



2023

COMMUNITY REPORT



City of Commerce City

Letter from the City Manager



Dear Commerce City Community Members,

With 2023 now behind us, it is with a profound sense of pride and optimism that I reflect on the strides we continue to make together. Like our community as a whole, the city as an organization experienced remarkable growth, change, and achievements last year while also facing challenges and obstacles along the way. Our staff continues to rise to the occasion every day as we strive to meet and exceed the expectations of our community and the City Council.

In this report, we are thrilled to share some of the organization's key accomplishments in 2023. We took guidance from City Council's goals to develop the city's first multiyear strategic plan, which will guide our efforts through 2028. We have welcomed a sizeable number of new employees to help our workforce achieve desired service levels, establishing new divisions like Community Well-Being Division and Energy, Equity, and the Environment to address community needs. Our dedication to economic development has been unwavering, supporting the creation and retention of more than 500 jobs and over \$110 million in new capital investments to invigorate our local economy. We introduced two new online systems; one to streamline permitting processes, cutting the review time for new commercial and residential development in half, and the other to help residents and businesses submit concerns or questions.

Our journey in developing the Parks, Recreation, and Golf (PRG) Master Plan, coupled with extensive parks repair and replacement projects exceeding \$300,000, is a testament to our dedication. With over 61,000 documented points of contact, utilizing 10 different outreach methods including emails, interviews, and in-person events, and convening across five Boards and Commissions meetings, your involvement has been the cornerstone of this endeavor.

Our Public Works team showed exemplary resilience and innovation, responding to two major flood events by not only restoring, but also improving our infrastructure to mitigate future risks. Similarly, the Police Department has been proactive in bolstering public safety services, adapting to the needs of our expanding community including the introduction of the flock camera safety system. This technology, covering a 3.5 square mile section of the city, alerts police within 60 seconds of any gunshots, pinpointing their location within 100 feet. Coupled with our approach to community policing, we enhance our ability to better protect residents.

Facing challenges with vigor and integrity is a cornerstone of my approach as your City Manager. I am committed to fostering an environment that encourages constructive dialogue, the expression of diverse ideas, and the delivery of exceptional services for our community. We are aiming to be a city that is efficient and effective, collaborative and innovative, and transparent and accountable.

I am honored to lead such a dedicated team and to serve the vibrant community of Commerce City. As we continue to look forward in 2024, I am filled with excitement for the possibilities that await us. As we continue working to ensure prosperity and well-being for all our residents, I thank you for your continued support and collaboration. Let us embrace the future with confidence and enthusiasm, for it is together that we will achieve greatness.

Warmest Regards,
Jason R. Rogers
City Manager

Commerce City At-A-Glance

71,710
Population*
*Staff estimate for Jan. 1, 2024

25 MILES
of trails &
840 ACRES
of open space



935
total employees

In 2023, the City of Commerce City welcomed **344 new employees:** 126 full-time staff and 218 variable-hour employees.

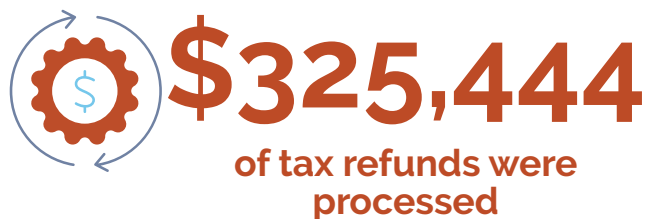
Community Well-Being



The city welcomed the new **Community Well-Being Division**, which provides services previously only offered at the **county level**. The team includes a manager and community navigators who focus on assisting seniors, families, and the local homeless population. This team coordinates information and referral services, outreach, and programming to reach individuals and families needing services and support.

Community Well-Being's 2023 efforts included large resource fairs with local churches, partnerships for free transportation with Via Mobility, giveaways for school supplies and meals, housing 23 residents, and assisting 36 residents with eviction prevention.

Finance



The city hired its first **Grants & Special Programs Manager**, facilitating grants for the city and its residents to bring high-quality programs and fantastic opportunities into our community.



