



## AGENDA

Federal, State & Intergovernmental Relations Policy Committee

January 15, 2021

2:00 pm

TELECONFERENCE

Council Member Angela Lawson, Chair  
Council Member Curtis Gardner, Vice Chair  
Council Member Nicole Johnston, Member

**WebEx Event**

**Public Participation Dialing Instructions**

**Dial Access Number: 1-408-418-9388**

**Enter Participant Code: 146 313 7774**

Council Goal: Serve as leaders and partner with other governments and jurisdictions

Pages

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|------|---|----|
| 1.   | <b>Call to Order</b>                                  |    |
| 2.   | <b>Approval of Minutes</b>                            | 1  |
| 3.   | <b>Consent Items</b>                                  |    |
| 4.   | <b>General Business</b>                               |    |
| 4.a. | <b>Update on Tax Credit Usage by Aurora Residents</b> | 9  |
|      | Luke Palmisano/Rachel Allen                           |    |
| 4.b. | <b>Federal Legislative Update</b>                     | 11 |
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| 4.d. | <b>Aurora Water Update</b>                            | 15 |
|      | Luke Palmisano/ Rachel Allen                          |    |

**4.e. 2020 Census Recap**

Karen Hancock, Principal Planner, Rachel Allen

**5. Adjournment**

**Federal, State and Intergovernmental Relations (FSIR) Meeting  
Video Conference Call Meeting**

December 18, 2020

Members Present: Council Member Angela Lawson, Chair; Council Member Allison Hiltz, Vice-Chair; Council Member Crystal Murillo, Member

Others Present: Luke Palmisano, Kathy Kitzmann, Peggi O’Keefe, Lauri Hettinger, Natasha Campbell, Roberto Venegas, Totsy Rees, Rachel Allen, Nancy Freed, Megan Platt

1. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** November 20, 2020 minutes were approved as written.
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2. **CONSENT ITEMS:** None.
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3. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:**

Summary of Issue and Discussion: Chair CM Angela Lawson welcomed the committee to the video conference call and introductions were made.

Outcome: Information only.

Follow-up Action: None.

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4. **STATE LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Summary of Issue and Discussion: Peggi O’Keefe, state lobbyist, gave an update on the state legislation. P. O’Keefe gave an overview of the legislative session of 2020. Last month there was a special session to vote on some COVID relief bills. The rumor is that the legislature will gavel in on January 13, 2021 to swear the new members in and tend to urgent business, then gavel back out and return on February 16, 2021. The session would then go through to the end of May. This of course could all change. There is discussion regarding police reform bills as well as transportation bills, going to the floor this session.

CM Lawson said there are at least 4 potential legislative bills that were discussed in the RTD committee regarding transportation issues. She would like the FSIR committee to track these and provide the committee with information and possibly add them to the city’s priorities. CM Murillo said she agreed with CM Lawson and had asked staff to track these bills as well. L. Palmisano said there is a preliminary report that the accountability committee is planning on releasing, in early January and part of this are a couple of specific statutory changes. One of them is has to do with the fair box recovery ratio. The idea is, if you remove the requirement for RTD to have a certain amount of their revenue come from the fare box, RTD could lower fares, or they could offer more discount fares, giving RTD flexibility to do that, which, the accountability committee hopes would drive more ridership. The other one referenced is, a provision of retail and commercial goods and services at stations right now that prohibits having any sort of commercial activity on RTD property within a certain distance. The idea is if you remove this provision there will be more commercial development close to transportation lines. The third provision is regarding parking

fees that RTD is able to charge. Lastly there is the provision to be able to partner with nonprofit organizations such as, DRCOG or shuttle companies. CM Murillo said that when they started the accountability committee, they committed to making all decisions through an equity and sustainability lens. There is a document that gives the framework to review all recommendations. The committee went through an equity assessment which is almost finalized. CM Lawson said since transit is important to Aurora any legislation that comes up, she wants to make sure the FSIR committee stays on top of that. L. Palmisano said January 4, 2021 is when the full accountability committee is meeting again. They plan to have the equity assessment and the preliminary report finalized at that meeting. CM Lawson asked if the FSIR committee members could get a copy of the report. L. Palmisano said he would send that out.

Outcome: Information only

Follow-up Action: Information only

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## 5. **FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE**

Summary of Issue and Discussion: Lauri Hettinger, federal lobbyist, gave an update on current federal legislation. Congress is working to get a COVID relief bill passed before they adjourn. A summary will be sent out to the committee as soon as something passes. It includes a \$600 stimulus check and unemployment will be extended for 10 weeks. There is more money for the PPP program. There is \$15 billion for transit, although that could change. It does look like the Denver area would get more money than last time, but that is not finalized. There is \$25 billion in rental assistance.

The appropriations bill extension expires today. They will most likely pass a Continuing Resolution until Sunday just to keep the government running. Once the final numbers are out on the appropriation bills a chart will be sent out to the council.

Even though there is no direct money in the new COVID relief bill for state and local government the incoming administration is wanting to provide money for state and local governments. The Colorado senators will be confirming some key cabinet and subcabinet members and that will give opportunity to have Aurora's priorities heard. Another legislative priority is RTD and congress really wants to get a transportation authorization bill passed. L. Hettinger said she would like to sit down with the public works department and figure out what the city's priorities are in this and then sit down with the Aurora delegation and advocate for the city's needs. Since a trip to DC may not happen this year, L. Hettinger said she would like to set up some virtual meetings with the delegates to discuss Aurora's priorities and projects.

L. Hettinger gave an overview of the work they have done over the past year.

Outcome: Information only.

Follow-up Action: Information only.

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## 6. **STATE SPECIAL SESSION LEGISLATION RECAP**

Summary of Issue and Discussion: CM Lawson said the committee is going to formally vote on the legislation from the Special Legislative Session as it was done by email. Staff is working on

some formal language to incorporate in the rules regarding emergency voting. L. Palmisano went over the following bills and the committee voted on them.

