johnson Park is a quarter mile stretch with eight features from beginner to intermediate level that kayakers, tubers and fishermen from the community and surrounding region have all come to enjoy. This facility is heavily utilized in the summer.

**Black Bear Hole** – Just off Highway 36/66 and across from Lyons Quilting there are two kayak play features that have historically been used as home to Lyons Outdoor Games and avid kayakers from around the region. The first feature has been dubbed the Black Bear Hole and is considered to be a beginner to intermediate spot. Approximately thirty yards downstream is the second hole, named the A-hole (after Lyons resident Arn Hayden who played a part in its inception). This feature is more advanced and often sees kayakers from around the state practicing more advanced tricks. The area incorporates a picnic area and is a frequent stop along Lyons St. Vrain Corridor Trail for hikers and bikers. In 2022 improvements were made to the Black Bear Hole area through funding made available through Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) including improvements and formalizing the parking lot and adding paid parking, improvements to the riverbanks on the upstream side and around the pedestrian bridge, replacement of the bridge decking, trail and landscape improvements including irrigation, and new fencing and site amenities.

**October Hole/November Hole** – Further downstream in Lyons Valley River Park are the reconstructed October and November holes. These kayaking features are unique along the Front Range in that they can be utilized by river recreationalists into the months of October/November due to typical seasonal releases from the Carter Canal inlet just upstream from the features. Located off Highway 36/66 near the “Welcome to Lyons” sign, these features offer easy access to the St. Vrain and also include gathering areas established with large boulders along the banks, similar to the other features completed upstream through flood recovery efforts.

Regular maintenance of these features is performed when needed in the fall/early winter or late winter/early spring, when the water flow is low, access to the river is more easily achievable and the least risk/damage to the river and habitat will occur. The necessary permits are applied for and obtained prior to work being done. Work performed on structures is completed when it is

deemed that there is a hazard or that they or are not functioning properly. River restoration and bank stabilization are priorities for the department.

Community volunteer river cleanup days are scheduled in the spring and summer to help keep the river areas free of trash and other debris after the spring run off season. In 2022, the Lyons Parks and Recreation Commission, and a group of local resident groups all performed river cleanup efforts.

**Steamboat Valley Playground** – Located on the Steamboat Valley Open Space Parcel and built in-part with money supplied through the subdivision improvement agreement for the housing development, this neighborhood park is cared for by the department.

**Trails** – Lyons has worked diligently to link existing trail systems both in town and to surrounding open spaces. Currently, the Parks department maintains over 6 miles of trails and performs regular maintenance in the spring/fall or in areas as needed according to standards. Additional local and regional trail connections continue to be a priority for the department and the citizen advisory Parks and Recreation Commission. Upcoming projects being considered that will allow for better connectivity are in and around the Black Bear Hole, a trailhead near the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. public parking area, the St. Vrain Corridor Trail connection to US 36 for eventual connection to the Longmont St. Vrain Greenway Trail. The department submits requests to Boulder County Parks and Open Space each year on potential partnership requests for local and regional trail opportunities. An example includes the completed Picture Rock/Heil Ranch connection. Others include a proposed connection to Hall Ranch (currently being assessed by Boulder County via a link on the west side of 36 via Corona Hill), Rabbit Mountain, the St. Vrain Greenway Trail east to Longmont, the Lyons to Boulder Trail and access to Steamboat Mountain. An updated trails plan can be found in the 2016 Parks Flood Recovery Planning Process available online at the Town website.

In 2021, Parks and Public works staff worked with Can'd Aid on volunteer projects to add and improve trails in Bohn Park and in the Stone Canyon Neighborhood.

**Lyons Open Space Parcels (approximately 100 acres)** – The Town of Lyons Department of Parks and Public Works currently oversees management of numerous open space parcels. Of the town's complete parkland inventory, approximately 105 acres are dedicated as open space. Examples of such properties are Stone Canyon Open Space, Lyons Valley Greenbelt, Sierra Roja/Steamboat Valley, Russell Subdivision/Tebo (Longs Peak) and Eagle Canyon. Maintenance including mowing, trash/debris removal, noxious weed mitigation and monitoring for code violation are common in these areas.



**Goats Grazing/Fire Mitigation efforts along and below the South Ledge Ditch near Lyons Valley Park taking out potential ladder fuels**



**Stone Canyon Open Space Goat Grazing Efforts**

**Martin Parcel Buyout Parcel (9 Acres)** – This parcel is located west of Bohn Park, adjacent to the skate park and Bohn Field, and is a flood recovery buyout parcel that was transferred to the Town by Boulder County. A public process and conceptual plan have been developed (see, 2017 Land Use and Management Plan for Deed Restricted Buy Out Properties (DrBOP). Recently (2022-23) fire mitigation on the northern and eastern borders of the property were completed in conjunction with Lyons and Left Hand Fire and in 2024 staff wrote a grant to Boulder County Parks and Open Space for potential funding to enhance existing social trails per the DrBop Plan developed by the community.

**Town of Lyons Flood Buyout Parcels (20 Acres)** – Following the flood of 2013 the Town of Lyons acquired 27 former residential properties with federal funding, equaling nearly 20 acres, located mainly in the confluence of the St. Vrain in Lyons. Initial funds from the buy-out program were used to remove structures and mitigate impacts against future flooding. These “buy-out” properties are earmarked as open space or recreational properties in perpetuity unless otherwise applied and approved for other uses. The 2017 DrBOP (Deed Restricted Buyout Properties) Plan for these properties can be found on the Town of Lyons website. The plan conceptualizes these lands as natural open space areas and wildlife habitats with opportunities for outdoor enjoyment and social interaction. Several have been identified as eligible for the “Neighborhood Lot Licensure Program,” a licensure program allowing individual or group “adoption” of certain lots for approved purposes.



### 2024 Stacey Parcel Orchard and Pathway Improvements

**St. Vrain Valley School District Facilities** – Currently, the Town of Lyons and the St. Vrain Valley School District have a joint use agreement in place. When appropriate, increased scheduling and maintenance responsibilities are allotted for by the department. Scheduling and maintenance of the Bohn multi-purpose field and high school baseball and softball fields is done when needed for league play. The town also has use of the elementary school gym, playground areas, track and other facilities through the district scheduler when allowed. This arrangement is positive for both parties, allowing for additional facilities through this partnership that would otherwise not be available.



### 2024 New Town of Lyons Plow/Sander Truck

## Public Works

The Department of Parks and Public Works is also responsible for a wide range of duties associated with the operations and maintenance of town-owned infrastructure, facilities and

properties. This includes nearly 9 miles of paved roadway and associated rights of way, numerous alleys, drainages, utility easements, out lots and other Town-owned properties, facilities and structures. Major duties include, but are not limited to:

- Street, alley, sidewalk, curb/gutter and right of way maintenance including plowing, street sweeping, grading, road repair (potholes, crack/slurry sealing, patching) and capital improvements
- Water, sewer, electric and storm drainage monitoring and repair in conjunction with the utility department and contractors-including coordination of regular services such as regular flushing, camera/jetting, and servicing of systems-Town pressure reducing valves, pump stations and other facilities
- Fire hydrant mapping, servicing and repair-flushing and flow testing
- Facility inspection and maintenance (seasonal and other)-HVAC, water, irrigation, fountains, backflow, filters, etc.
- Fleet and equipment management and maintenance
- Responding to community complaints and service requests
- Easement and out lot monitoring and maintenance
- Utility locates-Colorado 811 response as required
- Monthly utility reads/re-reads and shut-offs for utility billing
- Coordination/programming of utility meter installation
- Off-hour on-call service calls
- Trash removal
- Mowing and landscape of rights of way
- Tree trimming and removal along rights of way/utility trimming
- Maintenance and coordination of Town ditch inlets, head gates and vaults
- Street signage installation and repair
- Street lighting maintenance and repair
- Banners, flags and holiday lighting
- Assisting with installation and repair of public art
- Road and other closures-flagging certifications
- Coordination with outside contractors
- Ordering and maintaining Town inventory
- Safety inspections and training
- Required certifications and training

#### **Additional Facilities Maintained (or assisted) by Parks and Public Works:**

- Lyons Depot building/grounds
- Town Hall and plaza
- Parks and Public Works shop (adjacent to Town Hall)
- Parks and Public Works facilities, buildings and storage yard
- Lyons Wastewater Treatment plant/grounds
- Lyons high-pressure pump/water station/grounds

- Apple Valley water tank
- Tank hill
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue parking area and recycling center
- 3<sup>rd</sup> and Railroad public parking
- Bus Stops



**2024 Holiday Lighting**

### **Staff and Facility**



Currently, the Parks and Public Works Department consists of the Director, Dave Cosgrove, one Parks and Public Works Maintenance III, Justin Nittmann, one Parks and Public Works Maintenance II, Jake Coffin, and five Parks and Public Works Maintenance I's. Up to four

seasonal positions for peak-season (May-August) summer help have been budgeted for 2024. Our staff works directly with the Parks and Recreation Coordinator, Lisa Ramsey, on scheduling and coordination of programming, facilities, and oversight of Park Hosts in town parks. Crystal White, Parks Attendant, works in the parks on a regular basis assisting the Town and the public with a variety of seasonal tasks. The Department also provides logistical support for Town special events. In addition, Parks and Public Works staff coordinate with the Utility and Engineering Director/billing department on a variety of utility and construction related needs.

In 2020, the department moved to a new facility located at 4687 Ute Highway (photo below) – the former site of the decommissioned Longmont water treatment plant. The new facility replaces the pre-flood facility located near the WWTP off 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue.

The Parks and Public Works Department works with several different volunteer groups and non-profits on various projects throughout the year. Whether it is for recreation, special events or maintenance projects, the department routinely coordinates with active community members to achieve departmental goals. These groups include Lyons Weed Posse, Lyons Volunteers, Lyons Garden Club, Rocky Mountain Botanic Gardens, CAN'D Aid Foundation, Lyons Middle Senior High School and Lyons Elementary School, and many others.



**2024 Broadway Street Improvement Project**

## **2024 Highlights**

In 2024, the Parks and Public Works Department, in addition to its regular duties, completed or assisted with the following projects:

- Broadway Street Improvement Project and Landscape
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. Trailhead Dry Camping Installation/Improvements
- Bohn Multi-Use Sport Court Resurfacing/Restripping
- Parks and Public Works New Backhoe lease
- New Public Works Plow Truck

- New Town Electric Golf Cars
- Installation of new river safety signage at takeout points and warning near Highland Diversion
- Fire Mitigation-goats, mowing and tree trimming-LVP and Stone Canyon Open Space
- Depot Grounds Landscape Improvement Project-LaVern Johnson Sculpture and Picnic Area
- Sandstone Park irrigation main line re-route/replacement
- Dog Park/Bike Park Fencing Repairs
- 2024 Pavement Rehabilitation - Crack seal of major streets on south side of Town and Old Main, 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue from Main to Stickney, Horizon Drive and Bloomfield Alley.
- Stacey Parcel Orchard, Pathway and Improvements
- Street Signage replacements/installations-Phase II



**2024 Pavement Rehabilitation and Improvement Projects**

### **2025 Budget Priorities/Upcoming Major Projects**

- LaVern M. Johnson Park Streambank Restoration Project
- Town Parks and Facilities security cameras-Request for Proposal
- St. Vrain Trailhead Extension Project
- Funding to convert gas-powered small lawn equipment to electric
- Street Signage Replacement-Phase III



### **2024 Lyons Depot Grounds Landscape Project & LaVern Johnson Sculpture Dedication**

#### **Principal Guiding Documents:**

The Parks and Public Works Department is guided in its work by the following Town of Lyons documents. All of these documents are available on the Town's home page.

- Lyons Recovery Action Plan (2014)
- 2016 Parks Flood Recovery Plan
- 2008 Parks, Open Space & Trails Master Plan Update/Bohn Park Master Plan
- 2000 Parks, Open Space and Trails (POST) Master Plan
- Land Use and Management Plan for Deed Restricted Buy-Out Properties (2017)
- Town of Lyons Comprehensive Plan (2022)
- Sustainable River Corridor Action Plan
- Town of Lyons Weed Management Plan (revised 2020)
- Town of Lyons CIP Plans
- Town of Lyons Code Book
- Town of Lyons Design Standards
- Town of Lyons Pavement Conditions/Assessment
- Town of Lyons Storm Drainage Study/Assessment

# Community Development

## Cassidy Davenport, Planner II

In 2024, planning staff puts a lot of effort into supporting Lyons' future land development. This involved regular meetings with residents, developers, external partners, and colleagues to address questions and create helpful educational materials. Staff also responded to many calls and emails, assisting residents with the development process and providing guidance on the Lyons Municipal Code. In addition, planning staff focuses on key areas like housing, sustainability, resilience, and wildfire codes, all of which contribute to making Lyons a safer, more inclusive, and healthier community.

Planning staff often conduct research related to many of the previously mentioned topics but in 2024 there was a focus on understanding issues related to housing, affordability, annexation, and related topics such as Proposition 123. Staff also worked with other communities or within regional partnerships including participation in Boulder County's Nature Based Solutions, DRCOG's Building Policy Collaborative, and the Boulder County Regional Housing Partnership to help understand issues we face as a county, region, or state. Finally, planners met with neighboring town and county staff to complete tasks such as preparing to hire a housing coordinator and conducting a housing authority feasibility study.

Planners, colleagues, and external consultants also collaborated on grant projects such as the Brownfields Assessment Grant, Area Wide Plan, as well as the Safe Streets for All plan. These, like many other projects, are often worked on with many different stakeholder groups.

One annexation in the Eastern Corridor came to staff this year and the application is currently being processed, reviewed, and considered by the Board of Trustees. Staff also worked on code updates such as the clarification for lot division on historic lots as well as reviews on ADU code. Town staff will also continue gathering input from Boards and Commissions on how each is working towards their assigned goals in the comprehensive plan as well as priorities. This feedback was requested by and will be shared with the Board of Trustees.

## 2024 Review and 2025 Outlook

### Current Planning Projects and Anticipated Projects

**Tebo Annexation:** The Tebo Annexation (4545 Ute Highway) was a highly involved process in 2024 which is waiting on the final agreement from the applicant prior to being brought back to the Board in the new year. If the property is successfully annexed into Lyons, next steps for planning will include working with the applicant on zoning, development reviews, lot line adjustments, etc.

**River Bend Development:** The Town of Lyons received an application for a site plan/development plan in May 2024 for the River Bend property (501 W Main). The applicant wished to create an indoor event venue on the space which already hosted events but did not have an indoor venue. The process of approval included many public hearings so that the Board, staff, and the applicant could understand the changes proposed and the impact it could have on the Town. Noise was a concern that was addressed throughout the process. An agreement was signed with the indoor venue anticipated to open in 2025.

**EV Charging Code and Application:** One project brought to the Board was a proposal to build EV chargers in the Town of Lyons. The Town is considered a high priority on the State's EV roadmap as it is located on a key route to Estes Park. In order for chargers to be built, the LMC needed to be amended to allow or conditionally allow EV chargers. Board members approved the code change so that EV chargers became a conditional use in all zoning districts. The applicants (eCamion, Inc. and IPOWER Alliance) who brought this to the Board's attention are now hoping to submit their application for an EV charging station and battery storage at Sandstone Park but will need a conditional use review as well as a variance in order for the application to be approved.

**IGA and IGA Taskforce:** With the current Boulder County IGA set to expire, the Board of Trustees appointed an IGA Taskforce to review documents, sites, past plans, annexation rules, and more to make a recommendation to the trustees on which properties should be included in the updated IGA. After months of work, Lyons received an extension to work on the agreement. An extension was signed so that

the current IGA will be active until June 30, 2025. This gives the Board of Trustees more time to review the IGA Taskforce's recommendations and determine their position prior to negotiations with the county resuming. This document will include which Boulder County properties Lyons wishes to include as possible properties that might be annexed into Lyons in the future. This does not mean the properties will be annexed in, but only owners have the opportunity if they desire to apply for annexation into the town of Lyons. There are many other requirements for an annexation to get approved. Some annexations require a vote of the residents for approval (depending on the size and location of the property). The Board of Trustees will be discussing this more in 2025 in the hopes of finalizing an IGA with Boulder County.

**Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs):** Housing was a priority for the Board of Trustees throughout 2024 and discussions about ADUs came up many times throughout the year. Updating the ADU codes and regulations will be a project that staff and the Board will work on into 2025 including reviewing design considerations, size limits, etc.

**Rezoning of Town-owned/acquired lots:** Lyons Valley Park, LLC dedicated four parcels to the Town of Lyons, which the Trustees accepted per Resolution 2024-46. Boards and Commissions were asked to weigh in about the zoning of the lots; should they remain the same or change? If so, to what? The Board of Trustees considered the possible zoning of these lots after feedback and input from residents and Boards and Commissions. Town Staff helped complete research and suggestions for the lots based on goals in the comprehensive plan and the Board made recommendations in late 2024. In 2025, planning staff will help with the process of the official rezoning of the lots working with the PCDC, the residents, as well as the Board of Trustees.

**Comprehensive Plan Monitoring:** Staff used the comprehensive plan's assigned strategies to request feedback from Boards and Commissions on their goals, priorities, and progress over the last year and as they look forward to the new year. This project will be ongoing as we receive feedback and gather input from the Board of Trustees.

**DrBOP:** Planning staff worked on applications for four unleased lots in the deed-restricted buyout properties (DrBOP) program. (These are lots deeded to the Town by federal agencies in the wake of the 2013 flood; the lots' owners took a buyout from the feds, and lots will never be developed again.) Two of these were leased, one is pending insurance verification, and the other is not currently active. Staff also worked hard to update renewal forms as well as ensure that leaseholders are up to date on applications, renewals, agreements, and insurance. In 2025, the Board of Trustees will be considering the rezoning and classification of the largest DrBOP parcel obtained following the 2013 flood.

**BACK**

# Utilities and Engineering Department

**Aaron Caplan, Director**

The Utilities and Engineering department manages the four town utilities: electric, water, wastewater, and stormwater. We coordinate with the Town's electrical contractor, water and wastewater contractor, treated water provider and state regulatory agencies. We are involved in many of the capital improvement projects and maintaining a 5-year capital improvements plan.

Some of the day-to-day operations include:

- Develop and write ordinances to update Lyons municipal code.
- Develop contracts and write resolutions to present contracts to the Trustees.
- Put together requests for proposals, review and select the best proposal.
- Oversee the contractors that operate our utilities.
- Additional purchasing of supplies and materials.
- Work with the rest of the Town staff on utility concerns.
- Review and recommend utility trends and rates.
- Monitor day-to-day operations of Town facilities.
- Interact with residents and businesses on their concerns and new projects.
- Act as liaison to the Utility & Engineering Board.

## 2024 Actions

The Stone Canyon Fire saw the utilities department working through an emergency response with the need to shut off and restore power to a portion of Town as well as planning for stormwater concerns from rains in the burn scar area.

This also prompted a review of the integration of the utilities and hazard mitigation.

### **Electric Utility:**

The distribution and communication lines in the 400 block of Broadway were moved underground. The final steps of the project are waiting for the Town to determine if we should install a different type of transformer called a 3-phase power transformer at this location.

We finished the review of options to install a solar and battery storage facility coming to the inclusion that the small size of the project



could not provide the economies of scale needed to move forward with the project. We did contract with our electricity provider to provide the town with 100% green electricity.

### **Water Utility:**

We planned and replaced one of five large water pressure reducing valves in the water system. We also had an emergency repair on the main water line that runs through town.

We had the 5-year diver inspection of our Million Gallon Water Tank.

### **Wastewater Utility:**

The Town had a Wastewater Facilities Master Plan developed and prioritized next steps to reduce operating costs, correct deficiencies, and reduce odor at the facility.

### **Stormwater Utility:**

The Town applied for and was awarded a grant to help pay for the design of stormwater infrastructure along 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. North of Main St.

## **2025 Plans**

There will likely be some sizeable utility infrastructure design work as the Town oversees private development expanding utilities in the Eastern Corridor, along Hwy 66 East of the intersection of Hwy 36.

We hope to have completed the design and have state approval for the modifications to the wastewater facility that have been proposed. We also hope to have design of for a project along 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave North of Main St. that includes development of stormwater controls, sidewalks and reconstruction of the asphalt road.

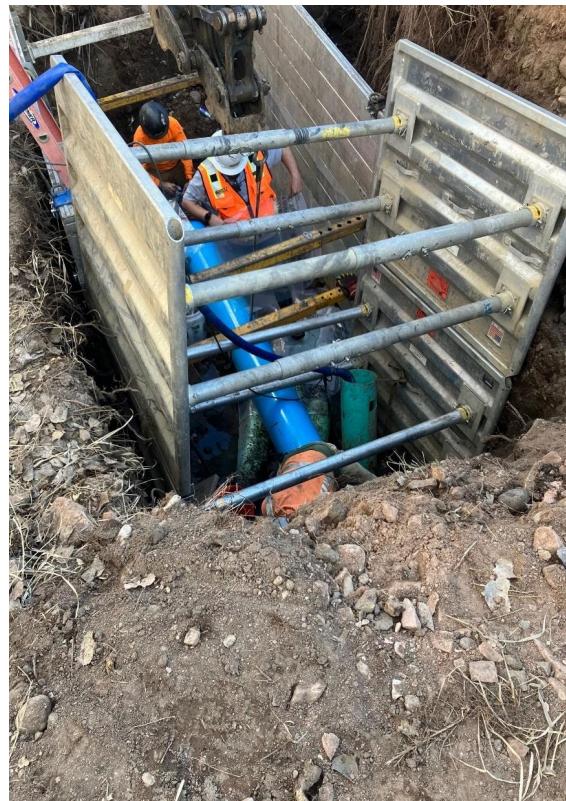
We will continue to investigate the option to transfer portions of Longmont Power and Communications electric service territory along the Eastern corridor and in Town and options to use the Town's water rights to improve flows in the creek East of McConnell Drive.

### **Water rights**

The utilities section of the last couple of annual reports has included a water rights segment that provided information on where Lyons gets its drinking water or more specifically where our rights to that water come from. Longmont treats raw water so that it is potable and then provides Lyons with the potable water that it needs. However, to take raw water from anywhere in Colorado one must have rights that allow them to take that water. As an example, until a few years ago it was illegal to have a water barrel collecting water from one's gutters. There are rights to surface water such as streams and reservoirs and to subsurface water such as wells and aquifers. Water rights are a complicated subject.

Lyons has water rights to take water from the St. Vrain Creek with its Lyons Pipeline Decree which were appropriated to Lyons in 1892. While over 100 years old there are a number of rights appropriated before this and in Colorado your right to water is prioritized based on when the right was appropriated. The oldest rights get to take the water first and then newer rights are allowed to take water as long as there is enough water in the creek. There are drier years where Lyons does not get to take much water from the creek with this water right.

It is also important to note that water rights are appropriated for different reasons. Some rights are appropriated for domestic, potable water, some are appropriated for irrigation and other uses. Farmers needed a way to obtain water rights and agricultural ditch companies were formed to create channels that could take water from creeks and streams and provide it to farmers and other users. These companies sold shares to allocate portions of the water rights they obtained. There is a small ditch that runs through Lyons called the Lyons Ditch. The Town has some shares in the Lyons Ditch and uses that



water to irrigate Lavern Johnson Park. Other property owners also have shares and can use that water to irrigate their property. There are a number of ditches that begin in Lyons or just East of Lyons. While mostly used for irrigation and farming there can be opportunities to exchange one type of water rights for other water rights that might be more useful to the Town.

Lyons also owns water rights to water in both Button Rock Reservoir and Lake McIntosh Reservoir. These reservoir water rights have different rights than a decree to water from a creek, like our Lyons Pipeline Decree, and agricultural ditch company water, like our shares in the Lyons and Palmerton Ditch Companies. These rights are an area Lyons is currently researching to maximize the benefit that can be obtained from them for the Town.

All of the rights mentioned above are native water rights. They are a right to water that is found in and around Lyons. As one might imagine, some of the newer cities and towns that have formed may not have any native water rights and even those municipalities that do have native water rights may have outgrown those rights many decades ago. So, there have been some large-scale projects to bring water in from other locations.

One of those projects is the Colorado Big Thompson Project (C-BT). The C-BT Project collects, stores and delivers more than 200,000 acre-feet of supplemental water each year, moving water from the Colorado River on the Western Slope of Colorado to Northeastern Colorado. This may be the most well-known water right because it can be used all along the Front Range.

Lyons owns and uses shares of C-BT to supplement the water rights it receives from its native water rights. There has recently been much discussion on how water from the Colorado River gets allocated among the various Western states that have rights and use its water. Having a portfolio of water rights from various sources helps Lyons prepare for drought and for policy changes that might have an impact on its right to raw water.