Community Response Team



In May 2023, the city created a Community Response Team (CRT) to promote cross-departmental collaboration through the Police Department, Community Development, Public Works, and Parks, Recreation, and Golf to address public concerns, outreach, and provide educational resources in the community. Through the CRT, **322 violations and/or issues were identified and resolved**, creating a streamlined process to address issues in the city more quickly.

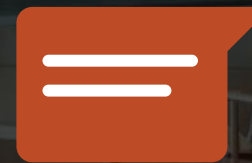
Courts

Municipal Court 2023 stats and achievements

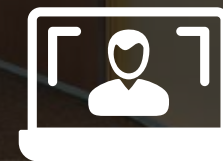
11,270 Court customers served

4,119 Counter

8,038 Phone



Implementation of text message notifications for case parties



Implementation of in-person and online court survey for case parties



Held second annual 'Fresh Start' warrant clearing event and Community Resource Fair

Economic Development

- Helped create and retain **509 total jobs** and **\$110.5 million in new capital investments.**
- **Hosted the Business Appreciation Awards Breakfast** after a three-year hiatus due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The event recognizes businesses, individuals, and organizations that contribute to Commerce City's economic vitality.
- **Supported new business investment** through expansion or attraction of organizations including **Intsel Steel, Boise Cascade, iGo Realty, and Doka USA.**
- **Welcomed Dollar Tree, Napa Auto Parts, Dutch Bros., Mariscos Sinaloa Restaurant, and La Michoacana** through retail attraction and assistance efforts.

- **Celebrated groundbreaking ceremonies for the first two hotels in the city,** including Woodspring Suites along Highway 2 and Holiday Inn Express & Suites along Tower Road.



Public Safety



Expanded the AED program to afford every patrol unit on the road at any time to be equipped with one of these life-saving devices.



Formally agreed with CALEA to begin the process of becoming a nationally accredited police department.

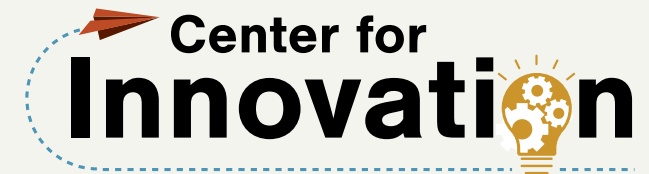
Formally **joined the Mountain West Cyber Fraud Task Force**, a partnership that will eventually bring computer forensic investigations in-house.



Expanded our drone capabilities by adding an additional drone to our fleet as well as a tether for continuous use and deployment.



Center for Innovation



A Better, **Brighter** Commerce City

- 1 Facilitated the development of Commerce City's first multiyear strategic plan, adopted by Council in November 2023
- 2 Led Lean 6 Sigma process improvement for the development review process, currently showing a **38% decrease in development review times**

Information Technology

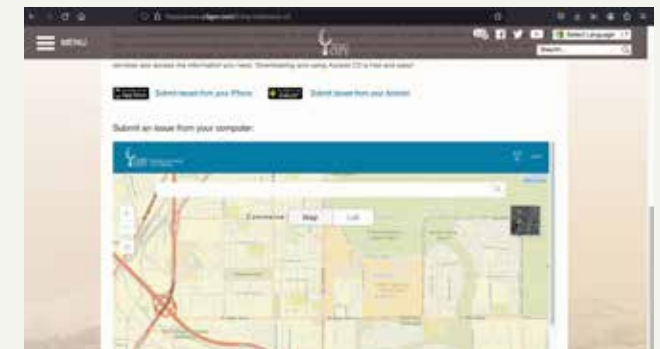
The city introduced two new online systems in May 2023 to streamline numerous processes through the city website.

c3gov.com/AccessC3

Reporting concerns for residents and businesses.

c3gov.com/eTRAKiT

Commerce City licensing, permitting, and development processes.




Public Works



- The School Traffic Calming project included the **installation of 62 speed tables, humps, and cushions** at over 20 schools to increase pedestrian safety.
- The 2023 asphalt pavement management program included **mill & overlay of 34 streets**, totaling approximately 17 lane miles.
- Installed **2.4 miles of new bicycle lanes** through the 2023 annual striping program.
- **Responded successfully to two major flood events** that closed E. 96th Avenue and Highway 2, resulting in increased capacity.