**Emergency Relief Programs for Child Care Sector: HB20B-1002**

The bill creates two emergency relief grant programs to allow the state to allocate and quickly distribute money to existing licensed and start-up childcare providers in Colorado. The purpose of the sustainability program is to provide financial support to licensed providers in Colorado, including those that are in danger of closing as a result of the COVID-19 public health emergency. City staff recommend an active support position. CM Lawson, CM Murillo and CM Hiltz voted unanimously to support this bill.

**Food Pantry Assistance Grant Program: HB20B-1003**

The bill expands and extends the provisions of the food pantry assistance grant program that is currently in law to February 28, 2021, and also allows food delivery organizations to apply for a grant. The bill states that it is the intent of the general assembly that food purchased through an award from the grant program be purchased and distributed on or before June 30, 2021. City staff recommend an active support position. CM Lawson, CM Murillo and CM Hiltz voted unanimously to support this bill.

**Qualified Retailer Retain Sales Tax for Assistance: HB20B-1004**

This bill concerns a temporary deduction from state net taxable sales for certain retailers in the state in order to allow such retailers to retain the resulting sales tax collected as assistance for lost revenue as a result of the economic disruptions due to the presence of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in Colorado. City staff recommend an active support position. CM Lawson, CM Murillo and CM Hiltz voted unanimously to support this bill.

**COVID-19 Relief Small and Minority Business Arts Organizations: SB20B-001**

The bill provides funding to support entities impacted by capacity restrictions imposed to address the COVID-19 pandemic including small businesses such as restaurants, bars, movie theaters, and fitness and recreational sports centers; and eligible arts, culture, and entertainment artists, crew members, and organizations. City staff recommend an active support position. CM Lawson, CM Murillo and CM Hiltz voted unanimously to support this bill.

**Housing & Direct COVID Emergency Assistance: SB20B-002**

This bill concerns temporary assistance for individuals who are facing a financial hardship due to the COVID-19 pandemic and creating the emergency direct assistance grant program. The bill requires the state treasurer to transfer \$44.5 million from the general fund to the housing development grant fund for the purpose of providing emergency housing assistance to individuals and households who have experienced financial need due to the COVID-19 pandemic or second-order effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. City staff recommend an active support position. CM Lawson, CM Murillo and CM Hiltz voted unanimously to support this bill.

**Money for Emergency Utility Bill Payment Assistance: SB20B-003**

The bill directs the state treasurer to transfer \$5 million from the general fund to the energy outreach Colorado low-income energy assistance fund. The Colorado energy office administers the fund for use by Energy Outreach Colorado, which organization provides direct utility bill payment

assistance to low-income households. City staff recommend an active support position. CM Lawson, CM Murillo and CM Hiltz voted unanimously to support this bill.

Outcome: The committee unanimously voted to support the above mentioned bills.

Follow-up Action: None.

## 7. CML POLICY COMMITTEE RECAP

Summary of Issue and Discussion: L. Palmisano gave an update on the Colorado Municipal League (CML) policy committee meeting. The Colorado Municipal League Policy Committee met on December 4, 2020. Council member Lawson sits on the committee as the representative from Aurora. Six proposals were debated during the session. Staff solicited feedback from internal departments and advised CM Lawson during the call. The following proposals were discussed during the meeting.

### **Request for CML Policy Position– City of Greenwood Village**

At the October 2020 Policy Committee there was a robust discussion around a member proposal from the City of Greenwood Village to propose several changes to SB 20-217, the Law Enforcement Integrity Act. The Committee decided that staff will work Greenwood Village and refine the recommended policy positions. That has occurred and the recommendations are below:

- Support legislation that caps the currently unlimited damage awards and attorneys' fees in SB 20-217
- Support legislation that narrows the scope the application of civil liability from all of Article II in the Constitution to actions involving use of force.
- Support legislation or a budget line item that provides funding to local governments to provide body cameras.
- Support legislation that narrows the definition of contacts for purposes of data collection
- Support legislation that creates due process for individual officers before they are decertified by the Colorado P.O.S.T. Board.

Some of these recommendations are based on CML's policy statement as well as existing efforts to "clean-up" SB 20-217. Colorado Counties Inc. have prioritized legislation that provides caps on damages and attorneys' fees in the civil liability section of SB 20-217. Additionally, there is currently a line item in the Governor's budget to provide funding to local governments for body cameras. There are already discussions happening regarding clarifying what "contact" means for purposes of data collection and CML has contacted the Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) to get more information regarding decertification. Staff supports this policy.

CM Lawson said she was part of this conversation and supported the last three parts of the bill but was in opposition to the first two parts. There should not be a blanket cap on the unlimited damage awards and attorney's fees. There could be many different circumstances and a blanket cap is not the best answer. The second item she opposed was the support of legislation that narrows the scope of the application of civil liability from article two of the constitution; to only actions involving use of force. She suggested there is a need for more information regarding use of force and could not support the entire proposal because of those two points. CM Lawson stated that she was in opposition to the proposal until further information is provided. L. Palmisano said this is a topic

that will be discussed at length in the upcoming session.

### **Police Reform**

The City of Greenwood Village formally submitted a request for a position by the CML Policy Committee. Their request included support for legislation that would include caps on damage awards and attorneys' fees; narrows the scope the application of civil liability from all of Article II in the Constitution to actions involving use of force; provides funding to local governments to provide body cameras; narrows the definition of contacts for purposes of data collection; and creates due process for individual officers before they are decertified by the Colorado P.O.S.T. Board.

The details in the proposal related to damage awards and attorney fees, and the narrowing of the scope around civil liability were not spelled out. CML recommended a support position. Staff recommended an abstain position. The measure passed with CML's recommended position.

### **Marijuana: Codifying Marijuana Online Ordering**

CML is actively providing input on a bill to codify recent marijuana-related Executive Orders. On March 20, 2020, Governor Polis signed Executive Order D-2020 11 which suspended the requirement for medical marijuana patients to have an in person physical examination to be eligible for a medical marijuana card, as well as allowed retail marijuana stores to facilitate online ordering of marijuana and marijuana products in order to facilitate more socially distanced purchases at stores.