**BACK**

# Code Compliance

## Cassidy Davenport, Code Compliance Official

Maintaining a beautiful and safe environment continues to be important to the residents of Lyons. Proper maintenance of public and private spaces helps keep Lyons clean, organized, and can lead to better wildfire resilience. In Lyons, code compliance is a part-time position where the Town focuses on education and engagement and responds to complaints and large-scale problems. Town staff work hard to respond to all complaints and often work alongside the Sheriff's Department to help understand and resolve complaints. The Sheriff's Department has been a key partner in helping to resolve dog, vehicle, and car complaints but they also play a role in many other complaints as well and we are thankful for their assistance and partnership in maintaining a safe and healthy Lyons.

### Summary

In the months between June and December, the Town of Lyons received around 24 complaints ranging from dogs (off-leash and barking), dead trees, weeds, trailers, cars, and noise. When the Town receives a complaint, we usually first confirm that there is a problem by visiting the site. We then work to contact the owner of the property to make them aware of the problems. Beyond that, if a problem isn't resolved we can issue a warning as well as a fine, but each action must be completed in alignment with the Lyons Municipal Code.

Complaints can be made to the Town in a number of ways including via the Town website "[Report a Possible Municipal Code Violation](#)," [TextMyGov](#) (bottom corner of the page), by [email](#), or by phone. You may also direct appropriate complaints to the Sheriff's Department and should report all emergencies, accidents, etc. to them. Please note that if you do not leave your contact information we cannot follow up or provide updates on the situation.

Code compliance has been working closely with the communications department to create informational sheets, articles, and notes to keep residents informed of their responsibilities year-round. These are important communications as they provide residents with standards and great information and resources such as free chipping events, diversion day information, etc. If you are not subscribed to these newsletters, you can do so through the Town of Lyons [website](#).

### Key Issues We See Around Town:

#### Winter:

- Snow and ice removal from sidewalks within 24 hours after the snow stops falling
- Alley maintenance behind your home
- Clean up furniture, trash, store items properly
- Trim weeds, branches, and trees in alleys
- Watch for dangerous branches and wildfire hazards

#### Fall:

- Rake and maintain leaves, weeds, and branches (this helps with wildfire resilience)
- Do not create piles of branches on your lot: keep an eye out for tree limb drop-offs or other ways to compost or dispose of personal yard waste items
- Maintain weeds and grass on your property AND any adjacent rights-of-way
- Grasses cannot be taller than 6 inches, this also presents a wildfire hazard
- Be bear aware: use bear bins, store trash properly, do not set out trash that bears can get into

#### Spring:

- Do not leave spring cleaning items on the side of the road or in the public right of way
- Clean up fallen branches and trash left behind when snow melts

- Double check trees on your property: dead trees need to be cut down or properly trimmed.

### **Summer:**

- Keep all grasses mowed to 6 inches and below
- Remove all invasive weeds
- Care for dead and dangerous trees
- Maintain the right of way bordering your home

### **Annual Tasks**

- Renew or apply for dog licenses, golf car registrations, parking passes
- Ensure your dog is on-leash and not continuously barking
- Be aware of Lyons' noise ordinance
- Ensure proper parking of cars, trailers, RVs, boats, etc.
- There are specific rules to how long these can be parked in the right-of-way, on Town streets, etc.

### **Objectives and Goals Moving Forward**

Code compliance will continue to monitor issues and will continue to work with the Sheriff's Department to respond to complaints around Town. We are working hard to educate residents on codes moving forward so that fines and warnings are our last resort. Please be aware of your responsibilities and if you have questions feel free to reach out.

Cassidy Davenport  
(303) 823-6622  
cdavenport@townoflyons.com

[\*\*BACK\*\*](#)

## **Community Programs and Relations Department**

**Kim Mitchell, Director of Communications and Community Relations**

The Community Programs and Relations Staff works with both residents and businesses towards many town-wide initiatives including economic vitality, special events, public art, sustainability, outreach, and communications. The department employs three staff members as well as two seasonal workers for the Visitor's Center during the busier summer months.

### **2024 Summary of Accomplishments**

In 2024, the community relations staff supported multiple events and initiatives in Lyons that help to build community and encourage community activities and involvement that so many residents love about living in Lyons. Notable activities of the Community Programs and Relations Department in 2024 are highlighted below:

#### **Economic Vitality**

- Coordinated with Lyons Arts and Humanities to help with the installation of 14 public art sculptures along the corridor and within the town and four quarterly Art Shows.
- Advocated for support of shopping locally and supporting local services via a monthly advertising campaign in the local print newspaper, the Redstone Review.
- Worked with several Main St business owners and CDOT regarding use of the public right of way for outdoor dining, to not charge local businesses a fee to use the public right of way. Adding a temporary incidental use permit system.
- Provided advertorial and editorial materials for the Colorado National Parks Planner – a robust print and online publication for those planning a trip to the National Park.
- Partnered with Colorado Tourism Office (CTO) to host a social media influencer to experience all Lyons has to offer in the fall.
- Social Media campaign curated with local marketing professional to highlight outdoor amenities, recreational opportunities, restaurants, retail, services and special events in Lyons.
- Worked with local agency and local media and CTO to share and highlight many new business openings and events in Lyons.
- Coordinated with Planet Bluegrass staff and Town staff regarding leases of LaVern Johnson Park for both RockyGrass and Folks Festival. The leases provided over \$40K in revenue for the Town for 9 days of leased use.
- Staff worked collaboratively with park hosts and external agencies for successful summer camping, picnics and family gatherings at all of our local parks.
- Camping revenue in LaVern Johnson Park for 2024 was nearly \$310K. Parking revenue in 2024 was approximately \$140K, up over \$11k from 2023.
- In 2024, the Revolving Loan Fund initiated two new business loans, and four outstanding loans have been fully repaid on time and according to the terms of the loan.

#### **Visitors Center:**

- Two local residents were rehired to staff the visitors center on weekends during the busier summer months.
- The visitors center receives guests who are looking for information on things to do in Lyons, including outdoor recreation, dining, hiking, shopping and more.

## **Special Events:**

- Staff worked with local musicians and organizers to produce three successful Winter Wonderland Concerts from January 2024 through March 2024. In addition, three local non-profits were able to fundraise at the events with baked goods and hot beverages.
- Old Man Winter Run and Bike Rally returned to Lyons in February 2024 for its 10th consecutive year, which was the largest to date, taking place in Bohn Park, to accommodate increased participants and a sunnier location. The winter run and ride introduces riders and runners to Lyons, with a 5k run, 10K run, 100 K bike and a very popular (nearly 850 participants) 50K ride. Staff also recommended a kids "stryder" bike ride to race organizers for kids under 5. The little stryder race was very well received.
- The third annual Lucky Lyons Run was held in mid-March held in Bohn Park with a 5K and 10K race.
- Hosted a river cleanup in late April in collaboration with Earth Day events and a children's concert with Jeff and Paige. Hosted an Earth Day event in Bohn Park, with local non-profits who are engaged in soil health, water conservation, open space and similar Earth Day related activities.
- The third annual successful Pride Month celebration in June at a Sandstone Park event, worked in collaboration with Lyons Pride organizers for a safe and well attended event. Worked to procure supplies and volunteers to refresh the BIPOC Pride flag crosswalk, with local youth adjacent to the library, which is very supportive.
- Summer Concert Series returned on Wednesday evenings with 9 concerts outdoors in Sandstone Park, including a free concert by the Denver Municipal Band (the nation's 2<sup>nd</sup> oldest municipal band) and other local musical favorites.
- Collaborated with Venus de Miles Bicycle Ride for the 4th straight year to bring female cyclists to experience bicycle rides from 30 miles to 80 miles in the area, in late August with the start and finish at Bohn Park.
- Coordinated a dark sky walk and evening of events in late August with the Parks and Recreation Commission as well as the Lyons Regional Library.
- The third annual Summer Artisan Market grew to 55 vendors, held in early September at Bohn Park to celebrate the summer season and welcome the autumn season. Staff collaborated with the Lyons Community Foundation for Root Beer Floats and BBQ lunch plates towards their local fundraising efforts.
- Successful and well-attended Lyons Halloween Spooktacular held in late October with events at Lyons Elementary School and parade along Main Street.
- Coordinated with LEAF (Lyons Elevating All Fund) organizers for a successful Rave to the Grave – held in late October at LaVern Johnson Park.
- Hosted the Second Annual Tree Lighting Celebration held in Sandstone Park on the Friday, after Thanksgiving. New in 2024, staff reached out to the River Church to host hot cocoa and cookies. In its second year, the event grew to nearly 300 attendees and was well received. Creating a new tradition in Lyons.
- The Parade of Lights and Lyons Holiday Artisan Market in early December were very well-attended. The Artisan Market had nearly 60 vendors and a waiting list of 15 additional requests. The Parade of Lights had 38 entries, and the weather was delightful for early December.
- Produced the posters, flyers and all special event communications materials for town sponsored events.

## **Outreach & Communications**

- Staff developed a comprehensive outreach and communications plan to ensure that the BOT priorities and actions are communicated regularly to town residents.
- The Town's monthly utility bill newsletter is sent each month with the utility bill via mail and online utility billing to keep residents informed on important town matters and special events. All utility bill newsletters may be found online as well <https://www.townoflyons.com/Archive.aspx?AMID=38>
- Staff deployed weekly and as-needed e-blasts to the community regarding projects/events/issues in Lyons
- Several articles were written about events, projects and local business success for inclusion in regional and local media
- Monthly articles in Redstone Review covering community topics – economic development, health and welfare, special events and more
- Celebrated and promoted Lyons history during Historic Preservation Month.
- All BOT meetings (regularly scheduled and special meetings) are posted online <http://www.townoflyons.com/livestream>.
- All Town e-blasts sent may be found online as well at <http://www.townoflyons.com/list.aspx?PRVMSG=247>

**BACK**

## Legal

The Town of Lyons Town Attorney is Brandon Dittman of the law firm of Wilson Williams Fellman Dittman. The Town Attorney provides legal advice to the Town of Lyons Board of Trustees, Town Administrator, departments, boards, commissions, and agencies of the Town. The Town Attorney cannot provide legal advice to private citizens.

The Town Attorney is responsible for preparing or reviewing resolutions, ordinances, and legal instruments, providing legal opinions, and representing the Town in litigation and administrative proceedings. The Town Attorney supports the Board of Trustees in preparation and implementation of new legislation and in recommending changes in the Town Code to ensure it is up to date. The goal of the Town Attorney is to assist the Board of Trustees and Town staff in creative problem-solving, mitigating legal risk, and ensuring the actions of the Town are in compliance with state, federal, and local law.

All traffic and criminal misdemeanor offenses committed within the Town, including criminal violations of Town ordinances, are prosecuted by Jacob Starkovich of Starkovich Law, LLC. The Town Attorney, or their designee, prosecutes civil violations of the Town ordinances.

In 2024, the Town Attorney assisted the Board in the process surrounding the update of the Riverbend PUD.

The Town Attorney also worked on updates of the Town's sales tax policy, remote meetings policy, purchasing policy, and numerous updates to the Town's municipal code.

The Town Attorney negotiated the renewal of the Town's wholesale energy contract with the Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska (MEAN).

Town Attorney also assisted, and continues to assist, the Town in the Tebo annexation process.

The Town Attorney was also heavily involved in the management of the Town's grant-funded projects and day-to-day operations of the Town.

[BACK](#)

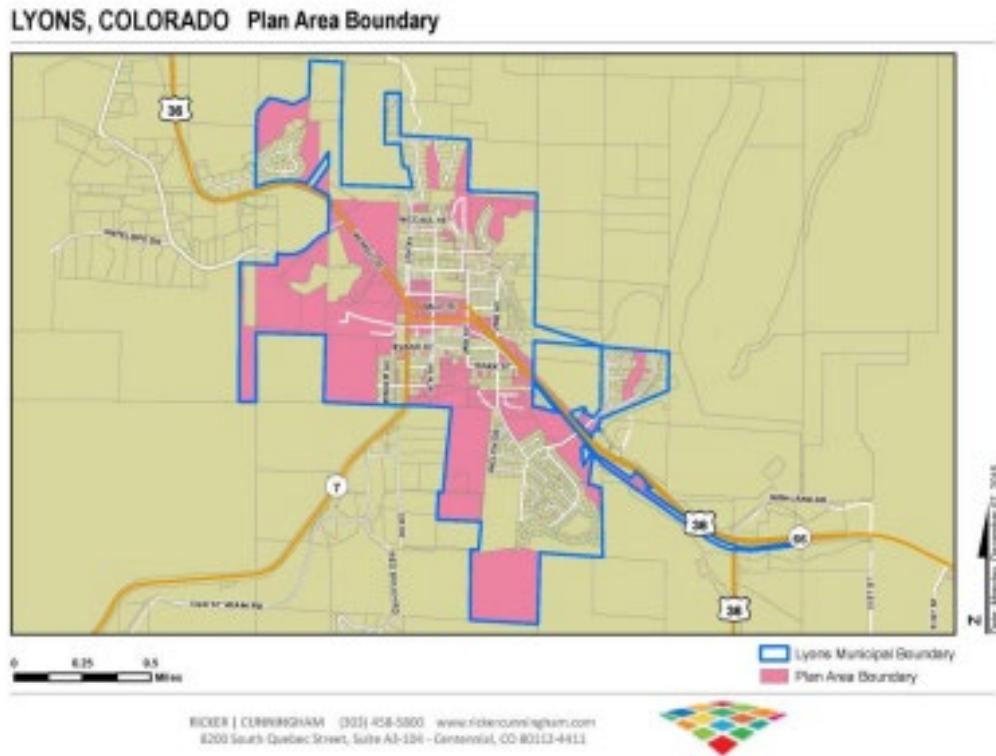
# Lyons Urban Renewal Authority

In 2013, the Town of Lyons staff and the Board of Trustees (BOT) began researching the prospect of creating an urban renewal authority (URA). Shortly before the final two public hearings, the Town was inundated by the flood, and the project was temporarily set aside to focus on recovery. Town officials once again pursued the establishment of a URA in the succeeding years. As required by Colorado Revised Statute (CRS) § 31-25-104(a), the Town received a petition from 25 registered electors of the Town, stating that there is a need for a URA. Upon the filing of the petition, a public hearing was held on December 21, 2015, and shortly after that, the Lyons BOT approved the creation of a URA in Resolution 2015-146.

A consultant found that one or more slum or blighted areas existed in the town. The BOT then appointed themselves as commissioners of the Lyons URA for the purpose of revitalizing blighted areas.

## URA definition

The goal of an Urban Renewal Area is to revitalize a region that requires additional intervention in order to remedy blight, restore economic vitality and improve safety. Understanding that redeveloping existing areas is much more expensive and difficult than new development, Colorado has empowered local authorities with certain tools, including tax increment financing (TIF), to offset costs and encourage investment by the private sector in urban renewal areas. Without urban renewal, developers lack the incentive to tackle the challenges associated with infill redevelopment or environmentally complicated sites and would instead have the incentive to continue to direct growth to the fringes of communities, where development is cheaper and easier, which would add to the problem of sprawl.



The principal goals of the Lyons Urban Renewal Plan are to help provide important services to the area, attract private investment, utilize underdeveloped land, and leverage public investment to provide necessary public infrastructure to serve the subject area, all for the purpose of remedying and preventing blight.

“Blight” is the legal term given to a piece of property when four of the eleven criteria outlined in the Colorado Revised Statute § 31-25-103(2). are met. These factors range from deteriorated or dilapidated

buildings to flood damage, to title problems, and collectively must be considered to be a threat to the health, safety, peace or welfare of a community, in order for a finding of "blight" to be made.

While few areas in Lyons would probably be considered truly "blighted" by most people's standards, if four of the eleven factors are met under the statute, the law considers the property to be "blighted." Additionally, under the Colorado statute, a determination of blight is based upon an area "as a whole" and not an individual property basis. Thus, it is possible that a property could not have any of the blight factors present, but still be within the urban renewal area designated as blighted because factors are present on surrounding properties.

The Lyons Urban Renewal Authority is intended to promote uses for the primary benefit of the Town and community at-large and encourage investment and reinvestment in the URA. These goals would be accomplished by affording maximum opportunity for development and redevelopment of the subject area by private enterprise, particularly through the use of tax increment financing.

### **LURA Progress and 2025 Outlook**

The Lyons URA is made up of the current Board of Trustees, the Town Administrator, and representatives from the St. Vrain Valley School District, Boulder County, the Lyons Fire Protection District, and a previous LURA member.

The Authority has been discussing the potential of adopting another urban renewal plan for the eastern corridor; however, this action has not formally been taken. Negotiations and contracts with the other taxing districts need to occur following an update of the conditions survey and the completion of an economic study to determine the potential increment to be created.

The Town of Lyons provided additional revenue to LURA in the 2016-2020 budget years to help cover expenses, including consultant and attorney's fees, transferring funds from the Town's General fund. This transfer has not been necessary since 2020, and tax increment revenue has been able to cover expenses.

To date, the Authority has entered into three TIF reimbursement agreements. One agreement was with the St. Vrain Market to assist with a business improvement project, and another was with Moss Rock Development to provide funding for the construction of a boutique hotel on Main Street. Mayama Movement Studio entered into an agreement that was not renewed at the agreement's termination date. The Board also elected to utilize \$40,000 in TIF revenue to contribute toward the US 36 / Broadway Avenue improvement project, which benefits the entire district.

The Boulder County Assessor's preliminary assessment of value states that the increment valuation will be \$0 for the 2024 tax year. Therefore, there will be no revenue collected in 2025. This calculation of value from the County Assessor is the difference between the 2023 base values and the 2024 updated values. The \$0 valuation is due to the demolition of commercial properties on Main Street (hotel site and fire site) and the result of several properties that are now tax-exempt.

The 2025 budget includes URA expenses for attorney fees and charges for Town of Lyons staff time spent on LURA activities.

[BACK](#)

# Planning Community and Development Commission

The Planning & Community Development Commission (PCDC) acts as an advisory committee to the Board of Trustees and exercises powers granted by Article 8 of The Town of Lyons Municipal Code and pursuant to Article 23 of Title 31, C.R.S. The PCDC has no more than seven voting members that are appointed by the mayor. Standing meetings are held on the second and fourth Mondays of each month with at least four voting members present to realize a quorum.

## Why Do We Plan?

Planning is a basic function and power of local government in Colorado. Unlike some other states, Colorado does not have a statewide land use plan. Master plans and land use regulations such as zoning, building codes, design standards, and sign codes are, for the most part, locally designated. The PCDC and the BoT prepare plans to preserve the public health, safety and welfare for all Lyons residents and neighbors. Effective planning ensures the orderly development of land within our jurisdiction.

All Colorado municipalities, via a Planning Commission, are required by state statute to maintain the following planning documents:

[Comprehensive Plan](#) (C.R.S. 30-28-106 and 31-23-206).

[Three Mile Plan](#) (C.R.S. 31-12-105)

## 2024 PCDC Activities

### Workshops of note:

- Reviewed and passed Information Memo to BoT on Zoning Recommendation for vacant LVP and Carter Court lots.
- Conducted DOLA-guided Planning Commissioner's training related to Land Use issues and trends for Colorado municipalities.
- Held internal training on Proposition 123 requirements and opportunities.
- Explored potential Mixed-Use Overlay Districts for Downtown and Eastern Corridor, including a proposal from Stantec for an Area-Wide Planning Study (AWPS) proposal
- Considered potential PUD Amendment (Minor v Major) code language.
- Discussed the merits and strategy behind becoming part of a future Peak to Peak Housing Authority.
- Reviewed and provided guidance on the Town's Brownfield Assessment process.
- Participated in a joint BoT "Listening Session" for public comment on the IGA.
- Reviewed and provided guidance to Town Staff and BoT on the proposed rezoning of adjacent County properties under Docket Z-23-0002.
- Reviewed conclusions and recommendations from, and subsequently adjourned, the PCDC's ADU and STR subcommittees.
- Reviewed and redlined the Housing Assessment Study for consideration of Town staff and BoT.

### Resolutions of note:

- 2024-14 recommending ordinance to allow EV Charging stations in all zone districts
- Passed Resolutions 2024-11,12,13 on Zoning Recommendations for various properties of the proposed Tebo Annexation
- Passed Resolution 2024-10 on recommendation of Proposition 123 Strategies adoption

- Passed Resolution 2024-09 on recommendation of allowing R1 subdivision variance for historical intended, yet non-conforming, “double lots”
- Passed Resolution 2024-08 on defining ‘Farmers Market’ as a use and proposed parameters of operation as related to Land Use
- Passed Resolution 2024-05 on adopting amended annexation language as devised by Trustee Browning to prevent any subdividing of 5+ac properties for the effect of annexation without public vote
- Passed Resolution 2024-03 on amending PUD for River Bend
- Passed Resolution 2024-02 recommending use for detached ADU at 431 Evans Street
- Passed Resolution 2024-01 recommending allowing detached ADUs as a permitted use by right in most zoning districts.

#### **Proposed 2025 PCDC work program and goals:**

- Review and propose amendment and/or recommend to the BoT on the **Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) Task Force’s recommendations**, and subsequently amend the Comprehensive Plan with reference to the finalized IGA, pursuant to C.R.S. 31-21-206 (1.5.A)
- Prepare for a **2026 Comprehensive Plan amendment to include Strategic Growth and Water Supply elements**, pursuant to C.R.S. 31-23-206 (1.5.B-D, ref: 1.7)
- Propose an addition to the LMC to 2-8-160(C) to add a responsibility for the **PCDC to review and update the Comprehensive Plan biennially**, specifically:
  - The Water Supply element, pursuant to C.R.S. 31-23-206 (1.7.A), which requires an update every at least every 5 years.
  - A comprehensive list, with hyperlinks and other appropriate reference, of studies and sub-plans conducted and acknowledged and/or adopted by resolution by the BoT.
- Propose an **Area-Wide Planning Study (AWPS) for the Eastern Corridor** to better establish area development goals, including a framework for future annexation potential and updating formal design guidelines.
- Review the most recent **Town Parking Study** and explore updating the study and/or recommendations within, including minimum off-street parking requirements to Mixed-Use Zoning districts.
- Explore **R-1 owner-adopted, community-approved via conditional use, “soft densification” strategies** such as minimum lot size standards, revised maximum unrelated occupancy allowances, and definition of a potential PUD-RA (residential affordable/attainable) for density bonuses aligning with Town affordable/attainable housing goals, yet to be established.
- Explore **Building Coverage and/or FAR regulations** broadly in R zoning districts to preserve existing and desirable aspects of community character in light of future development demands.

#### **2024 PCDC Members:**

|   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| Neal Evers – Chair  | Amy Schwartz – Vice Chair |
| Barney Dreistadt (outgoing)   | Deborah Scott             |
| Ives Nath   | Jen Wingard               |
| Julie Jacobs  |                           |
| Hollie Rogin – Mayor, Board of Trustees Liaison   |                           |
| Andrew Bowen – Lead Planner, performing the second vice chair duties of recording meeting minutes |                           |

**BACK**

## Boulder County Sheriff's Office Annual Report 2024 (Lyons)

2024 was another excellent year for the Town of Lyons, and it saw a decrease in property and person crimes. At the end of 2023, the Town approved an additional four Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) Flock cameras, bringing the total to six cameras for the Town. In 2024, four new cameras were installed, and two cameras were moved. These cameras were strategically deployed in locations to capture all vehicles coming in and out of Town. These cameras play a crucial role in aiding law enforcement in swiftly identifying and apprehending suspects, as demonstrated by their effectiveness in solving crimes in 2024. The initiative aims to boost public safety in Lyons and the broader community. Moreover, these cameras contribute to identifying traffic patterns and volume. Over 5,000 communities nationwide utilize Flock cameras. Over 700,000 crimes are solved using Flock Safety Technology each year, which accounts for approximately 10% of all reported crimes nationwide.



2024 saw an increase in traffic volume in Town. July was the busiest month, with nearly 300,000 vehicles coming into Town on Ute Hwy compared to 265,000 in July 2023. In 2024, approximately 2.1 million vehicles came into Town on Ute Hwy, compared to approximately 1.7 million in 2023.

The Boulder County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) continues to improve its crime stat program, aiding in identifying calls, crime patterns, and traffic-related incidents. Stats are presented to the Board of Trustees bi-weekly. This report later compares the BCSO calls for service in the Town of Lyons from 2022 through 2024.

In 2024, the main focus was community policing, extra patrols/foot patrols in the parks and downtown areas, and traffic enforcement – crucial priorities for small towns like Lyons. Extra patrol/foot patrols had the highest call volume at 705, followed by 655 traffic stops and 218 medical/fire/rescue calls. Total calls for service increased by around 171 from 2023, totaling 2692 calls for service in 2024 compared to 2521 calls for service in 2023. The uptick in calls is primarily from the increased traffic and extra patrols in Town.