Building Safety

30 

Building Safety staff received over **30 building-related certifications.**

17,000 

Over **17,000 residential inspections** and over **7,000 non-residential inspections** performed.

The Building Code Effectiveness Grading Schedule rates public building code agencies from 1 to 10 based on their effectiveness in hazard mitigation, with 1 being the highest ranking and 10 the lowest. **We received an updated Verisk ISO Rating with a score of 3 for commercial and 4 for residential.**



The Building Safety Division has created its **first internal strategic plan to improve our division and to better serve our community.**



Energy, Equity, and the Environment



- 1** Passed the city's first Sustainability Action Plan, and created the Energy, Equity, and the Environment Division, and permanent Environmental Policy Advisory Committee
- 2** Developed renewable energy baseline database and published first community and municipal greenhouse gas inventory baseline databases
- 3** Recognized as Bronze Green Business Network Partner – State Program
- 4** National Renewable Energy Laboratory TA Community to Community Solar Procurement Award



Parks, Recreation and Golf

The Recreation Division continues to see strong registrations and participation in organized sports and activities.

RECREATION

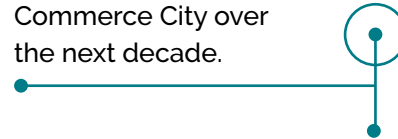


Recreation partnered with various departments and hosted the inaugural Commerce City Wild for Life Triathlon.

Introduced a new logo and brand identity reinforcing the division's fun, energetic, and inclusive environment. The open and flexible design allows people to see different aspects of the mark depending on where they focus their attention.



Began working on a new PRG Master Plan, a long-range roadmap identifying key initiatives to guide Commerce City over the next decade.



GOLF

39,898

players served at Buffalo Run Golf Course.

The irrigation system at Buffalo Run Golf Course was replaced through a planned Capital Investment Project after reaching its effective lifespan (typically 20-25 years). As the conditions improve year-over-year, daily golfers will enjoy a higher quality experience when they visit the course, and Buffalo Run will attract more prestigious local and regional golf tournaments.



PARKS



Parks completed nearly **\$300,000** in repair/replacement projects in 2023, including:

- Resurfacing/painting of basketball courts and futsal pitches
- Replacement of site furnishings (tables, benches, trashcans, etc.)
- Playground repairs and surfacing material replacement
- Tree and plant replacements
- Soft surface trail repair
- Park signage replacement

Planning



- Introduced a pilot program to reduce review times in conjunction with the Center for Innovation
- Refined process to support quicker pre-application meetings for applicants
- Began Land Development Code update process
- Completed 95 projects, including 31 residential and 23 commercial

Code Enforcement



681 resource bags handed out on Good Neighbor Day.



Launched new **Snow Guardians Program** to assist residents **60 and older** and/or unable to shovel snow due to a disability.

Community Relations



- Hosted the city's first Hispanic Heritage Month celebration in Downtown Derby and helped organize two Juneteenth celebration events in collaboration with partner organizations and local businesses.
- Re-launched the city's participation in the National Community Survey to collect valuable resident feedback about city services and organized numerous town hall meetings and community input opportunities.
- **Surpassed 10,000 followers on Facebook** and achieved a total social media reach of over 935,000 accounts across all platforms.

Connect with Commerce City



Police Department

Facebook: CommerceCityPD
X: CommerceCityPD
Instagram: CommerceCityPD
YouTube: TheCommerceCityPoliceDept

Parks, Recreation and Golf

Facebook: CommerceCityParksRecGolf
Instagram: CommerceCityParksRecGolf

Economic Development

Facebook: CommerceCityED
X: CommerceCityED
AccessC3: c3gov.com/AccessC3

City Social Media

Facebook: CommerceCity
Twitter: CommerceCityCO
Instagram: CommerceCityColorado
Nextdoor: City of Commerce City
LinkedIn: Commerce City
YouTube: CityOfCommerceCity

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