This proposed bill codifies the Executive Order and allows patients to continue utilizing telehealth services to obtain a medical marijuana card and permits online ordering of marijuana.

These changes do not preempt local authority and rules enacted by local governments would still need to be followed. CML recommended a staff discretion to oppose unless amended position. Staff supports CML's recommendation. The measure passed with CML's recommended position.

### **Public Safety: Package of Wildfire Response Proposals**

CML proposed a series of wildfire mitigation proposals.

**Regional and Statewide Coordination of Wildfire Response Assistance:** The Colorado Fire Commission is recommending the establishment of a coordinated regional mutual aid system to create a more effective and efficient statewide coordinated initial attack response to developing incidents exceeding local agency capability

**Large Wildfire Funding Mechanisms:** In order to advance a more efficient and effective response to wildfires, the Colorado Fire Commission is recommending converting the Emergency Fire Fund (EFF) from a large fire fund into a fund to support a new Enhanced State Assistance (ESA) program.

**Local Government Authority to Establish Fire Mitigation and Forest Improvement**

**Intergovernmental Agreements:** Proposed legislation by the Southwest Wildfire Improvement Fund would clarify that local intergovernmental authorities can provide the same functions and services that each participating political subdivision can provide on its own and can establish special improvement districts to finance forest health projects. CML recommended support

positions. Staff supports CML's positions. The measure passed with CML's recommended position.

### **Sustainability: Benchmarking Building Energy Performance**

The Colorado Energy Office will be introducing legislation next session to create a statewide energy performance benchmarking program to improve efficiency of large commercial properties. The legislation would require owners of properties over 50,000 square feet to collect and report on energy-use benchmarking data and comply with performance standards related to energy and greenhouse gas emissions. CML recommended an oppose unless amended position. Staff supports CML's position. The measure passed with CML's recommended position.

L. Palmisano gave an overview of some information only items that were discussed at the CML policy committee meeting.

### **Elections: Rank-Choice Voting**

Rank-choice voting is a system of voting which allows people to vote for multiple candidates, in order of preference. Both home rule and statutory municipalities currently can implement rank-choice voting at the municipal level. Representative Kennedy, in conjunction with rank choice voting advocacy organizations, is holding stakeholder meetings around the possibility of running legislation in the 2021 session which would support the ability of counties to implement rank choice voting methods. The focus at this point would be on county/ coordinated elections, and the legislation may include a directive to the office of the Secretary of State to use election division funds to support county administrative needs. At this point, mandates requiring the use of rank-choice voting methods on either the county level or the municipal level are not being considered.

### **Affordable Housing: Inclusionary Zoning to Include Rental Housing Development**

Per the Direction of the CML Policy Committee and the CML Executive Board, CML staff has moved forward with CML-initiated legislation to change statute and allow local governments to require affordable housing set-asides in new developments. Staff expects the legislation to be introduced early in the legislative session and is working with other housing advocates to ensure the passage of the legislation.

**Open Records:** Extend the time to comply with CORA requests when the request is made for "commercial purposes".

The Special District Association is considering a bill which would extend the time that public entities must reply to CORA requests made for a "commercial purpose" to 21 days. The definition of "commercial purpose" is the use of any part of a public record, or information derived from public records, for sale, resale, or solicitation or advertisement for sales or services. The bill would specifically exempt requests made by news media, and non-profit, scientific, or academic organizations. The bill would also allow a public entities' custodian to charge a fee above the thirty dollars currently listed in statute for research and retrieval in response to a request for public records for commercial purposes. SDA may also consider including language which would allow additional time for responses to "frequent requesters", but that has yet to be determined.

**Open Records:** CORA Research and Retrieval Fees

The Freedom of Information Coalition (FOIC) published an article in late October calling on the Colorado General Assembly to amend the Colorado Open Records Act in the 2021 session to reexamine research and retrieval fees. Specifically, FOIC is advocating for a policy



which does not permit government entities to charge research-and-retrieval fees, like policies adopted in Ohio and West Virginia. In addition, they are advocating for legislation requiring government entities to provide itemized receipts to justify research and retrieval charges, and policies which differentiate how research and retrieval fees are treated based on the requester's use of the records. Conversations with the Freedom of Information Coalition since that time have revealed that they have not yet received any indication from any legislators that they are interested in carrying a bill of this kind, but FOIC has committed to continuing advocacy around the issue.

**Open Meetings/ Open Records:** Executive Sessions for Telecommunications

The City of Fort Collins is exploring the possibility of running legislation which would add the discussion of matters pertaining to issues of competition in providing telecommunication facilities and services, which includes records regarding matters subject to negotiation, strategic planning, pricing, sales and marketing, and development phasing, to the list of authorized topics for discussion in executive session under the Colorado Open Meetings Law (C.R.S 24-6-402(4)) . In addition, the legislation would add corresponding language into the Colorado Open Records Act (CRS 24-72-204 (2)(a)) which allows a custodian to deny the right of inspection for records pertaining to issues of competition in providing telecommunication facilities and services discussed during executive sessions.

Outcome: Information only.

Follow-up Action: Information only.

**WATER**

**Summary of Issue and Discussion:** K. Kitzmann gave a recap of Aurora Water's 2020 FSIR items.

FSIR assisted and supported several State and Federal water related positions and policy activities, highlights included the following:

- Aurora Water's opposition of CDPHE's premature effort to authorize a Waters of the United States gap waters Dredge & Fill Permit Program. That proactive approach help prevent introduction of the draft authorizing legislation and instead encouraged development of a stakeholder group. CDPHE did create a post-session stakeholder group.
- Aurora Water's opposition to SB20-153 Water Resources Financing Enterprise bill that was postponed indefinitely early in the session.
- Aurora Water's support of SB20-201 Species Conservation Trust Fund that the Governor signed which supports our Endangered Species Act (ESA) compliance and healthy ecosystems.
- Review and alignment of Aurora Water's water shutoff moratorium position letter to the Governor for consideration within State COVID policy and response development.
- Aurora Water's opposition to the Colorado Outdoor Recreation and Economy Act as currently written. Aurora Water continues to work with sponsors and proponents on revising language that will be protective of water supply development and use.
- Aurora Water's support of Federal funding for low-income assistance water bill programs that would include the Aurora Water Cares program. We continue to seek both Federal and State authorization and funding sources that could either be temporary or permanent pathways to potential funding sources, and we are working with Energy Outreach Colorado and other stakeholders in those efforts.