Ticket numbers in 2024 increased by approximately 72, totaling 640, compared to 2023, with 568 tickets. Property crimes decreased to 82 in 2024, down from 101 in 2023. Person crimes decreased to 78 in 2024, compared to 102 in 2023. Medical, fire, and rescue calls decreased to about 218 in 2024, from 240 in 2023. Alcohol and drug-related calls increased to 12 in 2024, compared to eight in 2023.

Miscellaneous calls for service increased slightly to 640 in 2024, up from 635 in 2023. Animal complaint calls increased to 132 in 2024, up from 92 in 2023. Traffic-related complaints increased to 770 in 2024, from 692 in 2023, covering traffic stops, traffic complaints, possible DUI drivers, road hazards, property damage, and other traffic-related calls. Civil-related calls decreased, with 46 in 2024 and 58 in 2023, along with weapon-related calls decreasing to six in 2024 from nine in 2023.

The most significant event to impact Lyons in 2024 was the Stone Canyon Fire, which ignited on the afternoon of July 30 in the 2600 block of Eagle Ridge Road. The fire burned over 1,500 acres, destroyed five homes, and tragically resulted in one fatality. While the cause remains under investigation, it is believed to be human caused. The Stone Canyon Fire was one of three major wildfires along the Front Range that forced thousands to evacuate.

At the time of the fire, extreme fire danger and ideal conditions for rapid spread posed a significant threat to the Town of Lyons. Thanks to the swift actions of first responders, evacuations began within 10 minutes of the initial report. Coordination and resource mobilization were critical, and within 30 minutes, air tankers fighting a nearby fire in Larimer County were redirected to Lyons. These air assets played a pivotal role in controlling the fire and preventing it from spreading into Town, which led to the evacuation of Lyons' north side. Fortunately, the expected high winds did not materialize, and the fire was fully contained within days.

This devastating event deeply affected thousands, and our thoughts are with those who lost their homes and loved ones. The response from first responders was exceptional, and the Lyons community demonstrated remarkable resilience, grit, and unity, stepping up to support one another in every way possible. While incidents like the Stone Canyon Fire are tragic, they often strengthen the bonds within a community, reminding us of the power of collective effort and care in times of crisis.

The BCSO and the Town of Lyons have undertaken several significant, time-intensive projects to modernize its ordinances. These include updating the Lyons Model Traffic Code to the 2024 version, revising the traffic ticket fine schedule, and overhauling the Town's general offenses code. The latter, a complex effort involving collaboration with the BCSO and many Town of Lyons entities, is ongoing and expected to be finalized and presented in early 2025. These updates aim to align Lyons with other municipalities in Boulder County and surrounding areas, reflect changes in Colorado Revised Statutes, and enhance public safety.

The Town of Lyons deputies are dedicated to making a positive daily impact by addressing quality of life issues, promoting public safety, delivering quality service to our communities, utilizing effective problem-solving methods, and fostering strong relationships—all while upholding the BCSO mission statement and values.

#### **Boulder County Sheriff's Office Mission Statement and Values:**

*"We provide efficient, effective, public safety services to the residents and visitors of Boulder County. We deliver these services with character, competence, and open communication."*

#### **Values:**

- We value human life.
- We value the Constitutions of the United States and the State of Colorado. We value the system of laws that govern us.
- We value the communities we serve. We believe the purpose of our organization is to serve our communities, keep the peace, keep them safe, and work with them to solve problems.
- We value the person. We value diversity among all individuals. We will treat everyone with courtesy, respect and dignity.
- We value organizational excellence. We value an environment in which individuals strive as a team for superior professional performance focused on achieving our organizational mission and goals.
- We value the strength of personal character in our employees. We value open, honest communicators who display high moral and ethical conduct, integrity, adaptability and sound judgment.

#### **Traffic Accidents:**

In 2024, Lyons experienced 40 traffic-related accidents, marking an increase of 12 from the 28 accidents in 2023. There were four hit-and-run accidents, with one being a driver under the influence of alcohol and apprehended and arrested. Two accidents were alcohol-related, and the drivers were arrested, while the majority resulted from carelessness or distractions.

The most frequent accident locations were:

- Broadway and 5<sup>th</sup> Ave- 7 accidents
- Circle K Gas Station parking lot- 5 accidents
- St. Vrain Market parking lot- 3 accidents
- 500 block of W. Main St- 3 accidents

Most accidents were minor, resulting in minor property damage. Only two accidents had minor injuries. Extra duty traffic enforcement remains a focus for 2025 due to increased accidents and traffic complaints in both town and county areas.

## **Goals and Ambitions for 2025:**

The Sheriff's Office is committed to improving public safety through increased traffic enforcement, community engagement, foot patrols, problem-solving, and addressing quality of life issues to maintain a safe town. Emphasis is placed on preserving the unique small-town atmosphere to keep the Town safe and desirable for residents and visitors alike.

Collaborating with the Boulder County Co-Responders, efforts are ongoing to reintroduce a full-time Co-Responder to the Town. Goals include continuing to reduce property and person crimes, community education on enhancing awareness, succession planning, and making the Town of Lyons safer. Despite staffing challenges, the Sheriff's Office aims to persist in recruiting and retaining high-quality deputies, facilitating increased staffing levels to provide more dedicated time for deputies to spend in the Town. Building trust and fostering strong community relationships remain top priorities. We urge the Town to promptly report any crimes or issues to the Sheriff's Office, regardless of size. Timely reporting enables us to address and resolve matters swiftly, contributing to the overall improvement of the Town.

### **A letter from Sergeant Cody Sears:**

*This past year serving as the Police Chief for the Town of Lyons has been a remarkable experience filled with continuous learning. It's the most honorable position I've held in my 16-year tenure with the Sheriff's Office. Building relationships with the Town has been a highlight of my career. With its incredible and caring community, Lyons is a special place I proudly call home. Serving in a community where my family and friends spend much of their time is a dream come true.*

*Lyons is an exceptionally unique small-town community filled with exceptional people, unlike any place I've encountered in my travels around the country. The breathtaking landscape further enhances the Town's beauty, making it a truly remarkable place. I look forward to continuing as the Police Chief for several more years, aiming to complete the full five years in this specialty position. Despite law enforcement's challenges nationwide, the Boulder County Sheriff's Office is fortunate to have incredible support in Lyons, where the majority stand by and care about their law enforcement and first responders.*

*I express gratitude to the town residents and community for their unwavering support and trust in our deputies. Entering 2025, my commitment is to enhance public safety, awareness, and education, reduce crime, increase traffic enforcement and safety, address quality of life issues, build relationships, and make the Town of Lyons a safer and more enjoyable community for locals and visitors. I encourage the community to contact me or the Sheriff's Office anytime for any reason. I want to emphasize the importance of residents taking proactive steps to protect themselves and their property from crime. I frequently share this at Town Board of Trustees meetings and encourage everyone to report incidents, suspicious activity, or concerns promptly by calling 911 or the non-emergency dispatch number. Delayed reports—such as emails sent to the Town or me—make it difficult for deputies to investigate and follow up effectively. By contacting dispatch directly, a deputy can respond quickly, which greatly improves our ability to address the situation. If you see something, say something—don't hesitate to report it.*

*Here are some key tips to protect yourself, your home, and your vehicles:*

- Always lock your doors, windows, and vehicles, even when you're at home.
- Close your garage door when not in use.
- Use exterior lighting, such as motion-sensor lights, and ensure entry points are well-lit.
- Install security cameras and keep your yard tidy by trimming bushes and trees near your home.
- Don't leave valuables in plain sight in your car and never leave keys inside.
- Avoid leaving your vehicle unattended while it's warming up unless you use a remote start system.
- Be aware of your surroundings and report suspicious activity promptly.
- Use caution on social media—avoid sharing information about new purchases or travel plans.
- When traveling, use timers on lights to make your home appear occupied.

*By staying vigilant and taking these precautions, we can reduce crime and keep our community safe.*

*Our deputies and I are committed to improving the Town; your input is invaluable. Your communication and assistance are essential for us to contribute to resolving any issues you or someone else may be dealing with. While we may not be able to solve every problem, we are committed to exhausting every resource available to help you.*

Sergeant Cody Sears's contact information:

Email: [wsears@bouldercounty.gov](mailto:wsears@bouldercounty.gov)

Desk number: 303-441-1713

Non-Emergency Dispatch Number: 303-441-4444

## **2025 Town of Lyons BCSO Staffing Lineup:**

**Sergeant Cody Sears** - Cody, a 16-year Boulder County Sheriff's Office veteran, has a diverse background working in the courts, jail, patrol, and as a detective. Currently, in his third year as the Town of Lyons Police Chief, Cody also brings a decade of experience as a Tactical Team Leader on the Boulder County Sheriff's Office SWAT team. A Longmont native and a four-year U.S. Marine Corps veteran, Cody is enthusiastic about continuing his service to the Town of Lyons and is unwavering in his commitment to enhancing community safety. His regular work hours are Monday through Thursday from 8 am to 6:30 pm.





**Deputy Jessica Yates**- Jessica, a five-year veteran with the Boulder County Sheriff's Office, is a Boulder County native, spending most of her life in Longmont. Before her law enforcement career, she dedicated 15 years to the dental field. Jessica has served the community of Lyons since 2023, and she is excited about continuing her service in 2025. Jessica works the day shift on the first side of the week, every Sunday through Tuesday and every other Wednesday from 6 am to 6 pm.

**Deputy Jeff Caton** – Jeff has been with the Boulder County Sheriff's Office for 27 years. Jeff started his career in the jail and transferred to patrol in 2000. He started his career on Patrol in Lyons in 2000. Jeff has had numerous assignments while on Patrol. He has been an FTO, Juvenile Alcohol Enforcement Deputy, Mountain Deputy (9+) years, traffic enforcement. Jeff is currently a senior driving instructor, and a radar/lidar instructor. Jeff was in the US Army then worked at the Washington State Penitentiary before he came to the Sheriff's Office. Jeff has been married for 37 years; he has two grown daughters and an 8-year-old granddaughter. Jeff works the day shift on the second half of the week, working every Thursday through Saturday and every other Wednesday from 6 am to 6 pm.





**Deputy Trevor Schimel**- Trevor has been with the Boulder County Sheriff's Office for two years. Trevor was assigned to Lyons for the first half of 2024 and is returning back in 2025. Trevor has ten years of experience working in corrections, is a US Army veteran, and is the father of two boys. Trevor loves being able to help make a difference in the community and is very excited to serve the Town of Lyons. Trevor works the night shift on the first half of the week, working every Sunday through Tuesday and every other Saturday, 6 pm to 6 am.

**Deputy YC Lindsay** – YC joined the Boulder County Sheriff's Office in June 2024. While his tenure with BCSO spans just over six months, YC brings extensive law enforcement experience, having served since 2018. During his career, he has held roles as a detective, officer in charge, and field training officer within a busy metropolitan police department. YC works night shift on the second half of the week, working every Wednesday through Friday and every other Saturday, 6 pm to 6 am.





**Deputy Mitch Rosebrough "Rosey"** - Rosey, a 21-year Boulder County Sheriff's Office veteran, has an illustrious career spanning various roles such as working in the jail, patrol, K9 handler, FTO, and firearms instructor. He has served as the School Resource Officer for five years; he primarily works at Lyons Middle/Senior School but also assists at Lyons Elementary and Hygiene Elementary. He also helps out with calls in Town. He's dedicated to his job, schools, particularly the kids, and the Lyons community, and he loves what he does. Rosey has been one of the Lyons High School football coaches for the past six years. Additionally, he organizes the annual Lyons community barbecue for the first Lyons home football game and National Night Out in August. Rosey works during the day, Monday-Friday when school is in session.

The tables below break up the 2692 total calls for service in the Town of Lyons in 2024 into various call types. They compare the total 2521 calls for service in 2023 and the total 2233 calls for service in 2022.

| Property Crimes    | 2022      | 2023       | 2024      |
|--------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Auto Theft         | 4         | 3          | 2         |
| Burglary           | 4         | 2          | 2         |
| Criminal Mischief  | 27        | 29         | 23        |
| Criminal Trespass  | 8         | 7          | 1         |
| Fraud              | 15        | 14         | 13        |
| Theft              | 12        | 19         | 22        |
| Trespassing        | 20        | 27         | 19        |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>90</b> | <b>101</b> | <b>82</b> |

| Fire/Medical/Rescue Calls | 2022       | 2023       | 2024       |
|---------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Medical Calls             | 93         | 119        | 104        |
| Commercial Fire Alarm     | 13         | 23         | 10         |
| Residential Fire Alarm    | 4          | 10         | 9          |
| Fire Assist               | 33         | 50         | 58         |
| Illegal/Unattend Campfire | 1          | 1          | 1          |
| Fire Non-Structure        | 3          | 3          | 1          |
| Fire Odors Inside         | 4          | 3          | 6          |
| Fire Odors Outside        | 5          | 5          | 8          |
| Fireworks Complaints      | 3          | 9          | 7          |
| Smoke Report              | 5          | 2          | 9          |
| Structure/Smoke Inside    | 4          | 2          | 1          |
| Rescue No Amb Access      | 1          | 0          | 0          |
| Water Rescue              | 4          | 6          | 3          |
| Suicidal Person/Attempt   | 3          | 7          | 1          |
| <b>Grand Total</b>        | <b>176</b> | <b>240</b> | <b>218</b> |

| Animal Complaint Calls | 2022       | 2023      | 2024       |
|------------------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Animal Complaint       | 111        | 92        | 132        |
| <b>Grand Total</b>     | <b>111</b> | <b>92</b> | <b>132</b> |

| Person Crimes         | 2022      | 2023       | 2024      |
|-----------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|
| Assault               | 6         | 7          | 5         |
| Disturbance           | 21        | 31         | 32        |
| Domestic Violence     | 10        | 20         | 5         |
| Harassment            | 20        | 27         | 21        |
| Indecent Exposure     | 2         | 2          | 2         |
| Reckless Endangerment | 1         | 3          | 7         |
| Restraining Order     | 2         | 7          | 4         |
| Sex Assault           | 5         | 5          | 2         |
| <b>Grand Total</b>    | <b>67</b> | <b>102</b> | <b>78</b> |

| Weapon Calls       | 2022     | 2023     | 2024     |
|--------------------|----------|----------|----------|
| Shots Heard        | 4        | 4        | 5        |
| Weapon             | 2        | 5        | 0        |
| <b>Grand Total</b> | <b>6</b> | <b>9</b> | <b>5</b> |

| Extra / Foot Patrols   | 2022       | 2023       | 2024       |
|------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Extra Patrol           | 14         | 16         | 13         |
| Field-Initiated Patrol | 342        | 568        | 692        |
| <b>Grand Total</b>     | <b>356</b> | <b>584</b> | <b>705</b> |

| Traffic / Accident Calls | 2022       | 2023       | 2024       | Miscellaneous / Other Calls | 2022       | 2023       | 2024       |
|--------------------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Driving Under Influence  | 20         | 19         | 22         | Panic/Duress/Hold up        | 0          | 2          | 3          |
| Hazard                   | 12         | 11         | 6          | Intrusion alarm             | 20         | 24         | 20         |
| Hit and Run              | 11         | 9          | 5          | Assist                      | 70         | 79         | 79         |
| Injury/Rollover Accident | 9          | 4          | 6          | Attempt to Locate           | 3          | 4          | 3          |
| Property Damage Acc      | 35         | 26         | 39         | Child Issue                 | 6          | 15         | 19         |
| Veh Repo/Private Tow     | 3          | 0          | 1          | Code Enforcement            | 2          | 5          | 6          |
| Traffic                  | 35         | 46         | 35         | Follow-Up                   | 207        | 162        | 165        |
| Traffic Stop             | 645        | 571        | 655        | Found Property              | 6          | 8          | 6          |
| Unknown Injury Accident  | 1          | 6          | 1          | 911 Hang up                 | 8          | 10         | 11         |
| <b>Grand Total</b>       | <b>771</b> | <b>692</b> | <b>770</b> | Information                 | 16         | 22         | 14         |
| Drug / Alcohol Calls     | 2022       | 2023       | 2024       | Littering                   | 2          | 1          | 0          |
| Drunk Person             | 1          | 0          | 4          | Loitering                   | 4          | 0          | 0          |
| Liquor Law Violations    | 2          | 5          | 0          | Lost Property               | 11         | 11         | 20         |
| Drug Violation           | 1          | 3          | 7          | Missing Person              | 7          | 11         | 7          |
| Drug Task Force          | 0          | 0          | 1          | Noise                       | 17         | 20         | 24         |
| <b>Grand Total</b>       | <b>4</b>   | <b>8</b>   | <b>12</b>  | Other Agency Assist         | 12         | 10         | 7          |
| Civil Calls              | 2022       | 2023       | 2024       | Abandoned/Parking           | 39         | 33         | 35         |
| Civil Eviction           | 1          | 0          | 0          | Pedestrian Contact          | 16         | 22         | 25         |
| Civil Mental Health      | 1          | 0          | 0          | Public Works Request        | 17         | 14         | 22         |
| Civil Protection Order   | 6          | 1          | 3          | Soliciting Complaint        | 0          | 3          | 0          |
| Civil Service            | 27         | 25         | 25         | Safe to Tell                | 17         | 53         | 33         |
| Civil Issue              | 22         | 32         | 18         | Suspicious                  | 52         | 43         | 50         |
| <b>Grand Total</b>       | <b>57</b>  | <b>58</b>  | <b>46</b>  | Unknown                     | 2          | 2          | 5          |
|                          |            |            |            | Warrant Attempt/Arrest      | 3          | 3          | 1          |
|                          |            |            |            | Welfare Check               | 58         | 78         | 73         |
|                          |            |            |            | <b>Grand Total</b>          | <b>595</b> | <b>635</b> | <b>640</b> |

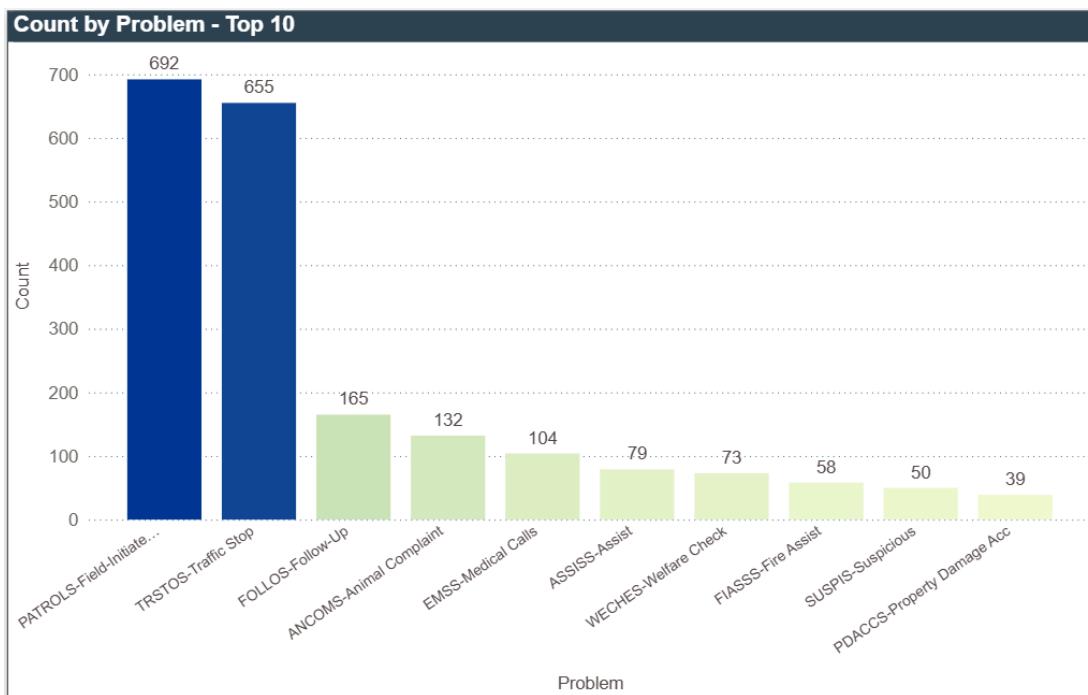
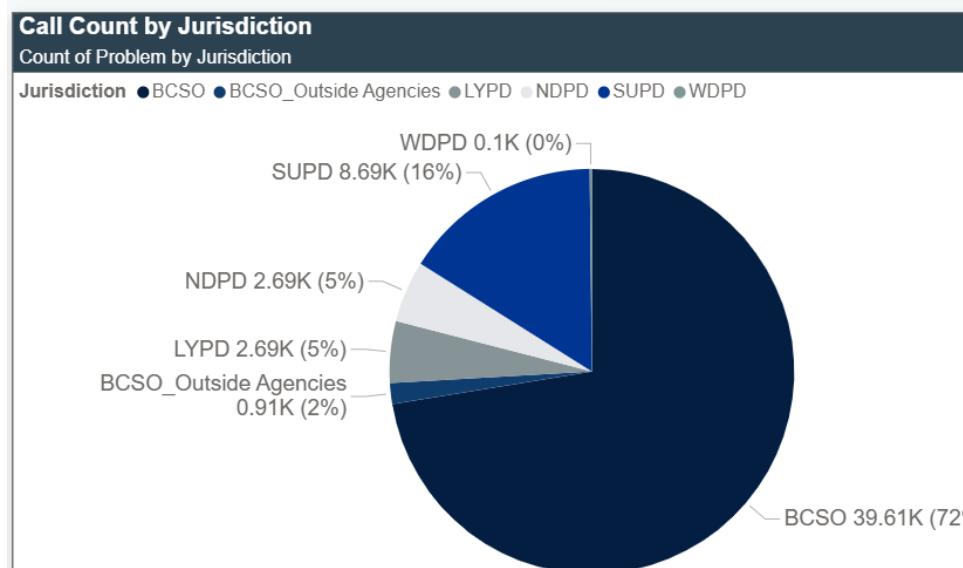
2022 Total Calls 2233 2023 Total Calls 2521 2024 Total Calls 2692

| 2022 Traffic Accident Locations | Total     | 2023 Traffic Accident Locations | Total     | 2024 Traffic Accident Locations    | Total     |
|---------------------------------|-----------|---------------------------------|-----------|------------------------------------|-----------|
| 100 Main St                     | 1         | 100 McConnell Dr                | 1         | 100 McConnell Dr                   | 1         |
| 100 McConnell Dr                | 1         | 200 Main St                     | 1         | 112 Main St                        | 1         |
| 112 Main St                     | 1         | 228 Main St                     | 1         | 231 5 <sup>th</sup> Ave            | 1         |
| 15000 N St Vrain                | 1         | 300 Railroad Ave                | 1         | 305 Railroad Ave                   | 1         |
| 19661 N St Vrain Dr             | 1         | 349 Main St                     | 1         | 4062 Ute Hwy                       | 1         |
| 226 Main St                     | 1         | 4065 Ute Hwy                    | 1         | 4206 Ute Hwy                       | 5         |
| 2nd Ave/Broadway                | 1         | 4100 Ute Hwy                    | 2         | 436 High St                        | 1         |
| 3rd Ave/Broadway                | 1         | 4196 Ute Hwy                    | 1         | 442 High St                        | 1         |
| 3rd Ave/Main St                 | 1         | 4201 Ute Hwy                    | 1         | 455 Main St                        | 3         |
| 4100 Ute Hwy                    | 1         | 4206 Ute Hwy                    | 1         | 500 W. Main St                     | 3         |
| 4196 Ute Hwy                    | 1         | 4th Ave/Broadway                | 1         | 5 <sup>th</sup> Ave / High St      | 2         |
| 4206 Ute Hwy                    | 1         | 500 Main St                     | 1         | 5 <sup>th</sup> Ave / Park St      | 1         |
| 500 Main St                     | 2         | 500 W Main St                   | 1         | 755 5 <sup>th</sup> Ave            | 1         |
| 5th Ave/Broadway                | 2         | 5134 Ute Hwy                    | 1         | Broadway / 4 <sup>th</sup> Ave     | 1         |
| 5th Ave/Prospect                | 1         | 5th Ave/Broadway                | 1         | Broadway / 5 <sup>th</sup> Ave     | 7         |
| Ute Hwy/McConnell Dr            | 1         | 5th Ave/Main St                 | 1         | Main St / 2 <sup>nd</sup> Ave      | 2         |
| <b>Grand Total</b>              | <b>18</b> | Broadway St/2nd Ave             | 1         | Main St / 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ave      | 2         |
|                                 |           | Ewald Ave/Prospect St           | 1         | Main St / Park St                  | 1         |
|                                 |           | High St/4th Ave                 | 1         | N. St. Vrain Dr / Apple Valley     | 2         |
|                                 |           | Hwy 36/Broadway                 | 1         | Railroad Ave / 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ave | 2         |
|                                 |           | Main St/Park St                 | 1         | Stickney / 5 <sup>th</sup> Ave     | 1         |
|                                 |           | Main St/St Vrain Dr             | 1         | <b>Grand Total</b>                 | <b>40</b> |
|                                 |           | McConnell St/Ute Hwy            | 2         |                                    |           |
|                                 |           | Park Ave/2nd Ave                | 1         |                                    |           |
|                                 |           | St Vrain Dr/Eagle Canyon        | 1         |                                    |           |
|                                 |           | Ute Hwy/Stone Canyon Dr         | 1         |                                    |           |
|                                 |           | <b>Grand Total</b>              | <b>28</b> |                                    |           |

| 2023 Calls Per Month |  | Total       | 2024 Calls Per Month |  | Total       |
|----------------------|--|-------------|----------------------|--|-------------|
| January              |  | 150         | January              |  | 215         |
| February             |  | 219         | February             |  | 205         |
| March                |  | 195         | March                |  | 217         |
| April                |  | 168         | April                |  | 199         |
| May                  |  | 279         | May                  |  | 252         |
| June                 |  | 283         | June                 |  | 308         |
| July                 |  | 287         | July                 |  | 334         |
| August               |  | 279         | August               |  | 266         |
| September            |  | 204         | September            |  | 243         |
| October              |  | 142         | October              |  | 197         |
| November             |  | 153         | November             |  | 120         |
| December             |  | 162         | December             |  | 136         |
| <b>Grand Total</b>   |  | <b>2521</b> | <b>Grand Total</b>   |  | <b>2692</b> |

**Calls by Hour/Day 2024**

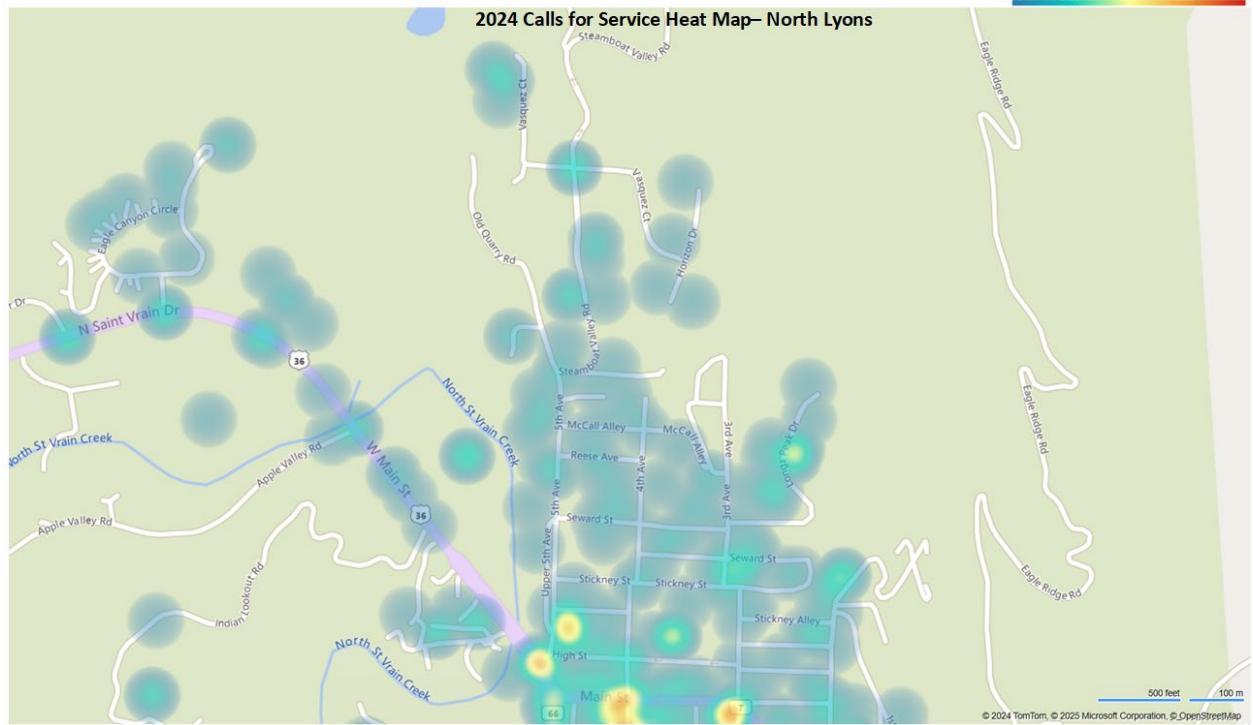
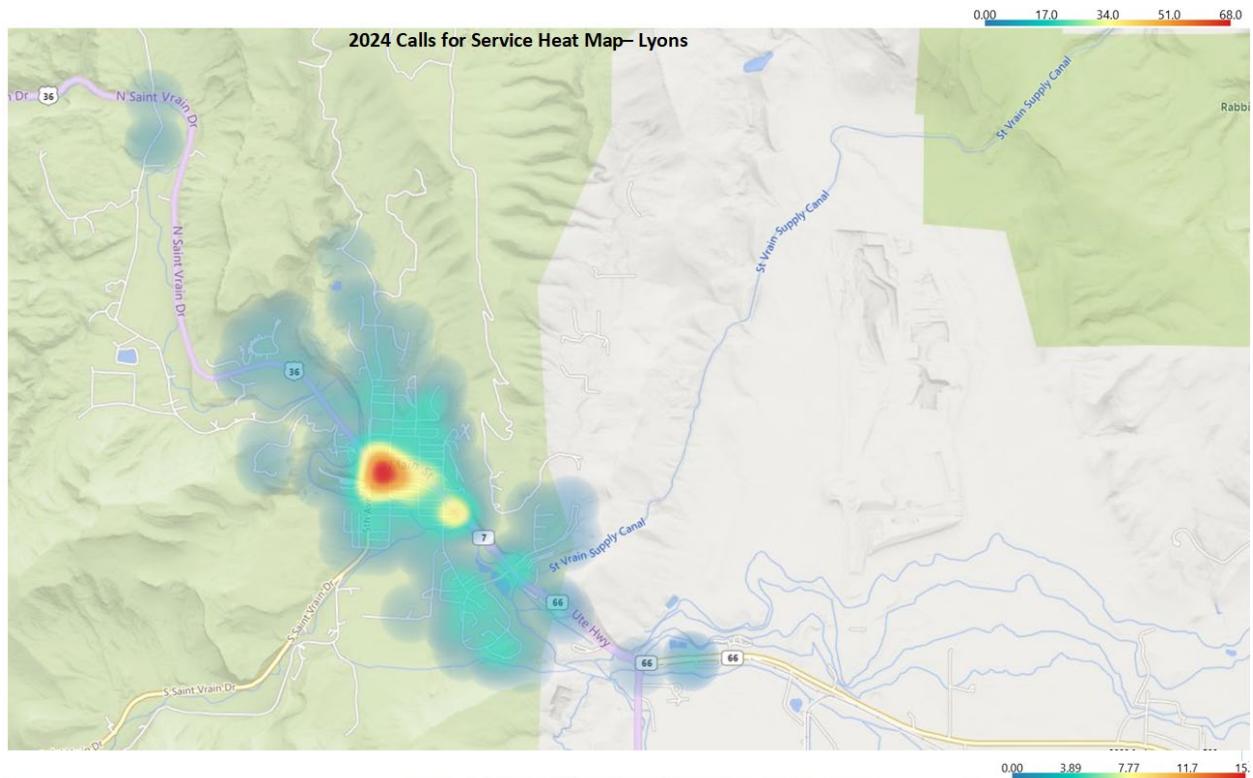
| Hour  | Sunday     | Monday     | Tuesday    | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday     | Saturday   | Total       |
|-------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| 0     | 7          | 3          | 2          | 4          | 12         | 10         | 9          | <b>47</b>   |
| 1     | 9          | 6          | 7          | 3          | 10         | 5          | 4          | <b>44</b>   |
| 2     | 4          | 4          | 5          | 3          | 5          | 1          | 9          | <b>31</b>   |
| 3     | 4          | 2          | 2          | 1          | 6          | 6          | 7          | <b>28</b>   |
| 4     | 3          | 3          | 1          | 2          | 2          | 1          | 3          | <b>15</b>   |
| 5     | 1          | 4          | 2          | 3          | 1          | 4          | 2          | <b>17</b>   |
| 6     | 6          | 9          | 10         | 13         | 2          | 3          |            | <b>43</b>   |
| 7     | 11         | 22         | 15         | 35         | 15         | 30         | 15         | <b>143</b>  |
| 8     | 19         | 33         | 32         | 28         | 21         | 39         | 27         | <b>199</b>  |
| 9     | 24         | 35         | 19         | 39         | 18         | 14         | 26         | <b>175</b>  |
| 10    | 23         | 23         | 32         | 23         | 31         | 17         | 29         | <b>178</b>  |
| 11    | 26         | 28         | 21         | 15         | 26         | 20         | 31         | <b>167</b>  |
| 12    | 22         | 28         | 23         | 32         | 38         | 15         | 27         | <b>185</b>  |
| 13    | 32         | 23         | 22         | 24         | 42         | 22         | 23         | <b>188</b>  |
| 14    | 21         | 30         | 14         | 23         | 29         | 26         | 31         | <b>174</b>  |
| 15    | 26         | 25         | 22         | 19         | 34         | 22         | 30         | <b>178</b>  |
| 16    | 20         | 10         | 19         | 9          | 24         | 20         | 19         | <b>121</b>  |
| 17    | 16         | 10         | 13         | 13         | 16         | 19         | 25         | <b>112</b>  |
| 18    | 32         | 7          | 10         | 10         | 12         | 20         | 30         | <b>121</b>  |
| 19    | 28         | 12         | 15         | 6          | 13         | 16         | 28         | <b>118</b>  |
| 20    | 29         | 19         | 20         | 13         | 14         | 13         | 25         | <b>133</b>  |
| 21    | 11         | 11         | 9          | 24         | 14         | 27         | 15         | <b>111</b>  |
| 22    | 11         | 11         | 9          | 15         | 20         | 17         | 23         | <b>106</b>  |
| 23    | 10         | 12         | 12         | 4          | 7          | 11         | 2          | <b>58</b>   |
| Total | <b>395</b> | <b>370</b> | <b>336</b> | <b>361</b> | <b>412</b> | <b>378</b> | <b>440</b> | <b>2692</b> |

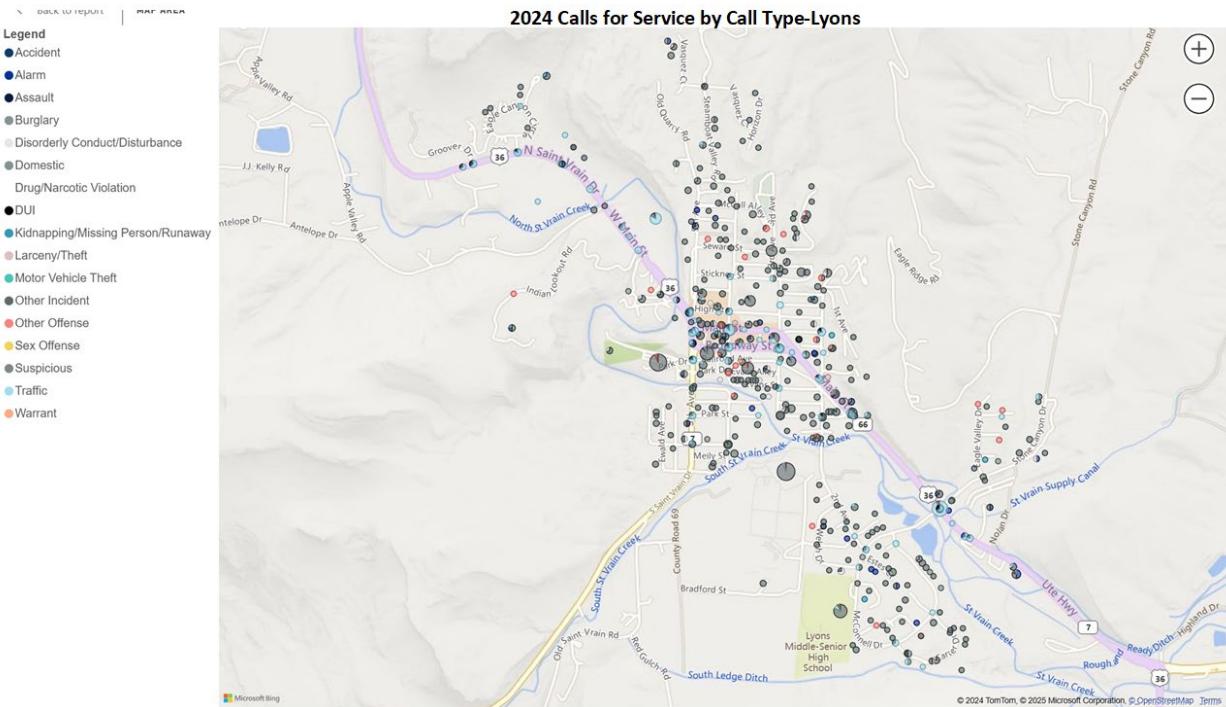
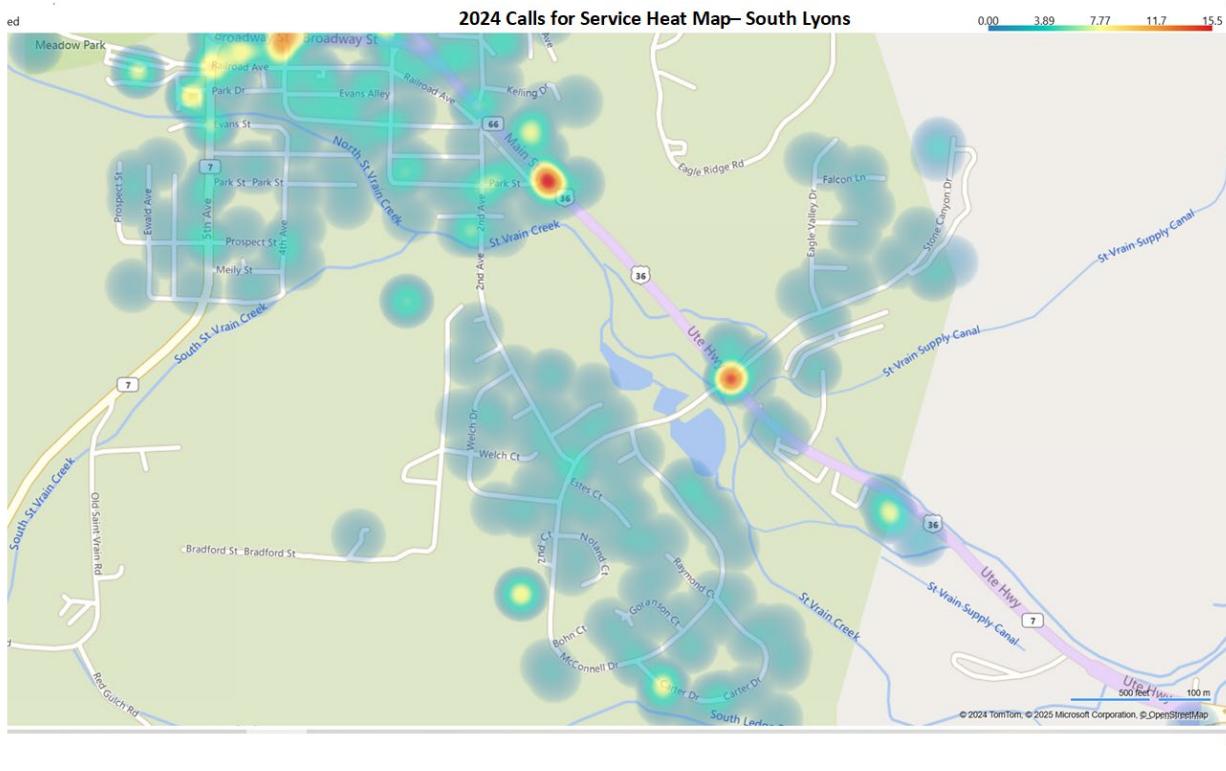


| Call Type by Jurisdiction         |       | BCSO | BCSO_Outside Agencies | LYPD | NDPD | SUPD | WDPD | Total |
|-----------------------------------|-------|------|-----------------------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| Legend                            |       |      |                       |      |      |      |      |       |
| Accident                          | 1733  |      | 73                    | 56   | 50   | 235  |      | 2147  |
| Alarm                             | 981   |      | 19                    | 42   | 71   | 206  |      | 1319  |
| Assault                           | 113   |      | 1                     | 5    | 8    | 11   | 2    | 140   |
| Burglary                          | 125   |      |                       | 4    | 6    | 46   | 1    | 182   |
| Disorderly Conduct/Disturbance    | 439   |      | 2                     | 56   | 47   | 119  | 3    | 666   |
| Domestic                          | 165   |      | 1                     | 5    | 15   | 56   | 2    | 244   |
| Drug/Narcotic Violation           | 118   |      |                       | 8    | 16   | 14   |      | 156   |
| DUI                               | 584   |      | 15                    | 22   | 16   | 43   |      | 680   |
| Kidnapping/Missing Person/Runaway | 93    |      |                       | 7    | 10   | 9    | 2    | 121   |
| Larceny/Theft                     | 316   |      | 1                     | 22   | 30   | 214  |      | 583   |
| Motor Vehicle Theft               | 109   |      | 1                     | 2    | 2    | 21   |      | 135   |
| Other Incident                    | 24692 |      | 571                   | 1657 | 1287 | 4514 | 69   | 32790 |
| Other Offense                     | 1293  |      | 6                     | 60   | 87   | 312  | 10   | 1768  |
| Sex Offense                       | 50    |      |                       | 2    | 4    | 15   |      | 71    |
| Suspicious                        | 905   |      | 4                     | 50   | 47   | 280  | 2    | 1288  |
| Traffic                           | 6430  |      | 213                   | 690  | 978  | 2585 | 4    | 10900 |
| Warrant                           | 1428  |      |                       | 1    | 9    | 7    |      | 1445  |
| Weapon Law Violation              | 31    |      | 1                     |      | 8    | 5    | 1    | 46    |
| Total                             | 39605 |      | 908                   | 2689 | 2691 | 8692 | 96   | 54681 |

| Average Response Time by Priority<br>(Minutes) |                             |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Jurisdiction                                   | 1 2 3 4 5 6 Total           |
| BCSO   | 16 16 20 28 46 54 <b>24</b> |
| BCSO Outside Agencies                          | 12 18 22 31 1 <b>20</b>     |
| <b>LYPD</b>                                    | 9 14 23 51 16 <b>19</b>     |
| NDPD   | 10 17 22 43 13 <b>19</b>    |
| SUPD   | 3 7 9 16 37 32 <b>14</b>    |
| WDPD   | 16 30 32 82                 |
| <b>Total</b>                                   | 13 14 18 25 45 <b>47</b> 22 |

| Average Time on Call by Priority<br>(Minutes) |                                |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Jurisdiction                                  | 1 2 3 4 5 6 Total              |
| BCSO  | 341 80 51 72 105 698 <b>75</b> |
| BCSO Outside Agencies                         | 50 32 92 49 15 <b>70</b>       |
| <b>LYPD</b>                                   | 75 50 59 129 141 <b>67</b>     |
| NDPD  | 53 68 137 99 733 <b>99</b>     |
| SUPD  | 36 52 44 57 93 482 <b>56</b>   |
| WDPD  | 104 114 185 163                |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | 280 74 51 73 103 635 <b>72</b> |





| 2024 Total Tickets  |            |
|---|------------|
| Violation   | Total      |
| LMTC 1101 Speeding (10-19 Mph) Over Posted Limit                                | 453        |
| LMTC 1101 Speeding (5-9 Mph) Over Posted Limit                                  | 11         |
| LMTC 1101 Speeding (20-24 Mph) Over Posted Limit                                | 57         |
| LMTC 704 Fail to Yield ROW Entering at Private Road                             | 1          |
| LMTC 1007(1)(c) Disregarded Designated Lane                                     | 2          |
| LMTC 903 Failure To Signal For Turn   | 1          |
| LMTC 1005(3) Passed Where Prohibited By Signs/Markings                          | 3          |
| LMTC 1101 Speeding (1-4 Mph) Over Posted Limit                                  | 6          |
| LMTC 603 Disregarded Traffic Control Device                                     | 8          |
| LMTC 1409(3) Operator Failed To Provide Evidence Of Insurance                   | 5          |
| LMTC 1101 Speeding (25+ Mph) Over Posted Limit                                  | 4          |
| L7-6-100(a) Vicious Dog At Large  | 3          |
| LMTC 709 Obstructed Intersection/Crosswalk/Rr Crossing                          | 1          |
| LMTC 1402(2)(a) Careless Driving  | 7          |
| L7-6-50 Dog at Large (First Offense)  | 8          |
| LMTC 1008(1) Following Too Closely  | 2          |
| LMTC 701(1) Fail To Yield Row At Intersection                                   | 1          |
| LMTC 1007(1)(a) Failed To Drive Within Designated Lane                          | 1          |
| LMTC 604(c) Fail To Yield Row On Rt After Stop At Red Light                     | 1          |
| LMTC 1007(1)(a) Changed Lanes When Unsafe                                       | 2          |
| LMTC 1101(1) Impeding Normal Flow Of Traffic                                    | 1          |
| LMTC 1211(1) Improper Backing On Shoulder/Roadway                               | 1          |
| LMTC 1204(3)(c) Parked Where Yellow/Red Curb Markings Prohibit Parking          | 2          |
| LMTC 116 Minor Driver's License Violation                                       | 1          |
| LMTC 1204(1)(k) Parked Where Prohibited By Sign                                 | 2          |
| L10-4-100 Theft (Less Than \$500)   | 1          |
| L7-6-130 Cruelty To Animals   | 1          |
| L11-4-50(e)(3) Park Rules: No Fires of Any Kind During Fire Ban (First Offense) | 1          |
| L11-4-50(e)(16) Park Rules: No Amplified Sound Without Permit (First Offense)   | 1          |
| LMTC 1101 Speeding (10-19 Mph) Over Posted Limit In School/Construction Zone    | 1          |
| LMTC 1211(1) Unsafe Backing From Parking Area                                   | 2          |
| LMTC 202.5(1) Failed to Display Valid Registration                              | 31         |
| L7-6-50 Dog at Large (Third & Subsequent Offense)                               | 1          |
| LMTC 1412(10)(a) Failed To Yield Row To Pedestrian Sidewalk/Crosswalk           | 2          |
| L10-6-70(c) Cigarette/Tobacco Possession By Minor <18                           | 1          |
| L10-8-40 Possession Of Illegal Drug Paraphernalia                               | 1          |
| L10-8-20(a) Possession Of Marijuana >1Oz  | 1          |
| L7-6-50 Dog at Large (Second Offense)   | 2          |
| LMTC 1409(1) Owner Operated Uninsured Motor Vehicle                             | 3          |
| LMTC 1006 Wrong Way On One-Way Alley  | 1          |
| LMTC 231 Drove on Roadway With Parking Lights On When Headlights Required       | 1          |
| LMTC 202(1) Drove Defective/Unsafe Vehicle                                      | 1          |
| LMTC 1101 Speeding (25-39 MPH) Over Posted Limit                                | 2          |
| LMTC 802(5) Fail To Yield Row To Pedestrian At Walk Signal                      | 1          |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>640</b> |

| 2023 Total Tickets  |            |
|---|------------|
| Violation   | Total      |
| LMTC 1101 Speeding (5-9 Mph) Over Posted Limit                                      | 35         |
| LMTC 1101 Speeding (20-24 Mph) Over Posted Limit                                    | 82         |
| LMTC 1101 Speeding (10-19 Mph) Over Posted Limit                                    | 372        |
| L7-6-50 Dog At Large  | 7          |
| LMTC 1409(3) Operator Failed To Provide Evidence Of Insurance                       | 3          |
| L10-8-20(b) Possession/Consumption Of Marijuana In Public                           | 1          |
| L7-6-100(a) Vicious Dog At Large  | 5          |
| L10-7-30 Possession/Consumption Of Ethyl Alcohol By A Minor                         | 1          |
| L10-4-100 Theft (Less Than \$500)   | 2          |
| LMTC 1006 Wrong Way On One-Way Alley  | 1          |
| L10-5-90 Menacing   | 1          |
| L10-8-20(a) Possession Of Marijuana >1Oz  | 2          |
| LMTC 603 Disregarded Traffic Control Device   | 5          |
| LMTC 1402(2)(a) Careless Driving  | 10         |
| LMTC 1101 Speeding (25+ Mph) Over Posted Limit                                      | 3          |
| L7-6-100(b) Unlawful for Vicious Dog To Chase or Attack Person/Domestic/Wild Animal | 1          |
| L7-6-60 Damage To Property By Dog   | 1          |
| LMTC 608(1) Failure To Use Turn Signal  | 2          |
| LMTC 1101 Speeding (1-4 Mph) Over Posted Limit                                      | 12         |
| LMTC 1007(1)(d) Changed Lanes Where Prohibited                                      | 1          |
| LMTC 1007(1)(a) Changed Lanes When Unsafe   | 3          |
| L10-2-20 Obstructing Police Officer/Firefighter                                     | 1          |
| LMTC 903 Failure To Signal For Turn   | 1          |
| LMTC 1007(1)(a) Failed To Drive Within Designated Lane                              | 2          |
| LMTC 807 Fail To Use Due Care For Pedestrian  | 1          |
| LMTC 202(1) Drove Defective/Unsafe Vehicle  | 2          |
| LMTC 8-4-10(a)(6) Parking Prohibited: Living/Camping in Vehicles (First Offense)    | 1          |
| LMTC 1211(1) Unsafe Backing From Parking Area                                       | 1          |
| L10-4-70(a) Abandonment Of Motor Vehicle On Public/Prvt Prop                        | 1          |
| L11-4-50(e)(5) Park Rules: No Alcohol (First Offense)                               | 1          |
| LMTC 1008(1) Following Too Closely  | 1          |
| LMTC 237 Safety Belt Required   | 2          |
| LMTC 703(3) Fail To Yield Row At Stop Sign  | 1          |
| LMTC 701(1) Fail To Yield Row At Intersection                                       | 2          |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>568</b> |

[BACK](#)

# Lyons Fire Protection District 2024 Report



## ANNUAL REPORT 2024

### LYONS FIRE PROTECTION DISTRICT

Email:  
[contactus@lyonsfire.org](mailto:contactus@lyonsfire.org)

Website: [Website Here]

Tel: 303.823.6611  
251 Broadway St. Lyons  
CO 80540



## TABLE OF CONTENTS

|                       |     |
|-----------------------|-----|
| Letter from the Chief | 3   |
| District Overview     | 4   |
| 2024 By the Numbers   | 5   |
| Notable News          | 6-8 |
| Fare thee well        | 9   |

## LETTER FROM THE CHIEF

Two major events stand out to me from 2024, the implementation of Advanced Life Support Ambulance Transport within the Lyons Fire Protection District, and the Stone Canyon Fire on July 30.