# CITY OF AURORA

## Council Agenda Commentary

<b>Item Title:</b> Update on Tax Credit Usage by Aurora Residents
<b>Item Initiator:</b> Mayor Coffman/Kim Stuart
<b>Staff Source/Legal Source:</b> Luke Palmisano/Rachel Allen
<b>Outside Speaker:</b> n/a
<b>Council Goal:</b> 2012: 2.0--Serve as leaders and partners with other governments and jurisdictions

### COUNCIL MEETING DATES:

**Study Session:** n/a

**Regular Meeting:** n/a

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### ACTIONS(S) PROPOSED *(Check all appropriate actions)*

- Approve Item as proposed at Study Session
  - Information Only
  - Approve Item and Move Forward to Regular Meeting
  - Approve Item as proposed at Regular Meeting
  - Approve Item with Waiver of Reconsideration
- Why is a waiver needed?[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

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### PREVIOUS ACTIONS OR REVIEWS:

**Policy Committee Name:** Federal, State & Intergovernmental Relations

**Policy Committee Date:** 1/15/2021

### Action Taken/Follow-up: *(Check all that apply)*

- Recommends Approval
- Does Not Recommend Approval
- Forwarded Without Recommendation
- Recommendation Report Attached
- Minutes Attached
- Minutes Not Available

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**HISTORY** (Dates reviewed by City council, Policy Committees, Boards and Commissions, or Staff. Summarize pertinent comments. ATTACH MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS, POLICY COMMITTEES AND BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.)

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**ITEM SUMMARY** (Brief description of item, discussion, key points, recommendations, etc.)

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**QUESTIONS FOR COUNCIL**

n/a

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**LEGAL COMMENTS**

The Federal, State and Intergovernmental Relations Committee shall recommend objectives and initiatives in the Federal matters. Council Rules, Appendix A. (Allen)

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**PUBLIC FINANCIAL IMPACT**

YES       NO

**If yes, explain:**

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**PRIVATE FISCAL IMPACT**

Not Applicable       Significant       Nominal

**If Significant or Nominal, explain:**

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# CITY OF AURORA

## Council Agenda Commentary

<b>Item Title:</b> Federal Legislative Update
<b>Item Initiator:</b> Luke Palmisano
<b>Staff Source/Legal Source:</b> Luke Palmisano/Rachel Allen
<b>Outside Speaker:</b> n/a
<b>Council Goal:</b> 2012: 2.0--Serve as leaders and partners with other governments and jurisdictions

### COUNCIL MEETING DATES:

**Study Session:** n/a

**Regular Meeting:** n/a

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### PREVIOUS ACTIONS OR REVIEWS:

**Policy Committee Name:** Federal, State & Intergovernmental Relations  
**Policy Committee Date:** 1/15/2021

### Action Taken/Follow-up: *(Check all that apply)*

- Recommends Approval
  - Does Not Recommend Approval
  - Forwarded Without Recommendation
  - Recommendation Report Attached
  - Minutes Attached
  - Minutes Not Available
-

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**HISTORY** (Dates reviewed by City council, Policy Committees, Boards and Commissions, or Staff. Summarize pertinent comments. ATTACH MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS, POLICY COMMITTEES AND BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.)

n/a

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**ITEM SUMMARY** (Brief description of item, discussion, key points, recommendations, etc.)

n/a

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**QUESTIONS FOR COUNCIL**

n/a

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**LEGAL COMMENTS**

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**PUBLIC FINANCIAL IMPACT**

YES       NO

**If yes, explain:**

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**PRIVATE FISCAL IMPACT**

Not Applicable       Significant       Nominal

**If Significant or Nominal, explain:**



# CITY OF AURORA

## Council Agenda Commentary

<b>Item Title:</b> State Legislative Update
<b>Item Initiator:</b> Luke Palmisano
<b>Staff Source/Legal Source:</b> Luke Palmisano/Rachel Allen
<b>Outside Speaker:</b> n/a
<b>Council Goal:</b> 2012: 2.0--Serve as leaders and partners with other governments and jurisdictions

### COUNCIL MEETING DATES:

**Study Session:** n/a

**Regular Meeting:** n/a

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### ACTIONS(S) PROPOSED *(Check all appropriate actions)*

- Approve Item as proposed at Study Session
- Information Only
- Approve Item and Move Forward to Regular Meeting
- Approve Item as proposed at Regular Meeting
- Approve Item with Waiver of Reconsideration  
Why is a waiver needed?[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

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### PREVIOUS ACTIONS OR REVIEWS:

**Policy Committee Name:** Federal. State & Intergovernmental Relations

**Policy Committee Date:** 1/15/2021

### Action Taken/Follow-up: *(Check all that apply)*

- Recommends Approval
  - Does Not Recommend Approval
  - Forwarded Without Recommendation
  - Recommendation Report Attached
  - Minutes Attached
  - Minutes Not Available
-

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**HISTORY** (Dates reviewed by City council, Policy Committees, Boards and Commissions, or Staff. Summarize pertinent comments. ATTACH MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS, POLICY COMMITTEES AND BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.)

n/a

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**ITEM SUMMARY** (Brief description of item, discussion, key points, recommendations, etc.)

n/a

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**QUESTIONS FOR COUNCIL**

n/a

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**LEGAL COMMENTS**

Type Legal Comments Here

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**PUBLIC FINANCIAL IMPACT**

YES       NO

If yes, explain:

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**PRIVATE FISCAL IMPACT**

Not Applicable       Significant       Nominal

If Significant or Nominal, explain:





# CITY OF AURORA

## Council Agenda Commentary

<b>Item Title:</b> Aurora Water Update
<b>Item Initiator:</b> Kathy Kitzmann
<b>Staff Source/Legal Source:</b> Luke Palmisano/ Rachel Allen
<b>Outside Speaker:</b> n/a
<b>Council Goal:</b> 2012: 2.0--Serve as leaders and partners with other governments and jurisdictions

### COUNCIL MEETING DATES:

**Study Session:** n/a

**Regular Meeting:** n/a

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### ACTIONS(S) PROPOSED *(Check all appropriate actions)*

- Approve Item as proposed at Study Session
- Information Only
- Approve Item and Move Forward to Regular Meeting
- Approve Item as proposed at Regular Meeting
- Approve Item with Waiver of Reconsideration  
Why is a waiver needed?[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

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### PREVIOUS ACTIONS OR REVIEWS:

**Policy Committee Name:** Federal, State & Intergovernmental Affairs

**Policy Committee Date:** 1/15/2021

### Action Taken/Follow-up: *(Check all that apply)*

- Recommends Approval
  - Does Not Recommend Approval
  - Forwarded Without Recommendation
  - Recommendation Report Attached
  - Minutes Attached
  - Minutes Not Available
-

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**HISTORY** (Dates reviewed by City council, Policy Committees, Boards and Commissions, or Staff. Summarize pertinent comments. ATTACH MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS, POLICY COMMITTEES AND BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.)

n/a

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**ITEM SUMMARY** (Brief description of item, discussion, key points, recommendations, etc.)

n/a

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**QUESTIONS FOR COUNCIL**

n/a

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**LEGAL COMMENTS**

Type Legal Comments Here

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**PUBLIC FINANCIAL IMPACT**

YES       NO

If yes, explain

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**PRIVATE FISCAL IMPACT**

Not Applicable       Significant       Nominal

If Significant or Nominal, explain:



# CITY OF AURORA

## Council Agenda Commentary

<b>Item Title:</b> 2020 Census Recap
<b>Item Initiator:</b> Karen Hancock, Principal Planner
<b>Staff Source/Legal Source:</b> Karen Hancock, Principal Planner, Rachel Allen
<b>Outside Speaker:</b> Nadeen Ibrahim, Census Bureau Partnership Specialist
<b>Council Goal:</b> 2012: 2.3--Actively participate in regional organizations on intergovernmental issues

### COUNCIL MEETING DATES:

**Study Session:** N/A

**Regular Meeting:** N/A

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### ACTIONS(S) PROPOSED *(Check all appropriate actions)*

- Approve Item as proposed at Study Session
  - Information Only
  - Approve Item and Move Forward to Regular Meeting
  - Approve Item as proposed at Regular Meeting
  - Approve Item with Waiver of Reconsideration
- Why is a waiver needed?[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

---

### PREVIOUS ACTIONS OR REVIEWS:

**Policy Committee Name:** N/A

**Policy Committee Date:** N/

### Action Taken/Follow-up: *(Check all that apply)*

- Recommends Approval
- Does Not Recommend Approval
- Forwarded Without Recommendation
- Recommendation Report Attached
- Minutes Attached
- Minutes Not Available

---

**HISTORY** (Dates reviewed by City council, Policy Committees, Boards and Commissions, or Staff. Summarize pertinent comments. ATTACH MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS, POLICY COMMITTEES AND BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.)

The United States Constitution mandates a population count every 10 years. City Council passed a resolutions in 2019 supporting a complete count in Aurora. Additional history is provided in the Item Summary below.

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**ITEM SUMMARY** (Brief description of item, discussion, key points, recommendations, etc.)

**Aurora Census response by the numbers**

Jurisdiction	Percent Counted 2020	Percent Counted 2010
National	67%	66.5%
Colorado	70%	67.2%
Aurora	72.2%	68%
Arapahoe County	76.3%	71.2%
Adams County	72%	69.3

[Link to 2020 Census response map](#)

**City of Aurora Response**

**Budget.** In the fall of 2018, City Council approved \$263,500 in the 2019 budget to fund two contingent positions and to purchase promotional Aurora-branded items. Planning and Development Services allocated \$15,000 in department funds to purchase additional promotional items. Communications Department staff applied for a Department of Labor Agency (DOLA) grant that added another \$53,600 to the city’s 2020 Census funding. These grant funds were used to purchase Chromebooks that were deployed for mobile questionnaire support. All promotional items were deployed to the community to support a complete count; none remain in inventory.

To address both state and local health guidelines and the increased and continuing needs of non-profits and schools to provide resources to their constituencies, the Chromebooks were donated to the hosting organizations for use beyond the Census. Five Chromebooks remain in the city’s inventory to support future Aurora community outreach.

**Staffing.** Early in 2019, the economy was robust, and staff had difficulty finding and retaining qualified contingent staff for the lead-role positions. In January 2020, staff hired a consulting company, CREA Results, to act in the role of Census liaison. The Communications Department was able to assign a full-time bilingual employee to lead the 2020 Census marketing duties. Federal Census Bureau staff assigned to Aurora, Adams and Arapahoe Counties and other jurisdictions in the metro area collaborated with CREA Results staff to cover a wide range of community outreach activities. Census liaisons from Adams and Arapahoe counties provided additional resources to Aurora including event support, promotional items, guidance and expertise.

**Complete Count.** In July 2019, City Council approved a resolution to support a complete count including engaging in strategic partnership with community members, regional organizations, non-profits and local jurisdictions. The city convened an Aurora Complete Count Committee in July 2019 with additional in-person meetings periodically through February 2020.

In March 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic and stay-at-home orders resulted in staff reevaluating in-person events and retooling for remote 2020 Census support. Exhibit A provides a listing of all Aurora and Aurora partners' events and activities both before and after March 16, 2020.