In early May, LFPD 4021 was placed in service, providing immediate ambulance response to emergency medical calls in Lyons. Prior to that, visitors and residents in need of 911 found themselves waiting on an ambulance from Boulder, some 20 minutes away. It is a monumental shift in the level of service provided to this community. Several times this year, we responded, treated, and transported a patient to the hospital in the same amount of time it used to take for an ambulance to get to Lyons.

And of course, on July 30 we had the Stone Canyon Fire, and the loss of one life and 5 homes in our small town. Our hearts continue to go out to everyone who suffered a loss that day, but we are also so grateful for the assistance we received in fighting the fire. More than 40 agencies from around the state sent help, and the outpouring of support from the townsfolk humbled us all. In almost 30 years of service, I have never been so proud.

***Several times this year, we responded, treated, and transported a patient to the hospital in the same amount of time it used to take for an ambulance to get to Lyons.***

2025 is upon us, and we are looking forward to continuing to provide the very best level of service to the residents and visitors of Lyons. We will be working to grow our volunteer ranks, stabilize our funding sources, update our wildfire preparedness plan, and consolidate our efforts with neighboring jurisdictions. There is much to do, but we are excited at the opportunity.

**Rob Stumpf, Fire Chief**

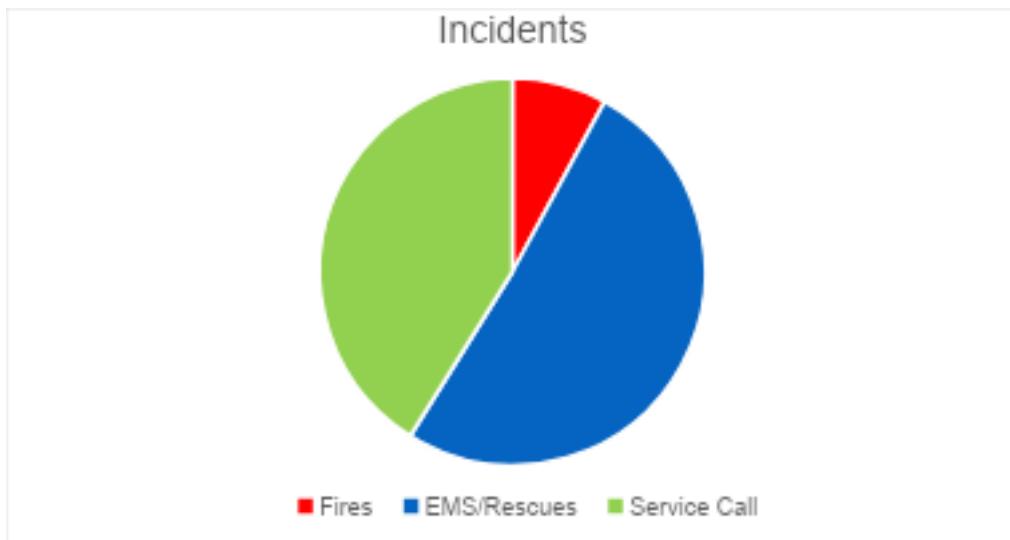
## DISTRICT OVERVIEW

The Lyons Fire Protection District is a Colorado Special District whose mission is to provide fire, rescue and emergency medical services to the residents and visitors of Lyons Colorado and the surrounding area. LFPD is a combination fire department, meaning we are made up of full-time career, part-time, and volunteer members certified in firefighting, EMT and Paramedicine, and various types of rescue. The District is managed by the Fire Chief, newly appointed Division Chief of EMS/Admin, and 4 Captains who oversee various aspects of day-to-day operations. A Board of Directors provides financial oversight, and daily staffing is currently at 2 Full-time and 2 Part-time responders, supplemented by volunteers. All told, there are nearly 50 men and women who have committed themselves to serving others and helping us meet our mission. We operate out of a single staffed station in the heart of Lyons and have a crew on duty 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Crews respond in Engine 4001 and or ambulance 4021 depending on the nature of the call, and handle everything from sick persons, car accidents, house fires, wildfires, and rescues. Our members see themselves as an extension of the community and are here to help in any way that they can.



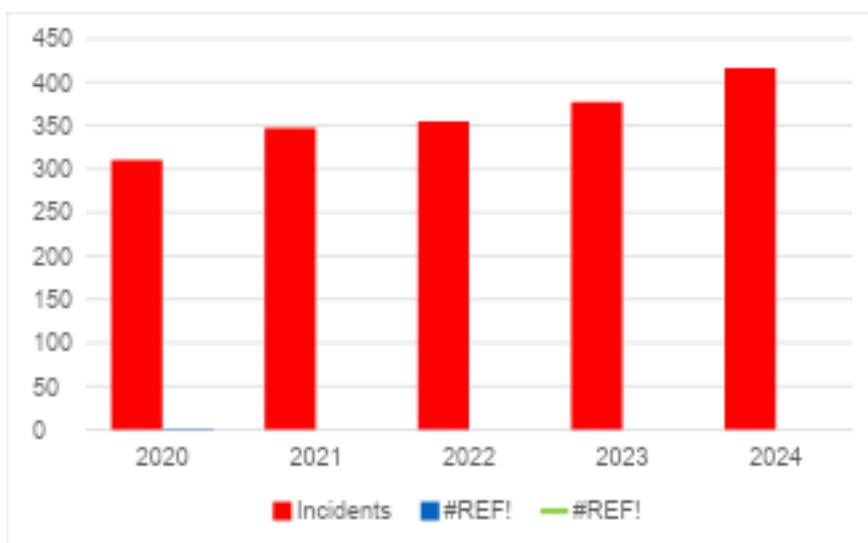
## BY THE NUMBERS

**Total number of calls for service: 416**



Most calls for service are for emergency medical incidents, including auto accidents, which account for 50% of 911 calls in Lyons. Service calls include everything from assisting a party locked out of a home or vehicle to an activated fire alarm, and virtually everything in between.

LFPD renders aid to other agencies (Hygiene, Lefthand, Allenspark) about twice as much as we receive it, and the demand for service continues to grow:



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## NOTABLE NEWS

### Stone Canyon Fire July 30-August 7

1500 acres, 5 structures lost, 1 loss of life



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## NOTABLE NEWS CONT.

### ICE RESCUE TRAINING



PANCAKE BREAKFAST w/ the POUDRE VALLEY PLAYBOYS

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## NOTABLE NEWS CONT.

### AMBULANCE 4021 PLACED IN SERVICE



### MULTI AGENCY LIVE FIRE TRAINING



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## FARE THEE WELL...

LFPD saw the retirements of two members who have been instrumental in the growth of this department, and without whom we would not be the stellar department we are today...



Liz McGavin, who served as our bookkeeper for the last 12 years, and Steve Pischke, who has served as Fire Chief, Assistant Chief, and Fire Marshal with Lyons and served the State of Colorado for more than 40 years!! We wish you the very best in your retirement!!! THANK YOU!

[BACK](#)

## Lyons Regional Library District

The Lyons Regional Library District serves as a hub and catalyst for a vibrant, informed, connected, and engaged community where everyone thrives. Together, we provide equitable access to resources, education, and experiences to empower individuals and enrich the Lyons community.



### 2024 Year in Review

2024 was another year of great growth and continued service to the community for the Lyons Regional Library District. We added new programs, materials, and digital offerings, and created a mobile popup library outpost. Our compact library on wheels allowed us to offer services and information at the Town's Earth Day and Pride celebrations.

We maintained and grew a number of important partnerships including those with local businesses, the Boulder County Board of Elections, and the Town of Lyons, especially the Arts and Humanities Commission with whom we hosted a year's worth of quarterly art shows. These included Android Jones's *Otherworldly*; Veronika Gaia's *A Peacemaker's Gift*; Kahlie Sue Pinello and Amanda Anderson's *Living Dolls*; and Mystie Brackett and Ian Taylor's *Transference Exposed*. We joined forces with the Ecology Board and Sustainable Futures Commissions to host films during Earth Week, and we also teamed up with the Town and



Vitalant to serve as the site for four blood drives throughout the year. We were happy to host the Fiske Planetarium's inflatable planetarium as a kickoff to the Lights Out Lyons evening in Bohn Park.

In October, we threw our "new" library building a 5<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party to honor the District's formation, our previous locations at both the Depot and on Main Street, and to celebrate those who helped us get to where we are today and look toward the future of library services in Lyons.

We curated a significant number of offerings for teens and adults and enjoyed many beneficial new relationships. We were certainly energized by our year informing, connecting, and engaging with our amazingly supportive community.

### Programs and Access

We feel as though we've hit our stride in a fully post-pandemic world and offered what is now a standard number of programs, events, and services in response to community interest and needs.

Programs and activities for children (babies through tweens) included weekly story times and crafts, age-appropriate book discussions including the continuation of a tween-focused book-to-movie club, monthly LEGO Club, monthly Pokémon Club, various wildlife-centered

presentations, various art-focused programs, and new this year, the live-streamed hatching of baby chicks.

We remain especially proud of the connection we made with an enthusiastic group of local teens when we formed our first Teen Advisory Group (TAG) in the fall of 2021. The TAG meets twice monthly and allows teens an opportunity to make collection and space recommendations, to help design programs and events, and earn volunteer hours. Youth Services Librarian, Becki Loughlin, in close collaboration with the teens, planned various movie nights, game nights, a seminar on college application strategies, and celebrated both math and baked goods (and pizza!) for Pi(e) Day.

Throughout the year we invited families to gather for a host of programs and events. We offered a week-long exploration of censorship in libraries and celebrated the freedom to read during Banned Books Week, coordinated astronomy walks in both Bohn Park and at Hall Ranch, and kept things cool when we transformed the Community Room into a winter wonderland for the Family Fireside Festival. We also distributed solar eclipse glasses and hosted our 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Halloween pet photo contest with the winner determined by the TAG.

Adult Programming Librarian, Jerilyn Patterson, made the most of her first full year in the saddle. Jerilyn coordinated our first-ever Lyons Lit Fest in June that celebrated local and regional authors and illustrators, gave insight into the world of publishing, and offered attendees an opportunity to attend various literary-themed workshops. Throughout the year, Jerilyn and other staff worked with R&R Vision to host chats with Lyons residents and visitors focused on civil discourse and celebrating our unique differences that culminated in the creation and screening of a documentary, *Talk to Us, Lyons*.



Other programs and events for adults throughout the year included two book clubs: the Cook Book Book Club and Pints & Pages--a collaboration with The Rock Garden and MainStage Brewing; writing support offered through Word Wednesdays and Bread & Poetry; monthly sessions of our longest-running program, Art 4 Art Artist Trading Cards; various technology instruction sessions; various programs aimed at engaging our area seniors; a series of Mend & Sew workshops; an ongoing Men's Community Potluck; and a series of financial literacy offerings.

We were pleased to offer a fully packed Summer Reading Program, the theme: Adventure Begins at Your Library. For our youngest patrons we hosted a stuffie sleepover, story time with a firefighter and an opportunity to explore a fire engine, and preschool bilingual yoga. Older kiddos enjoyed creating fairy gardens, a concert with the Mountain Buddies, a LEGO Minecraft afternoon with Play-Well TEK, and an exciting carnival-like afternoon in Sandstone Park featuring Mr. Kneel. Teens planned a Renaissance-themed escape room, enjoyed retro summer camp crafts, and went head-to-head for movie trivia. Adults got in on the Summer Reading action with various lectures by Boulder County Parks and Open Space and the Rocky Mountain

Conservancy, and an Eco Fashion Showcase. In all, over 135 participants of all ages completed the summer reading challenge.

During 2024, we welcomed over 58,000 visitors through our doors; over 50 percent more than in 2023 and cementing our place as the spot to be in Lyons.



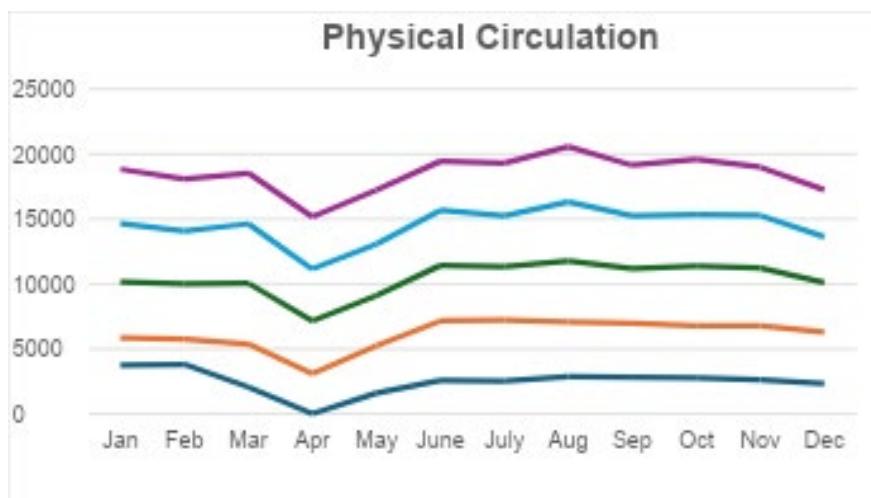
### **Circulation and Downloads**

We continue as a strong consortial member of the AspenCat union catalog which provides easy access to more than 1.7 million items by linking us to 165 other small and rural libraries across Colorado. In 2024 we added an extra day of courier delivery each week - now totaling four - to make hold times shorter for our users and to more readily share our own collection, sending out over 3,700 items throughout the year.

We showcased our professional prowess when we helped pilot Prospector integration with our ILS (integrated library system, provided via AspenCat) in the fall of 2021. Prospector is a regional catalog of over 50 academic, public, and special libraries in Colorado and Wyoming. Through Prospector, we have access to more than 34 million books, DVDs, CDs, journals, government documents, electronic resources, and other materials. With a single search, patrons can identify and borrow materials from these vast collections and have them delivered. Thanks to our willingness to test that integration, over 100 AspenCat libraries were able to join Prospector in 2023.

Among our carefully curated in-house collection, materials provided via AspenCat, and now Prospector, we enjoyed a physical circulation of nearly 50,000 items in 2024. The value of those items, had they been purchased by our borrowers, amounts to a whopping \$205,558! The power of a public library is far-reaching in terms of resources provided, money saved, and even a reduced environmental impact based on sharing and reusing.

While our patrons continue to engage with print materials, they haven't slowed in their downloading of digital materials since the pandemic. After years of averaging around 500 downloads a year, users downloaded over 7,400 ebooks and eaudiobooks in 2024, an increase of over 50 percent from 2023. We were impressed when 2020 topped 3,000!



We were also delighted to continue a cultural pass program to complement our long-running provision of State Parks passes. We offer free passes to the Fiske Planetarium, the Longmont Museum, and the WOW! Children's Museum. In 2024 we began circulating trail cameras and partnered with Boulder County's Energy Smart office to lend induction cooktop kits.

### **Technology and Facilities**

In 2024, we offered nearly 5,000 in-house computer sessions. From inside and outside the library we had over 20,000 hits to our Wi-Fi, more than 50% increase from 2023. We also enjoyed sharing our information, resources, meeting room booking system, etc. through over 26,000 individual website visits.

Once again, we extend our thanks to the Lyons Garden Club for planting a selection of bulbs and annuals in our front planter boxes. The planter boxes provide lovely color and help us dissuade skateboarders while also helping create a visual reminder to visitors of the step down to the main sidewalk.

As both the American Library Association and the Colorado Association of Libraries recognize the power of libraries as advocates for sustainable environmental change and stewardship, we are proud to be a leading example of sustainability efforts in the field with our 100+% offsetting solar array. In our third full year of solar production, we produced over 44 MWh; that energy could power the average American home for about 5 months, run an electric vehicle for nearly 16,000 miles, or smelt over 6,000 pounds of aluminum.

The Level II electric vehicle charger installed in our parking lot at the end of 2022 enjoyed a total of nearly 37 full days of use in 2024.

During the 2024 calendar year alone, we served as the meeting and gathering space for well over 1,100 individual reservations including most of the Town's supporting Boards and Commissions. The Community Room and Effie Banta Conference Room are both available for after-hours use, and we have one Study Room available for use during operating hours.

In early 2024 we installed a keypad to the entrance that allowed us to more easily allow access to our meeting spaces outside our operating hours. Local users are invited to apply for their own keycode to gain access to a coworking space during the week beginning at 6 a.m.

### **Revenue and Expenditures**

Our overall revenue remained steady in 2024 with property tax revenue received from Boulder and Larimer Counties totaling \$769,573.

Additional Specific Ownership Tax revenue for 2024 came in at nearly \$32,705. Special Ownership Tax is imposed on cars, trucks, trailers, mobile homes, and special mobile machinery and is based on the value of each vehicle and paid each year that vehicle is registered.

The District was awarded a \$5,000 grant from the State of Colorado's Department of Education for the purchase of materials for youth. The Friends of the Library contributed funding for book prizes for the children and teen summer reading program, speaker fees for a fall Enneagram Workshop, and food and entertainment for the kickoff to our new Spanish-language program, *Noches en Español*.

We paid total debt service amount of \$88,269 in 2024. The District contracted with auditing firm McMahon and Associates of Avon, Colorado in 2021 and received another clean audit from the firm in 2024.

Finally, we extended our hours to include Monday evenings. We open at 10 a.m. Monday through Saturday, close at 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 5 p.m. on Fridays, and 2 p.m. on Saturdays. As always, our online catalog is available 24/7.

## **Board, Support, Staff**

### **Board of Trustees**

Leslie Reynolds, President

Agnes Rey-Giraud, Member-at-Large

Gil Sparks, Past President

Smita Skrivanek, Member-at-Large

Katherine Gregory, Vice President

Elizabeth Lennert, Secretary

Erin Biesiada, Treasurer

In 2024 the Library Board welcomed Katherine Gregory, the Executive Director of a local nonprofit. All Board members belong to the Colorado Association of Libraries and the Lyons Chamber of Commerce. At the close of 2024, the Board bid farewell to Erin Biesiada, who had served the Board since June 2017. We sincerely appreciate Erin's many years of service to the District as our Treasurer. We also said goodbye to Elizabeth Lennert and Smita Skrivanek and began the process of approving three new members.

### **Friends of the Lyons Regional Library**

Patty McNichol, President

Sara Erickson, Member-at-Large

Ellen Hine, Vice President

Donna Guest, Member-at-Large

Pam Browning, Secretary

Monica McGuckin, Member-at-Large

Christina Wells, Treasurer

Rudy Pucel, Member-at-Large

Peter Cowdery-Corvan, Member-at-Large

The Friends of the Lyons Regional Library is a nonprofit organization of volunteers supporting the library by fostering public awareness, sharing enthusiasm for learning, and enhancing the library's service to the community. The Friends manage our ongoing used book sale and donation processes and are appreciated for their enthusiastic support of programming efforts that would otherwise fall outside our regular operating budget. During 2024 the Friends hosted or sponsored several successful events such as their annual virtual trivia, a series of summer concerts, and their most lucrative used book sale. The Friends held their Annual Business Meeting at Ranch House West in November and welcomed new board members Kara Jostes, Candace Major, and Paige Perry, whose terms will begin in 2025. The friends said goodbye to Board members Ellen Hine, Sara Erickson, and Monica McGuckin at that meeting.

## **Lyons Regional Library District Foundation**

Connie Eyster, President  
Leigh Williams, Treasurer

### **Staff**

Kara Bauman, Director  
Becki Loughlin, Youth Service Librarian  
Jerilyn Patterson, Adult Programming Librarian  
Sarah Lawson, Technology Coordinator  
Hannah Ogden, Communications and Marketing Coordinator  
Jenny Abernathy, Library Associate  
Muezetta Cromer, Library Associate  
Carolyn Vierthaler, Library Associate  
Ashley Worst, Library Associate

For perhaps the first time since the District's inception, we experienced no staff changes in 2024 and for that we consider ourselves incredibly lucky as we enjoy a collegial working environment of like-minded individuals committed to providing neighbor-to-neighbor customer service.

Staff engage in continuing education opportunities and participate in a number of professional organizations. Staff are active members of the Colorado Association of Libraries, participating in the CALCON Planning Committee, Legislative Committee, Intellectual Freedom Committee, Sustainability Interest Group, Teen Service Committee, and Adult Services Interest Group. Staff attended various professional development opportunities throughout the year including Programming with Purpose through the University of Wisconsin's iSchool, Ageless Grace to help our seniors age in place, and gained tips for combating compassion fatigue. Becki Loughlin developed a course for the Info People Network, "Normalizing Discussions of Race with Children" to share her well-honed professional knowledge with a national audience and attended the Association for Library Services to Children National Institute in September.



**BACK**

## **Board of Adjustments**

The Board of Adjustments (BOA) is a quasi-judicial Town of Lyons board with a narrow set of responsibilities strictly determined by the Municipal Code.

The BOA did not meet in 2024 as there were no variances applied for.

Although the BOA has several roles, the most typical purpose of the BOA is to hold hearings on variance applications. A "variance application" is a request by a landowner for an exception to the building code. For example, if an individual wanted to build a shed on their property, there are laws and regulations governing where the shed could be built, such as the minimum distance between the shed and the edge of the property line or between the shed and any adjacent streets. If complying with those rules would cause a hardship, the individual could request a "variance" or exception to those rules.

When an application for a variance is submitted to the Town, a hearing on the application is held before the BOA. After hearing testimony from interested parties, the BOA makes a ruling on the variance application.

The BOA appeals application can be found on the Town of Lyons website under the Board of Appeals heading.

The BOA does not act on policy matters or take any action unless a need for a hearing arises under the Municipal Code.

On average, the BOA meets two to three times a year.

Currently, the BOA has five members, with Connie Eyster serving as the Chair. The Board can have as many as seven members. Members are appointed to the BOA by the Board of Trustees from time to time. All members of the BOA must have lived within the Town limits for at least one year prior to appointment.

### **Members:**

Connie Eyster - Chair

Joe Soma

Greg Ucker

Bill VanLeeuwen

open seat

open seat

open - Staff Liaison

open - Board of Trustees Liaison

**BACK**

## **Lyons Main Street and Economic Vitality Commission**

### **Kim Mitchell, Director of Communications and Community Relations,**

The Main Street Program and approach is to strengthen small local business with promotional activities, design, organization and economic vitality, engaging businesses in the community to keep Lyons' commercial business district vibrant. The volunteer members of the Economic Vitality Commission (EVC) also serve as the Lyons Main Street Board to implement the Main Street program and principles.

The Economic Vitality Commission is a requirement of Lyons Municipal Code, Section 2-8-130, and was established to act as an advisory committee to the Board of Trustees.

The Colorado Main Street Program offers support for community-led downtown revitalization. Lyons is a member of the State's Colorado Main Street Program and is a Main Street America™ Accredited Program. As a part of the Main Street Program, Lyons is connected to 26 other Main Street Communities within Colorado. Many of these are like Lyons, small towns that face similar challenges and opportunities, and the Main Street Program provides each community with opportunities to share local successes and ideas. This collaboration plays an important role in tackling challenges for our business community and discovering ways to better promote and activate downtown.

### **2024 Accomplishments**

**Coordinated with CDOT, Mayor Rogin and The Colorado Municipal League(CML) Staff,** Mayor Rogin and CML worked out an agreement with CDOT to allow for public use of the public right of way, along both sides of downtown Main St in Lyons, so that visitors and residents can use public amenities and pedestrian connectivity, encouraging visitors and residents to spend more time in Lyons, which supports our small, local businesses.

**Finalized Broadway – US-36 Eastbound Improvements.** The Lyons Economic Vitality Commission supported the Broadway improvements, which narrowed the vehicle travel lanes, added 50 public parking spaces, included a multi modal trail along the southern edge and sidewalks on the north side for enhance pedestrian connectivity and safety. The overall goal of the improvements in town along US-36 eastbound (Broadway), are long term and a lasting improvement to enhance our overall economic strength and vitality year-round. In addition, the wayfinding signage program was finalized in 2024 to help visitors to stay longer, to explore, to experience and to discover Lyons, with easier directional information about our historic downtown, commercial business corridor, cultural amenities and where to access the multitude of recreational and outdoor opportunities that are found in Lyons. Fabrication and installation are scheduled for 2025.

**Support Small, Locally Owned Businesses with a Revolving Loan Fund (RLF).** The RLF executed two new loans in FY 2024 to support the growth of our local, independently owned small businesses. Each application is reviewed by members of the revolving loan fund committee, which is made up of local volunteers with financial acumen and several who also serve on the EVC. The RLF committee reviews and approves and/or denies loans. In addition, 4 loans were completely paid off in FY 2024 and there are 5 loans currently being repaid.

**Local and Regional Media Outreach Campaign.** In 2024, staff continued to cultivate and curate a successful social media campaign to highlight talented local artists, musicians, small businesses, offerings and recreational and outdoor amenities. Promotion and advertisement of local events on a year-round basis to support local businesses and encourage visitation to Lyons in the off-season. Highlight seasonal outdoor and recreational activities. Several positive articles were written about Lyons and the small-town character and welcoming vibe.

## **2025 Goals**

1. Continue to partner with local businesses to build a thriving, year-round economy.
2. Enhance local and regional media efforts to be year-round, highlighting activities & exploration in Lyons.
3. Emphasize the role of downtown as a destination for residents and visitors.
4. Continue to enhance the appearance, functionality, and safety of Lyons' gateways and public spaces.
5. Share the importance and value of future hotel development with residents and the business community.
6. Build upon Lyons' reputation as a destination for outdoor recreation, arts and culture, and heritage tourism. Participate in advertising and media opportunities and partnerships to enhance awareness of Lyons as a destination-worthy visit and to explore outdoor activities, arts, culture and more.

## **Members:**

Paul Dreyer – Chairperson  
Erin Foudy  
Alex Molkentin  
Tiffany Martindale  
Asa Firestone  
Grace Barrett  
Connie McGuire  
Kim Mitchell, Staff Liaison  
Mark Browning, Board Liaison

**BACK**

## Ecology Advisory Board

The Town of Lyons Ecology Advisory Board (EAB) advises Town staff and the Board of Trustees on matters pertaining to ecology, environmental health and associated development issues within the town and its surroundings.

The EAB weighs in on work related to river restoration and river health, park redevelopment and maintenance, commercial and residential development plans, annexations, wildfire preparedness and mitigation, and protection of the wild lands, watershed, and undeveloped land in and around the town and its primary planning area. One of its responsibilities is to prepare and update the town's integrated weed management plan for review and approval by the Board of Trustees.

### 2024 Efforts

In 2024, the EAB addressed the following issues:

**Boulder County's revised Integrated Weed Management Plan** – (ongoing from 2023). Partly due to the controversy that arose with BCPOS' aerial herbicide spraying of Hall Ranch Open Space on the Town of Lyons border (and in other locations on their open space properties), the County revised their weed management practices. The Board of Trustees asked the EAB to weigh in on the new plan and EAB provided recommendations. The new plan was recently formalized in November 2024 by Boulder County Commissioners. It should be noted that many aspects that EAB weighed in on were acknowledged in the amended plan.

**HB24-1178 Local Government Authority to Regulate Pesticide** - Reviewed for BoT in early 2024. Mayor Rogin requested EAB's advice which was provided.

**Support for local Schools**- The EAB participated in the May 14 Confluence Event at the Lyons Middle/Senior High School. The event showcases Lyons Elementary and LMSHS students' environmental water-related projects/topics. The EAB supports and offers advice to students on their ecological-based yearly projects.

**River Bend PUD update referral**- The EAB provided review comments through the town planner and ultimately to Planning and Community Development Commission (PCDC) and Lyons Board of Trustees. Attendance at public meetings for clarification of EAB's position occurred at both PCDC and Lyons Board meetings.

**FEMA Community Rating System** – EAB provided information to Town Staff, Mayor and BoT regarding this program and how it could reduce flood insurance costs for Lyons residents. So far, no action has been taken by town staff towards application to join this program, which Boulder and Longmont do participate in.

**Lyons Boulder County IGA Task Force** – In July, EAB was asked by IGA Task Force Chair Doug Matthews to review the proposed IGA from an ecological perspective. EAB provided much input and participated in various community input events.

**Lyons Valley Park Re-Zoning Referral Request** – EAB provided formal comments on several parcels which had been recently transferred to Town ownership, including the 40+-acre "L" property. These parcels were to have been transferred to the Town as part of the original Lyons Valley Park development agreement 15-20 years ago but were never turned over to Town ownership. They now have to be re-zoned to Town standards.

**Weed and Pest Management** – EAB continued to support Lyons weed management and its discontinuance of synthetic herbicides on Town land. EAB worked with the Town's public works director, on this, and also investigated a steam weed machine for possible purchase and use on

Town park areas. Grant support from the state is available for such projects. EAB worked with Lyons staff and contractor (Smith Environmental) on project review related to planned herbicide applications along St. Vrain trail prior to construction. EAB also assisted in the mandatory periodic update of Lyons' Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Plan as required.

**Highland Ditch Company “sweeping”** – Each winter the Highland Ditch Company “sweeps” the St. Vrain River, diverting the entire flow of the river from its diversion dam off McConnell Drive down its major ditch to Mead and Weld County farms. The historic result has been a dry section of stream that disrupts the ecological functioning and connectivity of the river to the detriment of fish, insect life and the riparian corridor. The EAB continues to attempt to establish some type of minimum stream flow— a small amount of water that could be bypassed around the Highland diversion to benefit both the downriver and upstream ecosystems. The EAB had previously discussed this concept with the St. Vrain and Lefthand Water Conservancy District and Lyons staff in order to explore options. In 2024 the District began looking at bypass alternatives in cooperation with the Highland Ditch. An agreement was recently finalized with the Highland Ditch Company and long term (bypass with fish passage) and short term (fish salvage operation) were initiated due to previous EAB inquiries and conversations. Additionally, grants from the SVLHWCD (water conservation district) are being utilized to conduct a study related to how Lyons may better support minimum stream flows in this area through utilization of existing water rights in Button Rock Reservoir and coordinating with Longmont and senior water rights holders such as Highland Ditch and others within the basin.

**Siberian Elm Educational Information and Outreach** – EAB worked with a grassroots citizen group in the fall of 2024 with the intent to educate decision makers and the public regarding the detrimental impacts of noxious weeds and aggressive woody plants such as Siberian Elms and Russian Olives. Specifically, a Siberian Elm education program was initiated through a citizen-driven program and an educational video was shared with Lyons staff members; EAB coordinated distribution of applicable resources related to chipping and disposal events and equipment and discussed budgets for parks and utilities related to control. Related information was also posted on EAB's Facebook Page.

**Toured Boulder County Open Space Projects** – In October, EAB participated in a tour of Hall 2 Acquisition and Andesite Mine reclamation and proposed work on the South St. Vrain Riparian corridor upstream of Lyons. EAB members voiced concerns regarding construction relative to turbidity downstream during construction as well as weed control and continuity of riparian corridors.

**Creation of Pollinator Friendly Community (Bee City USA) and Pollinator Friendly Resolution** – In October of 2024 EAB began working with a local citizen group to formalize a pollination friendly community framework including potentially adopting a pollinator friendly resolution and associated regulations. The keystone of this approach is the development of a robust integrated pest management (IPM) plan. Due to the EAB's leadership most of the IPM requirements are already in place, making a transition to pollination friendly policies more streamlined.

**2025 Budget Submittal**- EAB formally submitted a 2025 budget request for community engagement, education and outreach.

**Review of Lyons Comp. Plan** - EAB was asked to perform a periodic review of pertinent language in the current Lyons Comprehensive Plan in order to assure that language in the plan remains relevant and goals are still consistent and attainable and to describe progress made. It has now provided such.

**Revise and Update the Sustainable River Corridor Action Plan** - this plan had been adopted by the Town after the 2013 flood and dealt primarily with flood restoration, all of which has now been completed. The Plan now needs major revision, and it was intended to undergo such updates. A draft of this was completed in 2024 and it can be finalized in 2025.

**2024 Outreach** - EAB continued to reach out to the Lyons community. Outreach included:

- Revising and updating the Lyons Walking Arboretum.
- Partnering with Sustainable Futures Commission (SFC) to present films during 2024 Earth Day festivities. Films included Honeyland (shown on April 22) and Western Water and Power (shown on April 29). Speakers following the films enlightened and inspired citizens thus fostering a better, more ecologically informed community and culture.

**Lyons citizen support** - Community support efforts included advising residents concerned about development reviews on how to involve themselves in the public process, and through routing public concerns regarding drainage to town staff. EAB made efforts to inform the public regarding possible impacts of fire- and fire-retardant materials.

**Providing Year-End Reporting** - EAB looked back at what was achieved in 2024 and formally submitted this report in January of 2025 documenting its 2024 efforts.

## 2025 Plans

The EAB will focus on the following issues in 2024:

**Community outreach** – EAB will continue its community outreach events. These events are typically films and/or presentations on ecology-related local subjects. It will continue working with the Sustainable Futures Commission during the Earth Day Film Festival and other ecologically grounded events.

EAB will continue partnership with Lyons Elementary, Lyons Middle High School in advance of and for the annual Confluence Event in the spring.

**Noxious weed management and support** – EAB will continue to explore ways to assist community and Town in identification and control of weeds (especially noxious weeds as defined by State of Colorado and Boulder County).

**Wildfire mitigation** – The EAB will keep abreast of mitigation plans within Lyons and strive for a balance to be struck between mitigation, ecology, and the town's status as a U.S. Tree City.

**Review of development plans** – All development plans for the Town are required to be passed through the EAB for a review of possible environmental concerns.

EAB can provide input on all development plans (both internally (Town-driven projects) and externally (developer-driven projects). If there is proposed deviation from Lyons adopted development requirements such as acceptance of cash-in-lieu for water shares and/or other concessions afforded to developers, EAB and other advisory boards and commissions will evaluate and provide its independent input.

**Sustainable River Corridor Action Plan** – EAB will update this document that provides guidance on responsible river corridor development and use and for the benefit also of town contractors.

**Tree Board and Arbor Day work** – Continue longtime work as the official Lyons Tree Board advising on community forest and arboretum health. Work to promote and support Arbor Day, Lyons tree ordinances and the Lyons Walking Arboretum. Modify list of recommended trees with fire safety in mind.

## **Funding and Members**

The EAB receives minimal town funding for basic outreach; expenditures come from grants and other sources.

2024 EAB members include:

Kurt Carlson, chair

Bob Brakenridge, vice chair

Steve Simms, second vice chair

Carse Pustmueller

David Batts

Gillian Pierce

Teagan Johnson-Moore

Greg Lowell, Board of Trustees liaison

The EAB meets on the third Tuesday of each month at the Lyons Community Library. The agenda is posted on the Town website at least 24 hours prior; the public is always welcome.

[BACK](#)

# Historic Preservation Commission 2023 Report

## Role of Commission

The Historic Preservation Commission was established to act as an advisory committee to the Board of Trustees and exercise the powers granted as explained below.

The Historic Preservation Commission shall have no more than seven voting members and any number of appointments of non-voting members.

The powers and duties of the Historic Preservation Commission are as follows:

- Encourage and cultivate good stewardship and pride in owners of historic properties in the Town.
- Help property owners voluntarily preserve their historic landmarks.
- Promote heritage tourism.
- Create and maintain a registry of designated properties.
- Identify incentives available through the historic designation process. • Collaborate with the PCDC and Economic Vitality Commission on historic preservation matters.
- Leverage technology, social media, and marketing to make a digital map of Lyons highlighting historic sites within Lyons.

## 2024 Accomplishments

- Historic Context Survey: Continued to work with Pinyon consulting on a Historic Context Survey for the Town of Lyons, following the award of a \$25,000 History Colorado grant in Spring 2023. The deadline for completion is Spring 2025.
- Lyons Depot Local Historic Designation: Our first locally designated historic property.
- Local Historic Landmark Plaques: Designed and ordered two bronze plaques to commemorate Town-owned landmarks, including the Depot.
- Community Engagement: Secured a grant from the Lyons Community Foundation to fund a 2025 community event unveiling the Ute Trail Marker and Native American exhibit at the Redstone Museum.
- Certified Local Government (CLG) Evaluation: Completed and passed the first CLG evaluation by History Colorado (completed every 4 years), securing the town's eligibility for future preservation grants.
- New HPC Members: Welcomed four new commissioners to the HPC, bringing diverse expertise and fresh perspectives to the team.
- Preserving Lyons' Character: Initiated a study on protecting the historic character of Main Street and the central business district. This on-going effort will ensure balanced development while safeguarding Lyons' heritage.

- Designation Program Rollout: Completed the first step in an application for History Colorado funding for needed marketing materials to roll out the historic designation program to Lyons' property owners (final grant application will be submitted in January 2025).

## Board Training

The Lyons HPC has undergone training in historic designation, and two members of the Lyons HPC will attend the Saving Places Conference organized by History Colorado for the required annual training in Q1.

## 2025 Goals (draft)

- Historic Designation Program Expansion: Apply for a non-matching History Colorado grant to develop promotional and educational materials for property owners.
  - *Supports BOT Goal: Economic Development* by fostering heritage tourism and increasing property values through the promotion of historic preservation efforts.
  - *Aligns with Comprehensive Plan*: Encourages the stewardship of Lyons' unique cultural and historical assets while engaging the community in preservation initiatives.
- Town Hall Designation: Complete the internal process to designate Town Hall as a historic property.
  - *Supports BOT Goal: Infrastructure Development* by emphasizing the preservation and adaptive reuse of Town assets, promoting pride in local governance and history.
  - *Aligns with the Comprehensive Plan*: Protects and enhances Lyons' historic landmarks, contributing to the town's unique identity and heritage.
- Community Celebrations: Host events commemorating the Ute Trail Marker and the enhanced Native American exhibit at the Redstone Museum, including potential collaborations with tribal representatives.
  - *Supports BOT Goal: Economic Development* by attracting visitors and promoting local businesses through cultural and historical tourism.
  - *Aligns with Comprehensive Plan*: Promotes diversity and inclusivity by celebrating Lyons' Native American heritage, fostering cultural awareness, and strengthening community ties.
- Ongoing Projects: Advance the historic context survey and Main Street preservation study.
  - *Supports BOT Goal: Economic Development and Wildfire Mitigation* by ensuring development plans for Main Street preserve its historic character while incorporating resilient, sustainable practices.
  - *Aligns with Comprehensive Plan*: Protects the historic charm of Main Street, reinforcing Lyons' identity as a unique and vibrant small town with a strong sense of place.

## **Members**

Sarah Lorang (Chairperson)  
Grace Simonsen (Vice-Chair)  
Lori Kran (Secretary)  
Gil Sparks  
Sara Neustadt  
Jen Wingard  
Paula Stone-Williams, BOT Liaison  
Kristen Bruckner, Staff Liaison

[BACK](#)

# Housing and Human Resources Commission 2023 Report

**Mission:** *The mission of the Lyons Housing & Human Services Commission (HHSC), as established in the Lyons Recovery Action Plan, is to provide coordination and communication with various private, non-profit, and county entities in an effort to assess and fill the gaps in human service provision and identify unmet needs in the Lyons and greater Lyons (80540) area.*

## 2024 Activities/Accomplishments/Issues

### Mission

In responding to several housing issues in 2024, the HHSC realized that housing was not included in either the mission statement or in the Municipal Code for HHSC. Proposed revisions to both will be submitted to the Board of Trustees in the first quarter 2025.

### Housing

#### Lyons Valley Townhomes (LVT)

With LVT home construction completed (landscaping is in-process), residents sought the support of HHSC in establishing positive and cooperative communication with Highland Property Management. The HHSC gathered information from residents and presented a statement of resident support and a request to the Board of Trustees asking for their involvement in developing a plan for better communication between residents and management. At present the HHSC Chair meets with the property manager periodically to get updates regarding housing availability and resident-management relations. Both HHSC and Board of Trustee influence is limited in this issue.

#### Preserving what affordable housing is available

A HHSC representative attended Board of Trustee workshops on housing issues in 2024 and shared during regular meetings the HHSC concern that while complying with Proposition 123 (building new housing) is important, equally important is preserving what affordable housing is available. In learning more regarding resources, the HHSC met with the Boulder County Housing Authority (BCHA) to better understand their many roles in housing development and maintenance. The HHSC was overjoyed to learn that BCHA is in the process of buying a 14-unit mobile home park in Lyons that was in danger of being sold for private development.

#### Responding to Community Needs – Human Services

In addition to receiving input from community members regarding their needs, the HHSC identified the need to effectively disseminate information regarding relevant resources available. To that end the HHSC has provided updates in the Redstone Review regarding utility bill support available through the Town of Lyons as well as State of Colorado, Healthy Home Assessment Program through Boulder County Public Health and presence of a new local health care provider.

In December HHSC partnered with the Town of Lyons to sponsor a Connect for Health CO insurance enrollment event that connected several households with both private insurance and Medicaid information.

Updating the Get Help Guide (last published in 2021) has been a major undertaking that involved every HHSC member. The plan is for a limited printed version, placement on the Town of Lyons web site as well as possibly hard copies of Senior Services section.

The HHSC identified a need for Disaster Preparedness information and to-go backpacks especially for seniors and those with special needs who might be challenged to

evacuate. HHSC received a grant through Lyons Community Foundation for the backpacks and will partner with Lyons Regional Library and Boulder County Office of Emergency Management for a presentation of relevant information and distribution of backpacks in April 2025.

### **Responding to Board of Trustee requests for involvement and/or input**

- Reported progress and priorities of Comprehensive Plan Goals for HHSC (HN – 1c, HN 2a, HW1a, HW1f)
- Reported HHSC priorities for Proposition 123
- Reported priorities for Housing Future Report
- Reported HHSC activities directly to the Board of Trustees

### **Member update**

The HHSC has a strong group of dedicated volunteers. During 2024 we lost two: one to serve on another commission and a second due to increased workload. We added two new members: Yves Nath, who is involved in housing issues, and Fi Houle, a resident of Lyons Valley Townhomes. This leaves us with two vacant positions. We include our need for members in our updates for the Redstone Review and in other venues.

### **Plans for 2025**

#### **Housing**

- Continue to facilitate resident-management relations at Lyons Valley Townhomes
- Continue to encourage Town of Lyons involvement in preserving what affordable housing we currently have
- Coordinate with “partner” commissions on shared Comprehensive Plan goals, sharing activities and priorities.

#### **Mental Health**

- HHSC will support and publicize the mental health services available.
- HHSC will learn about mental health services available in Boulder County and make the community aware of them.

#### **Continue to respond to Community Inquiries and Needs**

- Explore additional ways to create awareness about the housing and human services available to residents.

The HHSC meets the second Monday of each month from 4:30 - 6 p.m. in the Effie Banta conference room at the Lyons Community Library (a zoom link is available as well). The public is always welcome to attend. There are currently two vacancies on the commission; interested residents can apply through the Town of Lyons website or inquiring at Town Hall.

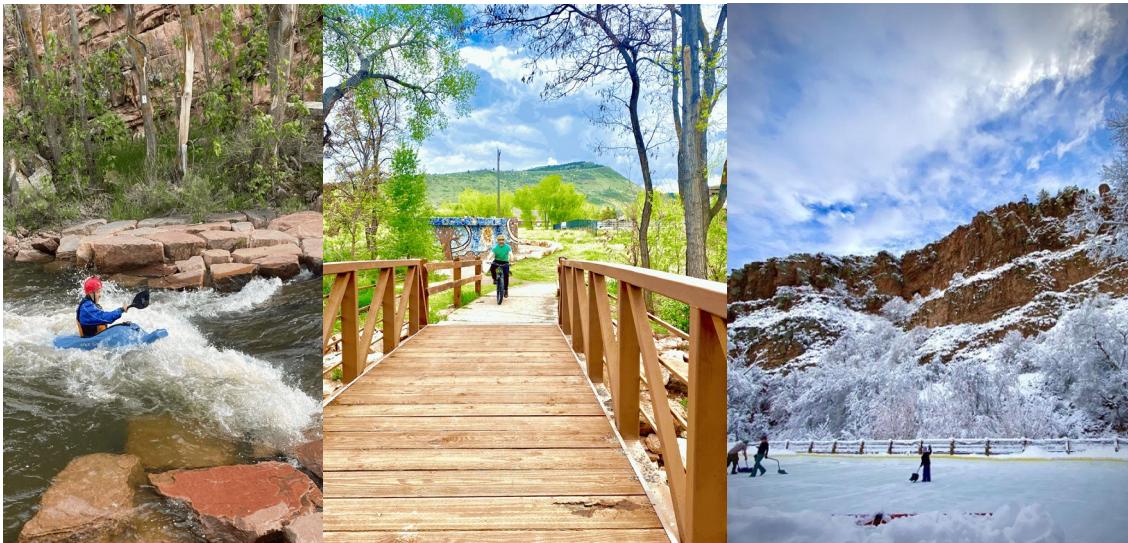
#### **HHSC members:**

Kay Sparks, Chair  
Claudia Kean, scribe  
Fi Houle  
liaison  
Lisa Ramsey - Town staff liaison

Yves Nath -Vice-Chair  
Rhonda Vandenbos  
Tanya Daty - Board of Trustees

**BACK**

## Parks and Recreation Commission



The Town of Lyons Park and Recreation Commission is a group of volunteer citizens who advise the Board of Trustees on all matters pertaining to the operation, maintenance, improvement and development of the Town's parks and recreation programs and facilities. Its existence is required under Municipal Code, Section 2-8-150.

The commission receives input from the Town of Lyons Parks Department and acts as liaison between the public and Trustees, and researches and suggests funding sources, including grants, to support and improve parks programs. But it's not just the Town's parks that are the commission's concern; they also act on matters related to pedestrian, equestrian, bicycle, recreation and trails systems, including sidewalks.

The commission's work took on added importance in the wake of the 2013 flood. While the Town parks' footprints have not expanded, the look and feel of all three major parks have changed drastically. Thanks to Federal flood recovery funds, LaVern Johnson Park (formerly Meadow Park), Bohn Park and the new Lyons River Park bear only slight resemblance to their pre-flood look.

Upcoming projects include continuing the SRTS plan to expand sidewalk, crosswalk and walkability through town directing pedestrian and bike traffic to school, the St. Vrain Corridor Trail connection to US 36 for eventual connection to the Longmont St. Vrain Greenway Trail and a possible change in code allowing paid overnight camping in the Black Bear Hole parking lot.

The department submits requests to Boulder County Parks and Open Space each year on potential partnership requests for local and regional trail opportunities. An example includes the completed Picture Rock/Heil Ranch connection. Others include a proposed connection to Hall Ranch (currently being assessed by Boulder County via a link on the west side of 36 via Corona Hill), Rabbit Mountain, the St. Vrain Greenway Trail east to Longmont, the Lyons to Boulder Trail and access to Steamboat Mountain. An updated trails plan can be found in the 2016 Parks Flood Recovery Planning Process available online at the Town website.