**Next Steps.** To prepare redistricting maps before the 2020 Census, the Colorado Reapportionment Commission was tasked with drawing new legislative districts. That commission had 11 members who were appointed by legislative leaders, the governor, and the chief justice of the Colorado Supreme Court. Up to six of the 11 members could be affiliated with the same political party. The legislature itself would draw congressional districts. In 2018, a successful Colorado ballot initiative resulted in new state mandates to reduce partisan gerrymandering, Amendments Y and Z, and create two redistricting commissions. Two new separate 12-member commissions will be tasked with approving legislative and congressional maps. The membership will be divided evenly between Republicans, Democrats and unaffiliated registered voters. Voting to approve the maps must include from two unaffiliated commissioners are needed.

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## **QUESTIONS FOR COUNCIL**

This item is for information only.

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**LEGAL COMMENTS**

The Federal, State and Intergovernmental Relations Committee shall recommend objectives and initiatives in the Federal matters. Council Rules, Appendix A. (Allen)

---

**PUBLIC FINANCIAL IMPACT**

YES       NO

**If yes, explain:** Federal and state funding allocations are based on Census population counts, including transportation, schools and Community Development Block Grants.

---

**PRIVATE FISCAL IMPACT**

Not Applicable       Significant       Nominal

**If Significant or Nominal, explain:** Aurora residents and businesses benefit from federal and state funding that supports infrastructure, schools and housing and food assistance.

**Federal, State and Intergovernmental Relations Policy Committee  
Aurora’s 2020 Census Summary Report  
January 15, 2021**

**Aurora Census response by the numbers**

Jurisdiction	Percent Counted 2020	Percent Counted 2010
National	67%	66.5%
Colorado	70%	67.2%
Aurora	72.2%	68%
Arapahoe County	76.3%	71.2%
Adams County	72%	69.3

[Link to 2020 Census response map](#)

**City of Aurora Response**

**Budget.** In the fall of 2018, City Council approved \$263,500 in the 2019 budget to fund two contingent positions and to purchase promotional Aurora-branded items. Planning and Development Services allocated \$15,000 in department funds to purchase additional promotional items. Communications Department staff applied for a Department of Labor Agency (DOLA) grant that added another \$53,600 to the city’s 2020 Census funding. These grant funds were used to purchase Chromebooks that were deployed for mobile questionnaire support. All promotional items were deployed to the community to support a complete count; none remain in inventory.

To address both state and local health guidelines and the increased and continuing needs of non-profits and schools to provide resources to their constituencies, the Chromebooks were donated to the hosting organizations for use beyond the Census. Five Chromebooks remain in the city’s inventory to support future Aurora community outreach.

**Staffing.** Early in 2019, the economy was robust, and staff had difficulty finding and retaining qualified contingent staff for the lead-role positions. In January 2020, staff hired a consulting company, CREA Results, to act in the role of Census liaison. The Communications Department was able to assign a full-time bilingual employee to lead the 2020 Census marketing duties. Federal Census Bureau staff assigned to Aurora, Adams and Arapahoe Counties and other jurisdictions in the metro area collaborated with CREA Results staff to cover a wide range of community outreach activities. Census liaisons from Adams

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# CITY OF AURORA

## Council Agenda Commentary

<b>Item Title:</b> 2020 Census Recap
<b>Item Initiator:</b> Karen Hancock, Principal Planner
<b>Staff Source/Legal Source:</b> Karen Hancock, Principal Planner, Rachel Allen
<b>Outside Speaker:</b> Nadeen Ibrahim, Census Bureau Partnership Specialist
<b>Council Goal:</b> 2012: 2.3--Actively participate in regional organizations on intergovernmental issues

### COUNCIL MEETING DATES:

**Study Session:** N/A

**Regular Meeting:** N/A

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### ACTIONS(S) PROPOSED *(Check all appropriate actions)*

- Approve Item as proposed at Study Session
  - Approve Item and Move Forward to Regular Meeting
  - Approve Item as proposed at Regular Meeting
  - Approve Item with Waiver of Reconsideration
- Information Only

Why is a waiver needed?[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

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### PREVIOUS ACTIONS OR REVIEWS:

**Policy Committee Name:** N/A

**Policy Committee Date:** N/

### Action Taken/Follow-up: *(Check all that apply)*

- Recommends Approval
- Forwarded Without Recommendation
- Minutes Attached
- Does Not Recommend Approval
- Recommendation Report Attached
- Minutes Not Available

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**HISTORY** (Dates reviewed by City council, Policy Committees, Boards and Commissions, or Staff. Summarize pertinent comments. ATTACH MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS, POLICY COMMITTEES AND BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.)

The United States Constitution mandates a population count every 10 years. City Council passed a resolutions in 2019 supporting a complete count in Aurora. Additional history is provided in the Item Summary below.

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**ITEM SUMMARY** (Brief description of item, discussion, key points, recommendations, etc.)

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**LEGAL COMMENTS**

Type Legal Comments Here

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**PUBLIC FINANCIAL IMPACT**

YES       NO

**If yes, explain:** Federal and state funding allocations are based on Census population counts, including transportation, schools and Community Development Block Grants.