### Parks and Recreation Areas

**Sandstone Park (1.5 acres)** - Located in the heart of Lyons, Sandstone Park is the home to the Lyons Visitor Center, the Raul Vasquez Community Stage, and several picnic areas. Live

musical and cultural performances are scheduled throughout the year on Raul Vasquez Community Stage such as the Summer Concert Series.

The Lyons Visitor Center (open mid-April to October) provides visitor services including restrooms, maps, guidebooks, and local/regional information. The Center's staff is knowledgeable and friendly. Parks and Public Works staff provide maintenance for the visitor center and the park itself.

**Bohn Park (53.5 acres)** – At the confluence of the North and South St. Vrain Creeks, Bohn Park has been recognized by the Colorado Lottery for creative use of funds. The park was destroyed in the 2013 flood and reconstruction finalized in 2020. Phase I was completed in 2017, and Phase II was completed in early fall of 2020. Bohn Park facilities include:

|   |  |
|---|--|
| 2 softball/baseball fields (Vasquez & Bohn fields)    | Off-leash dog area w/shelter and trails (10 acres)   |
| Skate Park w/ half-pipe (pictured above)              | River fishing access, including ADA access           |
| Multiuse sport court (tennis, basketball, pickleball) | River access w/ in-stream structures                 |
| Multiuse fields/soccer field                          | Parking (paid through kiosks), special event parking |
| Playground  | 2 restroom facilities/storage units                  |
| Dirt jump bike skills park w/ shelter                 | Trails/pedestrian bridges                            |
| Picnic gathering grounds (available for rent)         | Inlet/pump house for irrigation                      |
| Picnic areas w/ tables & grills                       | Public art   |

**Lyons Valley River Park/Corridor Trail (16.5 acres)** - Fully completed in the Spring of 2020 following the 2013 flood, Lyons Valley River Park is becoming one of Lyons' finest passive recreation areas. The original area was dedicated to the town with the development of Lyons Valley Park subdivision and consists of two ponds. The lower pond is available for flatwater recreation activities with access points. The upper (smaller) pond is strictly for habitat and off limits to recreational access. Amenities include multi-use trails, scenic overlook, wetland restoration, flood mitigation efforts and kayak masts for programs and events.

This area provides vital wildlife habitat along the St. Vrain River. Linking with the St. Vrain River Trail (Colorado Lottery Starburst Award, 1996) from Bohn Park to the west and the Corridor Trail to the north, these paths will be critical links to the east and eventually to the St. Vrain Greenway (Longmont) and the 36/66 junction underpass. The Corridor Trail along the right-of-way frontage that parallels Highway 36/66 from McConnell Drive to the Black Bear Hole has several existing planters, irrigation and associated landscaping that is the responsibility of the Parks and Public Works Department.

#### **Lyons Whitewater Park-Black Bear Hole-October/November Hole**

**Lyons Whitewater Park** - The Lyons Whitewater Park in LaVern M. Johnson Park is a quarter mile stretch with eight features from beginner to intermediate level that kayakers, tubers and fishermen from the community and surrounding region have all come to enjoy. This facility is heavily utilized in the summer.

**Black Bear Hole** - Just off Highway 36/66 and across from Lyons Quilting there are two kayak play features that have historically been used as home to Lyons Outdoor Games and avid kayakers from around the region. The first feature has been dubbed the Black Bear Hole and is considered to be a beginner to intermediate spot. Approximately thirty yards downstream is the second hole, named the A-hole (after Lyons resident Arn Hayden who played a part in its inception). This feature is more advanced and often sees kayakers from around the state practicing more advanced tricks. The area incorporates a picnic area and is a frequent stop along Lyons Corridor Trial for hikers and bikers. In 2022 improvements were made to the Black Bear Hole area through funding made available through Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) including, improvements and formalizing the parking lot and adding paid parking, improvements to the riverbanks on the upstream side and around the pedestrian bridge, replacement of the bridge decking, trail and landscape improvements including irrigation, and new fencing and site amenities.

**St. Vrain Corridor Trailhead at 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue** - East of 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue adjacent to Bohn Park, improvements were made to formalize a parking area, restroom and trailhead through funding made available by a grant awarded by GOCO in 2022. This area now consists of 115 parking spaces with paid parking kiosk, restroom facility with drinking fountain, trail and landscape improvements including irrigation, storm and other drainage improvements, and new fencing and site amenities.

**October Hole/November Hole** - Farther downstream in Lyons Valley River Park are the reconstructed October and November holes. These kayaking features are unique along the Front Range in that they can be utilized by river recreationalists into the months of October/November due to typical seasonal releases from the Carter Canal inlet just upstream from the features. Located off of Highway 36/66 near the "Welcome to Lyons" sign, these features offer easy access to the St. Vrain and also include gathering areas established with large boulders along the banks, similar to the other features completed upstream through flood recovery efforts.

Regular maintenance of these features is performed when needed in the fall/early winter or late winter/early spring, when the water flow is low, access to the river is more easily achievable and the least risk/damage to the river and habitat will occur. The necessary permits are applied for and obtained prior to work being done. Work performed on structures is completed when it is deemed that there is a hazard, risk or that they or are not functioning properly. River restoration and bank stabilization are priorities for the department.

Community volunteer river cleanup days are scheduled in the spring and summer to help keep the river areas free of trash and other debris after the spring run off season. In 2022, the Lyons Parks and Recreation Commission, and a group of local resident groups all performed river cleanup efforts.

**Steamboat Valley Playground** - Located on the Steamboat Valley Open Space Parcel and built in-part with money supplied through the subdivision improvement agreement for the housing development, this neighborhood park is cared for by the department.

**Trails** - Lyons has worked diligently to link existing trail systems both in town and to surrounding open spaces. Currently, the Parks department maintains over 6 miles of trails and performs regular maintenance in the spring/fall or in areas as needed according to standards. Additional

local and regional trail connections continue to be a priority for the department and the citizen advisory Parks and Recreation Commission. Upcoming projects being considered that will allow for better connectivity are in and around the Black Bear Hole, a trailhead near the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave. public parking area, the St. Vrain Corridor Trail connection to US 36 for eventual connection to the Longmont St. Vrain Greenway Trail. The department submits requests to Boulder County Parks and Open Space each year on potential partnership requests for local and regional trail opportunities. An example includes the completed Picture Rock/Heil Ranch connection. Others include a proposed connection to Hall Ranch (currently being assessed by Boulder County via a link on the west side of 36 via Corona Hill), Rabbit Mountain, the St. Vrain Greenway Trail east to Longmont, the Lyons to Boulder Trail and access to Steamboat Mountain. An updated trails plan can be found in the 2016 Parks Flood Recovery Planning Process available online at the Town website.

In 2021, Parks and Public works staff worked with Can'd Aid on volunteer projects to add and improve trails in Bohn Park and in the Stone Canyon Neighborhood.

**Lyons Open Space Parcels (approximately 100 acres)** - The Town of Lyons Department of Parks and Public Works currently oversees management of numerous open space parcels. Of the town's complete parkland inventory, approximately 105 acres are dedicated as open space: Stone Canyon Open Space, Lyons Valley Greenbelt, Sierra Roja/Steamboat Valley, Russell Subdivision/Tebo (Longs Peak) and Eagle Canyon. Maintenance includes mowing, trash/debris removal, noxious weed mitigation and monitoring for code violations.

**Martin Parcel Buyout Parcel (9 Acres)** - This parcel is located west of Bohn Park, adjacent to the skate park and Bohn Field, and is a flood recovery buyout parcel recently transferred to the Town by Boulder County. A public process and conceptual plan have been developed (see, 2017 Land Use and Management Plan for Deed Restricted Buy Out Properties (DrBOP).

**Town of Lyons Flood Buyout Parcels (20 Acres)** - Following the flood of 2013 the Town of Lyons acquired 27 former residential properties with federal funding, equaling nearly 20 acres, located mainly in the confluence of the St. Vrain in Lyons. Initial funds from the buy-out program were used to remove structures and mitigate impacts against future flooding. These "buy-out" properties are earmarked as open space or recreational properties in perpetuity. The 2017 DrBOP (Deed Restricted Buyout Properties) Plan for these properties can be found on the Town of Lyons website. The plan conceptualizes these lands as natural open space areas and wildlife habitats with opportunities for outdoor enjoyment and social interaction. Several have been identified as eligible for the "Neighborhood Lot Licensure Program," a licensure program allowing individual or group "adoption" of certain lots for approved purposes.

**St. Vrain Valley School District Facilities** – Currently, the Town of Lyons and the St. Vrain Valley School District have a joint use agreement in place. When appropriate, increased scheduling and maintenance responsibilities are allotted for by the department. Scheduling and maintenance of the Bohn multi-purpose field and high school baseball and softball fields is done when needed for league play. The town also has use of the elementary school gym, playground areas, track and other facilities through the district scheduler when allowed. This arrangement is positive for both parties, allowing for additional facilities through this partnership that would otherwise not be available.

## **2024 Activities**

Notable activities of the PRC in 2024 were:

- Continue to advocate for connection to Hall Ranch (currently being assessed by Boulder County via a link on the west side of 36 via Corona Hill), Rabbit Mountain, the St. Vrain Greenway Trail east to Longmont, the Lyons to Boulder Trail and access to Steamboat

Mountain. An updated trails plan can be found in the 2016 Parks Flood Recovery Planning Process available online at the Town website.

- Pursued funding for adding lights to softball fields.
- Added lines to create additional pickleball playing space on the current court.
- Subcommittee for International Night Sky Compliance in parks and made a recommendation to the BOT on feasibility.
- Completed the third annual “dark sky’ night sponsored by the town during a celestial event.
- Increase pedestrian connectivity and pursue the Eastern Corridor trail as a priority.
- Continue advising the town and assisting with safe routes to school pedestrian improvements; discussion and approval of Parks funds if needed.
- Continue to review park budgets, operations and long-term maintenance needs.
- Sponsor volunteer events.

### **Plans for 2025:**

- St Vrain Trail Extension planning
- Pursue funding for a secondary sports court adjacent to the existing sports court in Bohn Park. (Bohn Park Sport Court improvements/upgrades - new backboards, pads, nets, screening)
- Pursue funding for adding lights to softball fields.
- Continue a “dark sky’ night sponsored by the town during a celestial event and pursue Dark Sky Community certification.
- Increase pedestrian connectivity and pursue the Eastern Corridor trail as a priority.
- Continue advising the town and assisting with safe routes to school pedestrian improvements.
- Continue to review park budgets, operations and long-term maintenance needs.
- Sponsor volunteer cleanup events.
- Continue discussion on Lyons- Hall connector trail.

The PRC meets on the second Monday each month at The Lyons Regional Library. The public is always invited to attend the meetings and can find the schedule of meetings and links on the Town website under “Agendas.”

### **Members**

Tom Delker, Chair

Sandra Haber, Vice Chair

Randy Pollard

Jennifer Kovalik

Mike Jackson

Julia Herz

Glen Delman, BOT liaison

Dave Cosgrove, Public Works and Park Director

[BACK](#)

## Sustainable Futures Commission

The Sustainable Futures Commission (SFC) was established to advise the Board of Trustees on matters relating to sustainable practices and policies and to support and improve the environmental stewardship of the Town and its citizens. The SFC strives to inspire, motivate, and lead the community towards a future that is increasingly resilient and locally sustainable by prioritizing the reduction of human impact on environmental systems.

### 2024 Activities/Accomplishments/Issues

Notable 2024 activities for the SFC are:

- Worked extensively with UEB/Jim Kerr to support the adoption of Time of Use billing for Lyons electricity
  - Authored Redstone Review article re 100% renewable power provided by MEAN (reviewed with Jim Kerr, UEB)
- SFC representation with regular attendance at RCAB (Resource Conservation Advisory Board of Boulder County) and CC4CA (Colorado Communities for Climate Action) meetings
- Continued support for community solar garden with battery storage
- Recommended Town of Lyons to formally support the Colorado Energy office for the DRCOG decarbonization/electrification grant application
- SFC hosted the movie “Honey Land” at the Library, followed by Q&A with local beekeeper
- SFC promoted use of these resources to both citizens and businesses:
  - Boulder County’s Energy Smart services
  - Boulder County’s Partners for a Clean Environment (PACE)
  - GoElectricColorado.org
  - Electrify America
- Supported Diversion Day Saturday, May 18 resulting diversion of:
  - 785 pounds of Hazardous Household Waste (for Boulder County facility to process)
  - 695 pounds of oil-based paint and 2,425 pounds of latex paint were dropped off and diverted.
  - ONE 30-yard dumpster, 2.43 tons of yard waste (limbs, branches, brush, leaves). 58 residents diverted their yard waste at the event.
  - 1,100 pounds of old bikes, books, skis, outdoor gear,etc.
  - 1083 pounds of e-waste and 3.79 tons of scrap metal
- Supported Diversion Day on Saturday, Oct 19, diverting:
  - 909 pounds of Hazardous Household Waste
  - 1,973 pounds of latex paint and 541 pounds of oil-based paint.
  - 1,376 pounds of e-waste
  - 1. 2 tons of yard waste
  - NO trash materials will be accepted as *diversion* is the goal

- Redstone article explaining the “glass to glass” bin at recycle center
  - One year pilot program
  - Glass is infinitely recyclable
  - Recycling and reusing glass saves significant natural resources and energy
- Plastic Earth documentary shown at the Lyons Library on Dec 9. Approximately 30 attendees found the film educational and distressing.

## Plans for 2025

In 2025, the SFC plans the following activities.

- Continued investigation, analysis and recommendations for Level 3 car charger(s) in Town; Level 3 charging station can charge newer electric vehicles in 30-40 minutes
- Develop plans and implement tactical actions to reduce Town greenhouse gas emissions to meet State of Colorado Climate Action Plan (HB 19-1261); using 2005 emissions as baseline, achieve:
  - 26% reduction by 2025
  - 50% reduction by 2030
  - 90% reduction by 2050
- Seek and encourage citizen participation in Lyons sustainability, climate action plans, and solution development
- Support diversion & recycle events, to include recycling, hazardous waste drop-off, and other recycling options
- Support slash/limb/leaf collection to divert organic yard materials for compost and support wildfire fuel mitigation efforts

## Members

SFC members include the following individuals.

Edward Kean, chair  
 Kathleen Carroll, vice chair  
 Fred Annexstein, recorder  
 Kara Bauman  
 Dawn Weller  
 Jeff Christy  
 Ken Singer

BOT liaison: David Hamrick  
 Town liaisons: Kim Mitchell (2024), Cassidy Davenport (2025)

[BACK](#)

## Utilities and Engineering Board

The Lyons Utilities and Engineering Board (UEB) is an advisory committee to the Board of Trustees and works with the Utilities and Engineering Director to review and make recommendations to the Town regarding utility rates, capital projects and other matters related to the Town utilities and engineering projects. See Municipal Code, Sec. 2-8-190 for details.

### 2024 Activities/Accomplishments/Issues

Notable activities of the UEB in 2024 were:

- Monitored the financials of the Town's utility funds to ensure they are solvent. The wastewater portion of the water and wastewater fund continues to be the primary concern even with the positive resolution of the Honeywell lawsuit as a recently completed engineering study by JVA shows multimillion dollar improvements are required.
- Continued promoting a solar farm and storage facility. Helped develop a request for proposal that was released and subsequently helped evaluate responses. Unfortunately, the project was found to not be economically viable.
- Researched and recommended transition to a time-of-use electric rate structure.
- Continued to promote Lyons transition to 100 percent renewable electric energy through the Municipal Energy Agency of Nebraska (MEAN) green energy program. This was implemented in April. MEAN is Lyons' wholesale electric supplier.
- Recommended MEAN adopt an annual report on the green rate program that will demonstrate they have fully covered every MWh of electricity supplied to Lyons with a Renewable Energy Credit (REC).
- Evaluated and recommended that the town sign an updated MEAN Schedule M contract. The contract was subsequently signed.
- Recommended that the town accept cash-in-lieu for Colorado Big Thompson (CBT) water shares for underutilized town shares. Specifically recommended a price of \$56k per share that was subsequently accepted for four lots in Lyons Valley Park.
- Reviewed and made recommendations on the Riverbend expansion and the Tebo annexation in the eastern corridor.
- Recommended that the town consider expansion of its electric service territory on the east side of town.
- Recommended that a LED street light study be accomplished to include night sky standards. The request for proposal was released and subsequently awarded.
- Recommend that issues identified in Steamboat Valley stormwater sewer "box culvert" running under downtown be addressed.

### Plans for 2025

- Continue to review utility financials and fund balances.
- Review the JVA Wastewater Treatment Plant Study and make recommendations on upgrade priorities and scheduling.
- Review and make recommendations on wastewater BOD and TSS testing.
- Continue to review the adequacy and monitoring of grease traps in local businesses.

- Review and make recommendations on the town GIS for improved planning and project execution.
- Help develop strategic plan for electric undergrounding that will prioritize reductions of wildfire risks.
- Continue promoting the transition to time-of-use electric rates.
- Help evaluate the results of the LED street lighting study. Establish residential street lighting standards and develop a plan to upgrade to LED residential street lighting.
- Review stormwater system master planning and budget for high priority projects.
- Monitor progress on the Steamboat Valley stormwater box culvert.

### **Meeting dates**

The UEB generally meets on the first and third Wednesday of each month from 4:30 - 6:00 in person in the Town board room and virtually using Zoom. Note that the second meeting of the month is generally canceled when it conflicts with the MEAN quarterly board meetings in January, May, August, and November. The meeting agenda with Zoom link is posted on the Town's website at least 24 hours prior to each meeting. The public are always welcome and encouraged to attend.

### **Members:**

Jim Kerr - Chair

Chris Meline - Vice Chair

Chris Cope – Vice Vice Chair

Jane Allo

Lee Hall

Gina Hardin

Jimm Vosburgh

BOT liaison: Mark Browning

Staff liaison: Aaron Caplan

**BACK**

## Rocky Mountain Botanic Gardens 2024 Report



In its fifth growing season, the garden is blooming bigger and better. Photo by Cathy Rivers.

### The Garden

The Rocky Mountain Botanic Gardens (RMBG) in Lyons is a public garden of Colorado native plants, created and cared for by volunteers. It's designed as an educational display garden, with signs identifying each species, intended to help visitors discover new plants for their gardens and learn about wild plants they might see trailside. Broadly speaking, these plants are hardy, adapted to local soils and climate, have low water requirements, and support pollinators. The garden is divided into five zones reflecting distinct Colorado ecosystems – the prairie grasslands, riparian, montane, southwest, and foothills. Lyons, situated at the confluence of two rivers and where the mountains meet the plains, is uniquely suited to hosting diverse Colorado plants. 2024 was our 5<sup>th</sup> growing season, and the garden is filling in nicely, becoming a valued destination for the Lyons community and visitors from near and far.

The RMBG is run as a 501(c)(3) registered nonprofit with a volunteer board of directors. The RMBG's mission is to foster an understanding and an appreciation of our Rocky Mountain native plants and wildlife and to create a place where Lyons locals and all visitors to the garden of all ages can learn and enjoy the peace and beauty of the natural world. Before the 2013 flood, the site was a neighborhood, the Foothills Mobile Home Park. Now, the land is owned by the Town of Lyons under strict flood plain restrictions and leased by the RMBG at no cost.

Under the lease terms, we agree to maintain the site as a public garden in good condition and to purchase liability insurance, which we've continued to do. Gardening at the site started in December 2018.

The garden is located near the corner of 4<sup>th</sup> Ave. and Prospect St., on the path to Bohn Park. Parking is available on nearby streets. We ask that dogs and bikes remain outside the gardens and that visitors stick to the paths. The RMBG is open to the public daily from dawn to dusk, except when snow obscures the path.

**BACK**

## Redstone Museum/Lyons Historical Society

**Monique Sawyer-Lang, Collections Manager**

Since 1973, the Lyon Historical Society (LHS) has played an active role in the recognition and preservation of Lyons history. That year Dorothy Paxton and the LHS led a campaign to save the 1885 Lyons Depot building which currently serves as the Lyons Police Substation. In 1976, Director LaVern Johnson and the LHS rescued the town's original two-story sandstone school from the wrecker's ball.

Subsequently, A three-way lease, between St. Vrain Valley School District (SVVSD), who owns the building, the Town of Lyons (TOL), and LHS allowed for the creation of the Lyons Redstone Museum (LRM), preserving this cultural and historic structure with its 6100 square feet of exhibition, archive, and program space. The museum's collection includes objects, photographs, documents, and displays that reflect Lyons area history. The museum opened to the public in November of 1979. In April 1980 the Lyons Historic District was created recognizing this and 14 other historically significant sandstone buildings in the Lyons area.

In 2025 the LRM will celebrate its 46th year of operation.

Jerry Johnson is LHS's current Director and serves as the board President/Treasurer along with board members Julie Van Domelen, David Brininstool, Gail Frankfort and Emily Walker.

### Financial

The LRM leases the building from the SVVSD for \$1/year; the contract is renewed every 10 years. The SVVSD is responsible for the landscaping and lawn care and pays for one-third of improvements and large repairs. The TOL awards an annual grant to operate the museum on May weekends and daily June through September, as well as scanning, filing, and cataloguing during the off-



season. The TOL also pays for one-third of large improvements and repairs, with the rest up to the LHS who raise funds from grants, donations, and museum gift shop sales. Grants received in 2024: Town of Lyons, Blue Mountain Foundation, Lyons Community Foundation, Scientific Cultural Facilities District (SCFD), and the Colorado State Archives.

In 2023 the LHS officially registered with the Colorado Gives Foundation, allowing for on-line donations year-round. Additionally, the LHS registered with Square, resulting in increased sales at the gift shop and the annual Artisan Fair booths.

## 2024 Accomplishments

In 2024 the museum recorded 1,403 visitors; this includes summer season visitors and those who came by appointment over the winter when the museum was closed. Appointments consisted of people doing family research, members of the Lyons Historic Preservation Commission, as well as those wanting to donate items to the museum.

Educational collaboration with Lyons Elementary School (LES) continued in the 2023-2024 school year. Students participated in hands-on learning museum activities tied to St. Vrain Valley school curriculum. Lyons 4th grade students have become involved on a more in-depth level functioning as Museum Stewards and work on a year-long project creating interactive experiences geared toward visiting children.

The museum kicked off the 2024 season in May by participating in Archaeology and Historic Preservation Month sponsored by the Boulder County Heritage Roundtable and the Lyons Lit Fest on June 8 organized by the Lyons Chamber of Commerce.

History Day at the Museum was held on June 22 and included an update on museum activities, along with remarks from Kristen Bruckner, TOL, and Cathleen Chrystal Decoster, Lyons Arts and Humanities Commission. Dr. Kelly Wacker was the featured speaker and provided an update on The Newt Thomas Project, an early 1900s artist and Lyons resident. Pioneer Family Certificates were presented to Lyons High School graduating Seniors Jeremiah Hammans and Abraham Vasquez. Rhonda French and Gary Secretst spoke on behalf of the Class of '69. A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Terri Weir in recognition of 35 years of service to the Lyons Redstone Museum. Unveiled at History Day were: *Sounds of History* audio clips created by the LES 4<sup>th</sup> Graders to enhance four existing exhibits; and an exhibit honoring Mickey Hawkins, Class of '69 who was killed in Vietnam. The Museum had booths at the Summer Artisan Market held September 7 in Bohn Park and at the Holiday Artisan Market held December 7-8.

On July 24, the bronze statue of Mrs. LaVern Johnson, who served as Director of the Lyons Redstone Museum for 46 years, was dedicated. The statue sits at the juncture of the Lyons Depot building, the Town Hall, and LaVern M. Johnson Park.

Work progresses on two long term projects: scanning of the *Lyons Recorder* and *Redstone Review* newspapers to make them digitally searchable and the transferring of over 40 years of paper accession and collection records into the Past Perfect computer database. Every year the museum accepts, based on the tenets of its mission statement, items, documents, and photographs into its collection. During 2024 the museum accepted and cataloged 40 collections consisting of 134 items. The LRM actively collects modern items relating to current TOL events.

The museum's ongoing public outreach includes its website, Facebook, and Instagram pages and distribution of an annual brochure. The museum also contributes a popular monthly article to the *Redstone Review* touching on various aspects of Lyons' history. The Lyons Historic District Walking Tour is available to the public through the free CLIO app and our Cemetery Tour, and three virtual exhibits are available free to the public through virmuze.com.