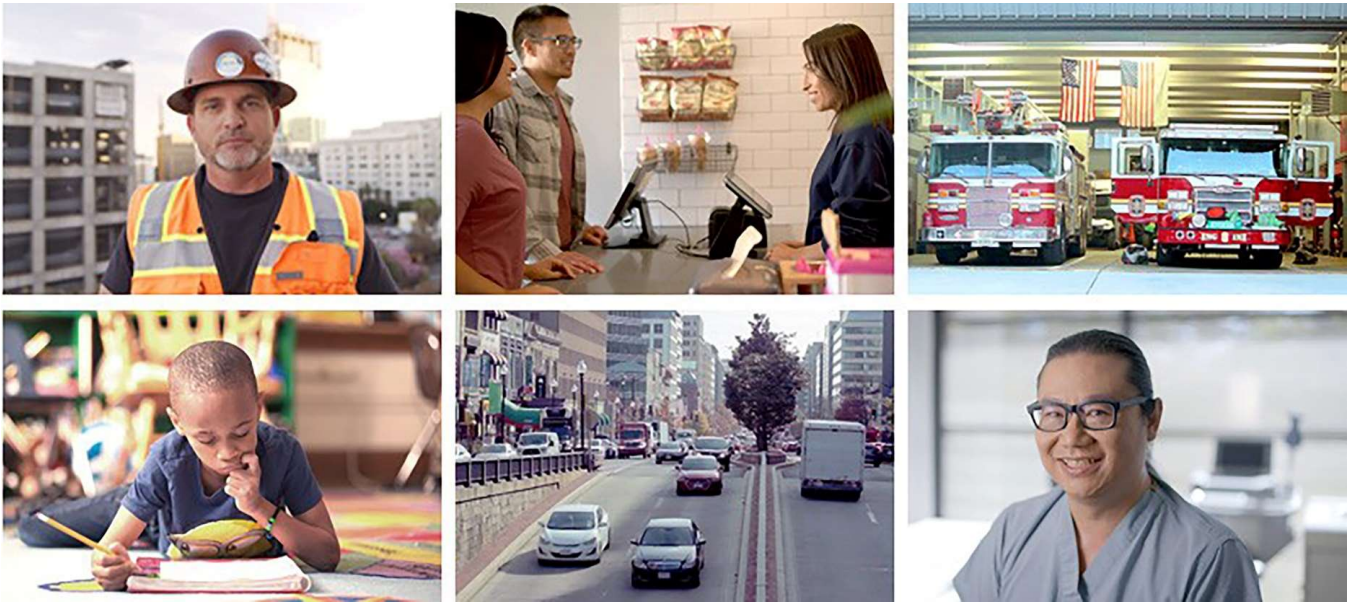
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**PRIVATE FISCAL IMPACT**

Not Applicable       Significant       Nominal

**If Significant or Nominal, explain:** Aurora residents and businesses benefit from federal and state funding that supports infrastructure, schools and housing and food assistance.

# Thank You



Presented By Nadeen Ibrahim, US Census Bureau Partnership Specialist  
City of Aurora  
January 15, 2021 @ 2 PM  
Zoom Meeting



# Agenda

- Introductions
- 2020 Census National Recap
- 2020 Census Regional Recap
- What's Next in 2021
- U.S. Census Bureau Data Services



# 2020 Census: Measuring Response Rates

## Response Rates

- National Self-Response Rate: 67%
- Projected Self-Response Rate: 65.6%
- Response Rate in 2010: 66.5%

## First Nationwide Census Available Online

- No down time
- No data breaches
- Average Response Time: 9 minutes

## How did people respond?

- Internet (easiest and preferred): 79.86%
- Mail: 18.3%
- Phone: 1.85%



<https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/newsroom/press-kits/2020/20201021-transcript-2020-census-op-brief.pdf>



# Nonresponse Followup (NRFU)

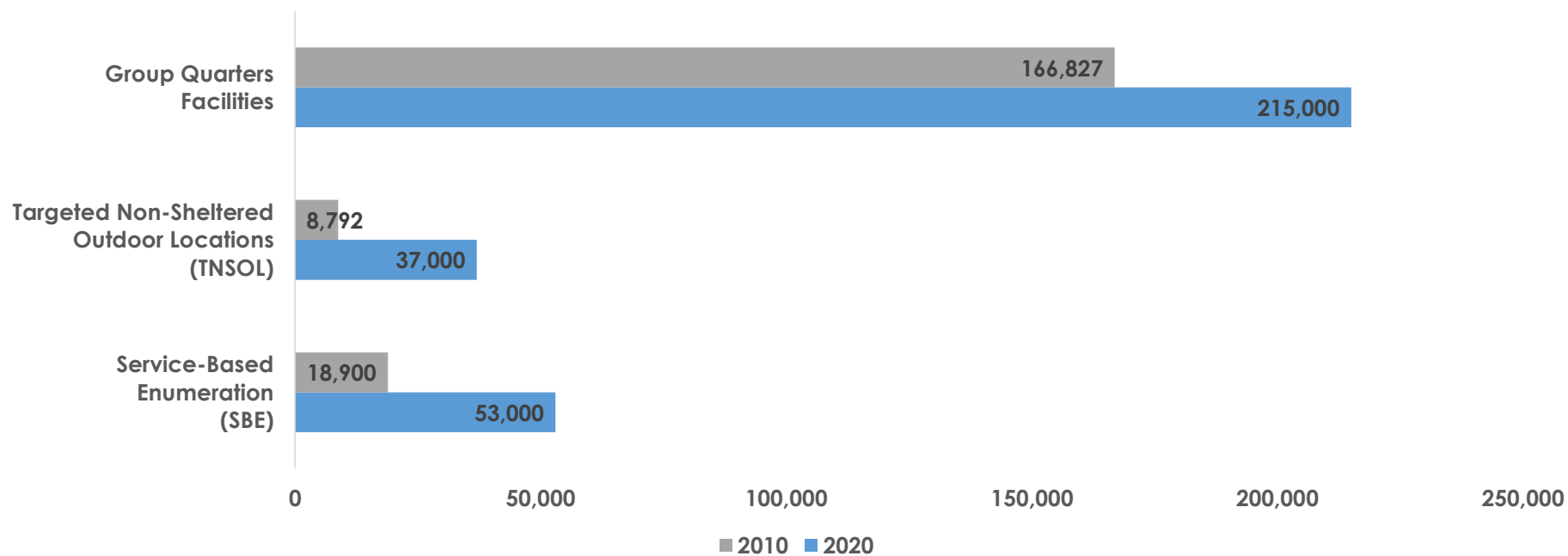


**NRFU Workload:** 33% of U.S. Households

- **2020:** 64 million addresses counted in a 68-day period
- **2010:** 47.2 million addresses counted in a 69-day period
- As of October 16, 24.1% Proxy (23.8% in 2010)
- Use of Administrative Records: 13.9% (22.5% projected)

# 2020 Census National Recap

## Special Operations



<https://www.census.gov/content/dam/Census/newsroom/press-kits/2020/20201021-transcript-2020-census-op-brief.pdf>

# 2020 Census Recap

## Denver Region/Dallas RCC

### **Partnership Specialists:** 313

Includes Tribal and Media (pivoted from in-person to virtual)

### **Enumerators:** 48,439

Technology enabled higher productivity

### **Area Census Offices (ACOs):** 50

- Adapted to wildfires, social unrest, hurricanes, and a pandemic
- PPE ordered and distributed

### **Partners:** 67,619

### **Complete Count Committees (CCCs):** 1,261

Includes 11 State CCCs

# State Self-Response Rates

State	Response Rate	U.S. Ranking
Nebraska	71.9%	4
Utah	71.0%	10
Colorado	70.0%	14
Kansas	69.8%	15
South Dakota	67.5%	23
North Dakota	65.2%	29
Arizona	64.1%	32
Texas	62.8%	39
Wyoming	61.1%	40
Oklahoma	61.0%	41
Montana	60.4%	45
New Mexico	58.7%	48
<b>National</b>	<b>67%</b>	

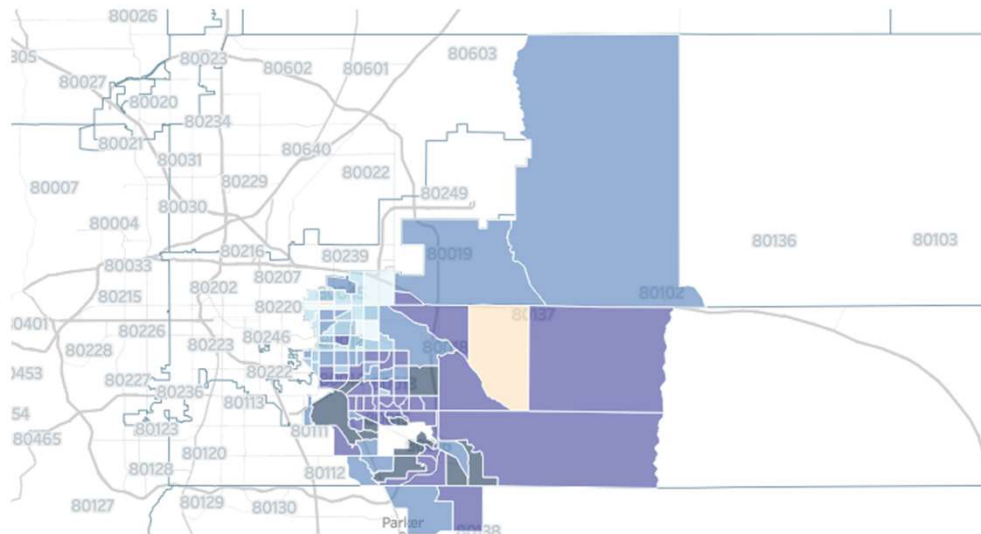


# Self-Response by Census Tract

This map features self-response rates from households that responded to the 2020 Census online, by mail, or by phone. Rates can be viewed in [rankings here](#).

Aurora, Colorado  
Self-Response  
**72.2%**

Tract 78.01  
Self-Response  
**56.8%**



Email us at [responseratemap@census.gov](mailto:responseratemap@census.gov)  
Responses received as of 10/27/2020.  
[Click here for technical details](#)

- Select Mode**  
Total
- Select State**  
Colorado
- Select City**  
Aurora
- Geographies**  
Return to State  
County  
City  
**Census Tract**  
Congressional District  
Town and..  
Tribal Area



**Operational Updates**



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**Census 2020**



# What's Next in 2021

## **State Populations Counts**

Projected release: December 31, 2020 (as close to the statutory dates as possible)

## **Redistricting Counts**

Available 2021 (TBD)

## **Post Enumeration Survey (PES)**

- Measures the quality of the 2020 Census and produces the undercount and overcount
- End of data collection October 2021
- Projected release (TBD)

## **Ongoing Monthly Surveys**

- American Community Survey (ACS) release: December 10, 2020
- Field Representative/Interviewer positions regionwide

# What's Next in 2021

## Household Surveys



### Top Five Household Surveys

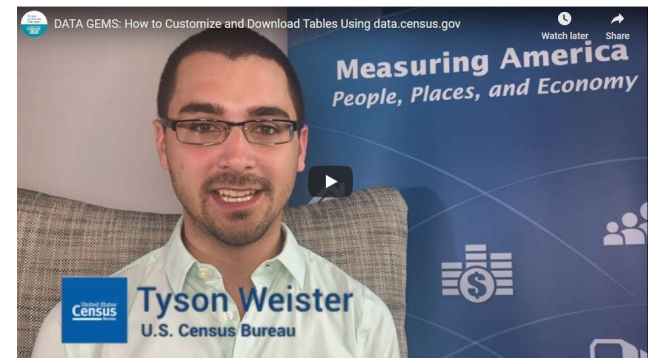
- Household Pulse Survey
- American Community Survey (ACS)
- Current Population Survey (CPS)
- National Crime Victimization Survey (NCVS)
- National Health Interview Survey (NHIS)

# Data Services

## Data Dissemination Program

The Census Bureau's Data Dissemination Specialists are a core team of data experts and trainers who work directly with our customers, training them on how to access their data and learning more about their needs.

To request training, please email:  
[census.askdata@census.gov](mailto:census.askdata@census.gov)



[data.census.gov](https://data.census.gov)



Data Tools



# Thank You for Supporting the 2020 Census

Your participation during the 2020 Census was monumental. It was trusted voices like yours that helped shape the future of our community for the next 10 years. Without your efforts this would not have been possible.





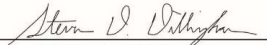
United States®  
**Census**  
**2020**

*Thank  
you*

THE U.S. CENSUS BUREAU HEREBY RECOGNIZES

**City of Aurora**

as an invaluable member of the 2020 Census Community Partnership and Engagement Program. We appreciate the efforts you made in making the Partnership Program a success and helping achieve a successful 2020 Census.



Dr. Steven D. Dillingham, Director  
U.S. Census Bureau