### Contact:

Lyons Historical Society  
Address: Box 9, Lyons, CO 80540  
Museum phone: 303.823.5271  
E-mail: [redstonehistory@gmail.com](mailto:redstonehistory@gmail.com)

[BACK](#)

## Lyons Arts and Humanities Commission 2024 Annual Report



**Android Jones Mural Town Hall (west side)**

The mission of the Lyons Arts & Humanities Commission (LAHC) is to nurture and celebrate arts and culture in Lyons. As creative leaders, the LAHC advocates for and supports a broad spectrum of cultural arts in Lyons, promoting the town's reputation as an art-centric community, driving tourism, supporting local entrepreneurs and artists, and contributing to community pride. The LAHC works closely with Town staff, the Board of Trustees, and a variety of community partners and funding sources to present recommendations to expand the role of arts and humanities within the area. The LAHC vets and supports a variety of art mediums with the goal of expanding access to public art in many forms.

The following programs and partnerships were cultivated and expanded in 2024.

### **Town Hall and Lyons Regional Library – Quarterly Art Shows**

Four times per year, the local artistic community in Lyons brings their artwork to Town Hall for a regional art show. In addition, the LAHC works with one or two solo artists to curate and hang the artist's work at the Lyons Regional Library. The community is invited to attend the quarterly opening reception to meet the artists and support local art. The 2024 program kicked off celebrating the work of **Android Jones**, a renowned local artist whose work can be seen on the Town Hall Mural. This installation was completed in 2023, with efforts to wrap around on the north side of the Town Hall building, planned for the spring of 2025.

The Town Hall portion of the shows has grown in participation over the last year. This is an opportunity that is open to ALL Lyons area artists to display their work in a public setting. The library portion of the show opening night receptions routinely draws well over 100 residents and attendees.



**Creative Outlets** puts out a call to artists to submit design concepts to paint utility boxes throughout Lyons. To date, there have been seven utility boxes commissioned throughout Town. The 2024 addition “trout” is a highly visible addition at the entrance of Bohn Park.

rotating collection of outdoor public sculptures that are displayed throughout town, including works by local and regional sculpture artists. This public art collection is a two-year contract with the artist for the loan of their work. We currently host approximately two dozen loaned pieces, with 8 new additions placed in 2024. The LAHC also helps to facilitate permanent public art displays, such as the Bell of Renewal, installed in Bohn Park on the seventh anniversary of the 2013 flood. The program also successfully launched a sponsorship program that allowed the private sector to sponsor work in front of their place of business. Two sponsorships were sold in 2024. The program has been enhanced and improved with the addition of a professional curator with broad fine art expertise, as well as a Call for Entry platform that has increased the number and quality of artist submissions.



### **Other creative projects:**

**The Lyons Community Theater**, its own 501-C3, continues to grow in participation and production. The LAHC supports its efforts in community outreach and promotion.

**Music** - Musicians are integral to Lyons' creative spirit and energy. Lyons hosts large music festivals, including Rocky Grass and the Rocky Mountain Folks Festival, which draw artists and attendees from all over the nation and beyond. The Town of Lyons hosted the Winter Wonderland Music Series and the wildly popular Sandstone Summer Concert Series.

**Creative District** - In 2022, interested members of the community of Lyons began the exploration process to become a certified Colorado Creative District through the Colorado Office of Economic Development and Trade. The State temporarily paused

the program and new applications in 2023 due to Covid, but Lyons is slated to be established as a Creative District with the aid of state-wide funding support awarded in 2024. The Creative District (CD) helped facilitate the construction of a fence around the hotel property, enhancing the downtown presence of this empty lot. The CD also helped to facilitate the establishment of the **Priscilla Cohan Artistic Pursuits Fund**, a scholarship honoring Priscilla, whose work as the Cultural Arts Coordinator and Clarifer Mosaic Project prior to her passing was instrumental to shaping the artistic community in Lyons.

The LAHC helped to support the first Silent Movie night in Lyons. An experimental program that enjoyed good participation. This will be a private endeavor moving forward.

**Ute Sculpture** – In 2023, a new sculpture, titled ***Trail of Treaties***, created by Native American and Ute Nation artist, Oreland Joe, Sr. was installed on a stone plinth in LaVern Johnson Park. This is a permanent legacy piece to recognize the ancestral paths in our area that were used by the Ute people. The commemorative plaque was installed in 2024. An interpretive sign, grant- funded by History Colorado, is in the process of design and production in 2025.

### **LaVern M. Johnson Memorial Sculpture**

A sculpture honoring Lyons' beloved matriarch LaVern Johnson was commissioned and installed in July of 2024. Through the efforts of town staff and a committee of citizens, over \$9K was raised to support this work. Residents came out to celebrate LaVern's contributions to Lyons in a ceremony. Private donations as well as contributions from Blue Mountain Stone and Cemex supported these efforts. Plans for a commemorative plaque and landscaping efforts are underway for 2025.



**Colorado Creative Industries Conference.** LAHC Chair Claudia Paterno and Staff Liaison, Kristen Bruckner attended the annual conference in Pueblo. They brought back a lot of ideas for funding and implementation of public art as well as confirmation of its importance to the cultural and economic landscape in the state. The annual conference was attended by over 500 people with keynote speakers such as Governor Polis.

**Fundraising:** Critical to the success of future projects and the expansion of the public art landscape in Lyons is fundraising. In 2024, the following grants and public fundraising efforts were awarded:

#### **Lyons Community Foundation**

\$2500 for TWO Creative Outlets commissions for 2025

\$5000 to support the HeARTS of LYONS sculpture program

\$2000 LCF award to commemorate the Ute Trail Marker

**Cemex** - \$10,000 commitment to public mural festival

**Boulder County Arts Alliance** \$2230 to support a mural

Additionally, the LAHC fundraises wherever possible, including the sale of stickers, art show proceeds, and a farm dinner at the Lyons Farmette.

## Marketing and Outreach

Production of high-quality postcards highlighting self-guided walking art tours.

Launch of Golf Cart Sculpture tour in coordination with the Lyons Chamber First Sunday event.

First-ever Lit Fest held in coordination with the Lyons Library.



## Lyons Arts and Humanities Commission Members (Jan 2025):

The LAHC brought on four new commission members in 2024, enhancing the breadth and experience of this group. There will be a new commission member appointed in 2025 rounding out the commission.

Claudia Paterno – Chairperson

Heidi Johnson

Magali Fournier

Lawrence LeBlanc

Patty McNichol

John King

Kristen Bruckner, Staff Liaison

Tanya Daty, Board Liaison

## Supporting (non-voting) members

Chrystal DeCoster (Town Hall Art shows)

Jacob Leeuwenburgh (Town Hall Art shows)

Melinda Wunder (heARTS of Lyons curator)

[BACK](#)

## Lyons Lions Club

As it has done since 1946, the Lyons Lions Club was here to serve the Greater Lyons community in 2024. After the September "Stone Canyon" wildfire burned down six homes near Lyons, the Lions Club stepped up to help.

The Lions Club, with help from Cemex and Spirit Hounds Distillers, organized a "pig roast" fundraiser to help people whose homes had been destroyed in the fire. More than \$16,000 was raised and distributed to those who had lost homes in the fire, helping them to defray some of the costs of recovering from that event.

In addition to that special assistance, the Lions Club continued its tradition (as the oldest surviving community service organization in Lyons) with other activities, including:

1. Providing scholarships to seniors graduating from Lyons High School, funded by the club's annual charity golf tournament in August.
2. Planting trees at the Lyons Cemetery.
3. Cleaning the roadside along Highway 7 between Lyons and Hall Ranch.
4. Collecting used eyeglasses for repurpose to help people who cannot afford their own glasses.
5. Contributing to the Lions Club International's Eye Bank and seeing eye dog projects.
6. Assisting local residents who need help paying for eyeglasses. (Vision care has long been a focus of national, state and local Lions Club organizations.)
7. Sponsoring the local Leos Club youth service organization.
8. Supporting the Lyons holiday food distribution program.
9. Providing occasional financial help or memorial donations when special circumstances of local need are brought to the Club's attention.

The Club would like to give special thanks to the sponsors who make its annual charity golf tournament and to all participants in the tournament, which in 2024 attracted a full complement (course capacity) of 124 players. The 2024 sponsors were Event Sponsor Cemex, Ace Sponsor Lumber Liquors, Eagle Sponsors Forked Pine Consulting and BMO, Birdie Sponsors Bud Depot, Pine View Properties, and Hurdles Jewelers, and Leos Putting Contest Sponsors Tucker Real Estate Group, Redstone Dental Studio, Gateway Auto, and Atlas Flooring.

The Lions Club meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month, September through May, at local restaurants. It has both male and female members and both visitors and new members are welcome.

Club officers for 2024 were president Jerry Tabor, vice president Randy Pollard, secretary Scott Leiding and treasurer Lon Clark.

[\*\*BACK\*\*](#)

# LEAF, Lyons Elevating All Fund



## LYONS COMMUNITY FOOD PANTRY

- 4712 visits by 292 unduplicated people (21% increase)
- 58 local youth served 998 times
- 61,080 pounds of food distributed

good food & healthy community



## LYONS MEALS ON WHEELS

- 16 unique clients
- 2102 meals delivered (5% increase)
- 16 dedicated volunteers

hot meals & warm hellos

## BASIC NEEDS & RESOURCE MATCHING

- 68 people served
- 28 people received grants
- Increased case management & partner support

a stabilizing support in our community



## MENTAL WELLNESS & ADDICTION RECOVERY



- 482 total individuals served (325% increase over '23)
- 321 individual therapy sessions
- 182 group therapy sessions (314% increase over '23)
- 494 hours work in the community
- 202 hours case management, assessments, referrals
- expanded youth services, offered suicide prevention, & introduced community-based wellness

community-based behavioral health services

## LYONS VOLUNTEERS

- 12 projects
- 43 "Weed Posse" deployments
- 53 volunteers

making Lyons more safe & beautiful



LEAF OFFERS RESOURCES TO GROW HEALTH AND WELLBEING IN THE GREATER LYONS AREA.

[www.leaflyons.org](http://www.leaflyons.org)

*We are better together*



## THE 2024 RESULTS ARE IN: WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER!

In our small community, **228 people** volunteered with LEAF for **5294 hours** last year. Co-powered by **nearly 300 donors and partners**, our teams delivered so much good for the Greater Lyons area in 2024. In fact, we directly served **900 local people** with LEAF's five human services and behavioral health programs. And we serve many of these folks many times, through our Food Pantry, Meals on Wheels, or Mental Wellness & Addiction Recovery services.

And now, we have moved to our new home, a community hub for Lyons! We're preparing to serve more people, in even better ways, than ever before. Let's make sure everyone can thrive in Lyons, with plenty of caring, support, healing, opportunities, and community-building. **Together, we'll do all of this and more.**

Thank you for **Growing Healthy Community** with LEAF. You matter so much and we could not do it without you.

### Volunteer & Staff Leadership

Lory Barton, *Executive Director*

Cherie Maureaux, LPC, LAC Clinical Program Director

Karen Kay Thompson, *Development Associate*

Hannah Ogden, *Program Coordinator*

Daryl McCool, *Outreach Coordinator*

*Lyons Community Food Pantry*

Cindy Grundmeier, Monique Sawyer-Lang, & Debbie Tabor

*Lyons Meals on Wheels*

Pam Browning

*Lyons Volunteers*

Pete Hinzy, Cathy Rivers

### Board of Directors

Kim Hinzy, *Chair*

David Hamrick

Dan Farrell, *Vice Chair*

Robyn Sloan

Karen Schwenn, *Treasurer*

Kelly Zimmerman

Debbie Brannan, *Secretary*

### 2025 Board Nominees

Susan Gloster    Laura Ruth

**BACK**

## Lyons Community Foundation

We exist to improve the quality of life, build a culture of giving, and create positive change in the greater Lyons area.

LCF was established in 2007 when several area residents saw the need for a locally based philanthropy and began the hard work of setting up the Lyons Community Foundation. John Burke, Gary LaFever, Rick England among others were key in laying this groundwork. Connie Eyster and Christy Crosser were the first Advisory Board co-chairs. LCF was established under the umbrella of the Community Foundation of Boulder County and remains one of their funds.

The reasons for having a local-based nonprofit included the ability to address the unique needs of a small and diverse community. There are projects that otherwise could not occur given the budget and constraints of a small town. Also, it gives local businesses and individuals a go-to centralized resource to help and enhance their community.

LCF serves as a resource for unplanned and emergency community needs. For example, in 2023, LCF contributed \$5,000 to LEAF's Main Street fire recovery efforts.

LCF also provided some seed funding in 2022 toward the formation of the Lyons Creative District.

### **LCF's Response to 2013 Flood: “Rebuild Lyons” campaign**

In no time was the need for a local foundation more critical than during the flood. Because LCF existed, the “Rebuild Lyons One life at Time” grant program was able to spring into action, awarding over \$1 million to local residents and businesses when they needed it most. Funds were given out within three months of the flood to address critical needs.

### **LCF's Response to COVID-19: Lyons Share Fund**

In the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic and economic crisis, the Lyons Community Foundation launched “The Lyons Share - a small business economic relief fund” in partnership with the St. Vrain Market. The fund, seeded with proceeds from the market and matched by LCF, was designed to help local businesses survive the impact of COVID-19’s forced business closures. With the added donations from the Town of Lyons and area residents, the Lyons Share Fund provided \$43,000 to local businesses in 2020.



# **Lyons Community Foundation**

**Serving the Greater Lyons Area**

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**A FUND OF THE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
BOULDER COUNTY**

## Community Support Grants in 2024

As a community foundation, LCF's main purpose is to raise money to support a diverse range of projects and populations in order to improve the quality of life, build a culture of giving and encourage positive change in the greater Lyons area. By offering a centralized source for fundraising, nonprofits can focus on their projects. Thanks to LCF's Community Support Grants, local non-profits received \$83,000 in community support grants to put towards 24 separate projects which focus on four key areas: Human Services, Community Connectivity, Local Ecology and Youth Investment

| Name of Applicant                             | Project   | Amount Awarded  |
|---|---|-----------------|
| Town of Lyons                                 | Sandstone Summer Concert Series                         | \$6,000         |
| Town of Lyons                                 | Spring Concert Series                                   | \$1,350         |
| Town of Lyons                                 | Parade of Lights & Drone Show                           | \$4,000         |
| Town of Lyons, Parks and Recreation           | Lyons' Senior Programming                               | \$1,500         |
| Town of Lyons, Parks and Recreation           | Emergency Preparedness 'Go Bags' for Seniors and those  | \$1,300         |
| St. Vrain Valley Schools Education Foundation | Teacher Innovation Grants                               | \$2,500         |
| Lyons Fire Fund                               | Personal Protective Equipment for Wildland Firefighters | \$6,879         |
| Lyons Valley Preschool                        | Playground Improvements                                 | \$5,000         |
| Lyons Elevating All Fund (LEAF)               | Lyons Community Pantry                                  | \$7,000         |
| Lyons Elevating All Fund (LEAF)               | Lyons Meals on Wheels                                   | \$5,000         |
| Lyons Elevating All Fund (LEAF)               | Basic Needs & Resource Matching                         | \$5,000         |
| Lyons Elevating All Fund (LEAF)               | Mental Wellness & Addiction Recovery                    | \$7,000         |
| Lyons Elevating All Fund (LEAF)               | Lyons Volunteers  | \$2,500         |
| Lyons Community Theater                       | Improved audience & cast experience through necessary   | \$3,500         |
| Lyons Pride                                   | Lyons Pridefest 2025                                    | \$1,000         |
| Lyons Arts & Humanities Commission (LAHC)     | Creative Outlets  | \$2,349         |
| Lyons Arts & Humanities Commission (LAHC)     | heARTS of LYONS, An Art Collection All Over Town        | \$5,000         |
| Greenwood Wildlife Rehabilitation Center      | Species-Specific Food, Formula and Medical Supplies for | \$7,000         |
| Lyons Historical Society/Lyons Redstone       | Redstone Museum Assessment, Long Range Planning, and    | \$2,400         |
| Lyons Historical Society/Lyons Redstone       | Ute Trail Marker Dedication and Redstone Museum Native  | \$2,000         |
| Lyons Elementary School (LES)                 | LES Robotics  | \$772           |
| Lyons Elementary School (LES)                 | LES Garden – STEM lab Hydroponics tower                 | \$950           |
| Lyons Lions Booster Club c/o Lyons Middle     | After Prom Event  | \$1,000         |
| Simply Bee Conservation                       | Lyons Community Pollinator Gardens Project              | \$2,000         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                                  |   | <b>\$83,000</b> |
| Total requested                               |   | \$93,877        |
| Amount to award                               |   | \$75,000        |
| Return from Lyons Creates                     |   | \$8,000         |
| <b>LEGEND</b>                                 |   |                 |
| Human Services                                |   | \$36,179        |
| Community Connectivity                        |   | \$27,599        |
| Local Ecology                                 |   | \$9,000         |
| Youth Investment                              |   | \$10,222        |

## College Scholarships in 2024

Thanks to LCF's donors, nine local graduating high school seniors received scholarships. In total in **2024 \$36,800.00** was given out in scholarships. In all, **LCF has given out \$143,800 in scholarships since 2009.**

### 2024 Scholarship Details

- LCF Mission Scholarships, \$2,500.00 each- Six students received (\$15,000.00 TOTAL)
- LCF Two Year Study Scholarships, \$2000.00 each- Two students received (\$4,000.00 TOTAL)
- Bud Winkler Scholarship, \$2000.00-One student received (\$2,000.00 TOTAL)
- Community in Harmony Scholarship, \$5000.00-One student received (\$5,000.00 TOTAL)
- Gerald Boland Scholarship, \$2000.00-One student received (\$2000.00 TOTAL)
- Zoe Chase Memorial Scholarship, \$2,500.00-One student received (\$2,500.00 TOTAL)
- CEMEX Scholarship, \$2000.00-One student received (\$2000.00 TOTAL)
- Lyons Garden Club Scholarship, \$3,000.00-One student received (\$3,000.00 TOTAL)

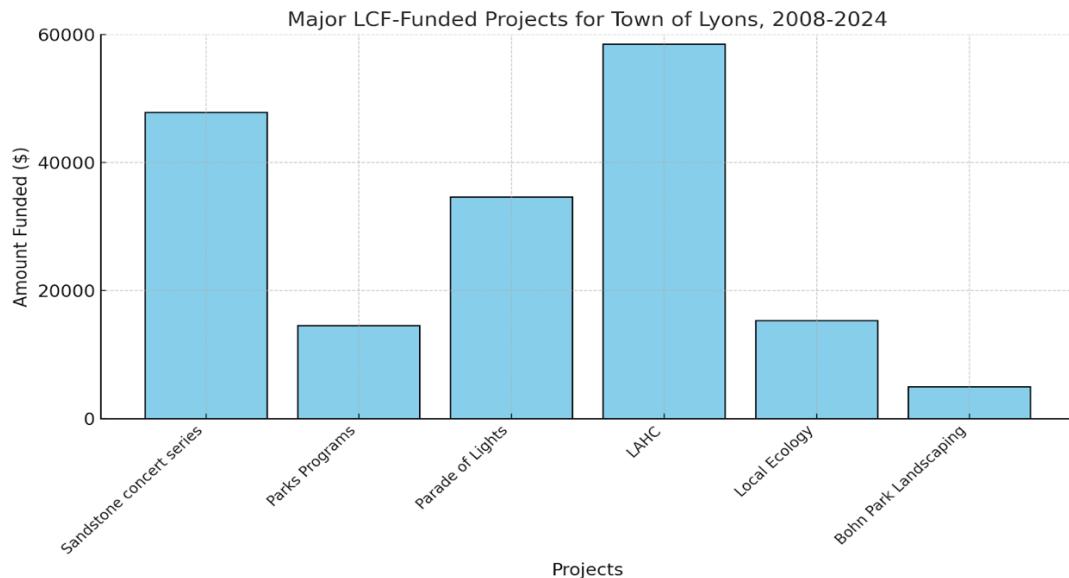
## LCF's Plans for 2025

In 2025, the Lyons Community Foundation (LCF) is taking a comprehensive approach to expanding its impact in the community with strategic goals, new initiatives, and strengthened community engagement. Key fundraising targets include \$175,000–\$180,000 in overall donations, with allocations of \$50,000–\$60,000 for scholarships and \$100,000–\$110,000 for grants. This ambitious plan is complemented by a new focus on mental health and wellness in Lyons.

A major addition to the LCF's efforts is the launch of the **Town of Lyons Mental Health and Wellness Field of Interest Fund**, established in partnership with Community Foundation Boulder County. This fund is designed to support programs addressing critical mental health challenges, including counseling, suicide prevention, and drug or alcohol prevention initiatives. Seeded with at least \$25,000, the fund will receive annual contributions derived from local marijuana tax revenue, ensuring sustainable support for mental health initiatives in the community. This fund reflects LCF's commitment to creating a healthier and more resilient Lyons.

Event planning for 2025 includes the Lucky Lyons Fun Run, Sandstone Concerts, and the Hootenanny, which remains a cornerstone of community engagement and fundraising. Additionally, new opportunities such as participation in the Tree Lighting ceremony and a Winter Wonderland Concert series are being explored. Enhancements to the annual appeal, including a matching campaign, digital silent auctions, and expanded social media outreach, will remain priorities to increase community involvement and donor contributions.

LCF is also revisiting processes to improve accessibility and effectiveness. Simplifications in grant applications and rubrics, better volunteer coordination, and strategic sponsorship outreach are planned to optimize event execution and broaden the foundation's reach. The introduction of the mental health fund marks a significant milestone in LCF's mission to address evolving community needs while maintaining its focus on fostering connectivity and positive change.



Sandstone concert series: \$47,837.00

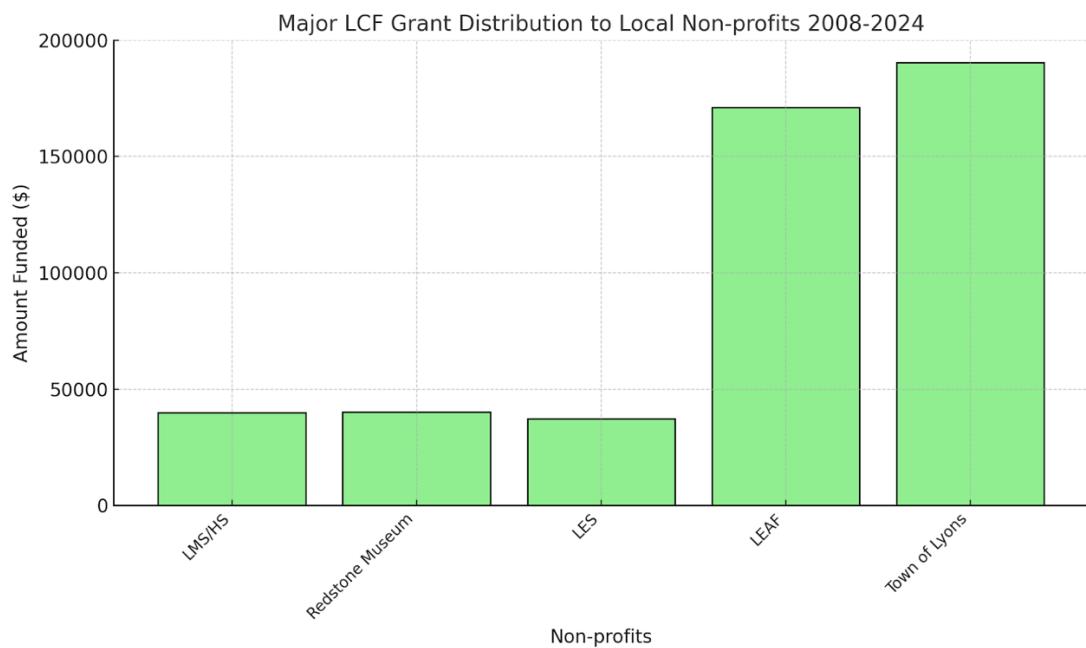
Parks Programs: \$14,550

Parade of Lights: \$34,602

LAHC: \$58,499

Local Ecology: \$15,350

Bohn Park Landscaping: \$5,000



LMS/HS: \$39,925

Redstone Museum: \$40,138

LES: \$37,162

LEAF: \$170,969

Town of Lyons: \$190,445

**BACK**

## **2025 Budget Details**

For the printed version, the pages that follow provide details of the 2025 budget approved by the Board of Trustees and the 2024 budget projections.

The link below shows the online version of the 2025 budget.

<https://www.townofflyons.com/DocumentCenter/View/2925/2025-Final-Budget>

The report provides prior year data, unaudited 2024 data, a 2024 year-end projection, and the 2025 budget projection.

**IMPORTANT:** The data presented is unaudited. The audited financials will be available in July of 2025

## **NOTES**

