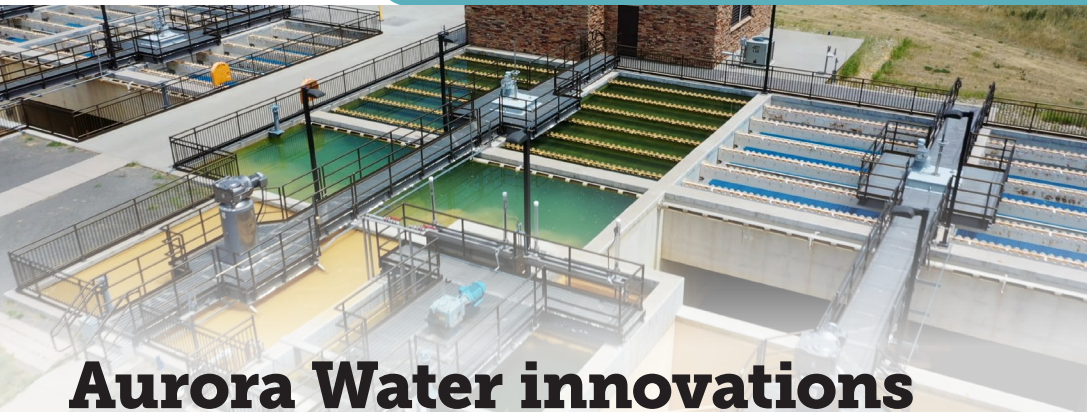


news AURORA



March 2024



Aurora Water innovations

As part of Aurora Water's innovative water solutions, water reclamation and potable reuse have been instrumental in reducing demand on Aurora's drinking water system and conserving the water available in our reservoirs.

Since 1968, Aurora has used reclaimed water to irrigate golf courses, parks, and landscaping at city buildings. Reclaimed water is wastewater that comes from homes and businesses and has been treated at a wastewater plant. Using reclaimed water reduces the demand on our drinking water system and conserves the water available in our reservoirs.

Aurora Water operates the award-winning, 5-million-gallons-per-day Sand Creek Water Reclamation Facility.

Since 2010, Aurora Water has used indirect potable reuse through Prairie Waters. This system provides a sustainable water supply by recapturing water as a cornerstone of a water supply plan that will help meet much of Aurora's needs for decades. Prairie Waters uses both natural cleansing processes, such as riverbank filtration and state-of-the-art purification technology, to deliver up to 10 million gallons per day.

For more than a century, riverbank filtration has been used in Europe and has proven to be especially effective in removing pharmaceuticals. As some other water utilities struggle to find ways to remove these new contaminants from their supply, Aurora Water is ahead of the curve with some of the most advanced purification technology in the country. Once treated and blended, the drinking water is indistinguishable from our mountain source.

Additionally, the Binney Water Purification Facility's drinking water has never experienced any water quality complaints or violated any regulatory requirements. Aurora Water is the only recipient to receive three Phase IV "Excellence in Water Treatment" designations for all three of its water purification facilities

from the Partnership for Safe Water. Aurora Water has also received recognition from the National Association of Clean Water Agencies.

What's the next step in water reuse in the arid west? Direct potable reuse is a relatively new concept for the public. Direct potable reuse differs from indirect potable reuse in that it brings water in directly rather than through an environmental buffer. This increases flexibility by allowing the system to be ramped up and down as needed.

Big Spring, Texas, has operated a direct potable reuse system since 2013, and several other systems are in the planning stages across the southwestern United States. Additionally, the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment has developed regulations for direct potable reuse in the state. Direct potable reuse was identified as a possible future water source in Aurora Water's 2017 Integrated Water Master Plan, as well as in the Colorado Water Conservation Board's 2015 State Water Plan.

Considering Aurora has a growing population—combined with two decades of drought in the West that is exacerbating demands on Colorado's natural water sources—Aurora Water is currently exploring the possibility of direct potable reuse to complement the Prairie Waters system. This aligns with other Front Range communities that are exploring reuse in some form in their potable water system plans.

Aurora Water continues to look for innovative ways to increase our water supply through direct potable reuse. Potable reuse water could be a sustainable source that is locally controlled and expanding it may be a wise way to manage our water resources. Additionally, direct potable reuse provides an efficient, cost-effective and environmentally responsible means to ensure the continued ability to reuse our water sources to extinction to meet water demands today and in the future.

Upcoming Aurora City Council Town Meetings

This publication went to print in early February. Please call **303.739.7015** or visit **AuroraGov.org/TownMeetings** to confirm details (hybrid meeting links are available on the webpage). To look up your council member and view the council ward map, visit **AuroraGov.org/PropertyInfo**.

Mayoral Town Meeting

Mayor Mike Coffman

- April 20, 1:30-3:30 p.m.
Central Library

Ward I Town Meeting

Council Member Crystal Murillo

- March 28, 6-7:30 p.m.
Moorhead Recreation Center (hybrid)
- April 25, 6-7:30 p.m.
Aurora Fox Arts Center

Ward II Town Meeting

Council Member Steve Sundberg

- April 18, 6:30-8 p.m.
Central Recreation Center (hybrid)

Ward III Town Meeting

Council Member Ruben Medina

- March 12, 6:30-8 p.m.
(budget town meeting)
Aurora Center for Active Adults
- April 9, 6:30-8 p.m.
Central Library

Ward IV Town Meeting

Council Member Stephanie Hancock

- April 11, 6:30-8 p.m.
(budget town meeting)
Colorado Early Colleges (hybrid)

Ward V Town Meeting

Council Member Angela Lawson

- March 19, 6:30-8 p.m.
Mission Viejo Library
- April 16, 6:30-8 p.m.
Central Recreation Center
- April 20, 10-11:30 a.m.
Heather Gardens Clubhouse

Ward VI Town Meeting

Council Member Françoise Bergan

- March 20, 6-8 p.m.
Heritage Eagle Bend Golf Club

At-large Town Meeting

Council Members Alison Coombs, Curtis Gardner, Danielle Jurinsky and Dustin Zvonek

- April 18, 6-8 p.m.
Southeast Recreation Center



Join us in April to talk about transportation in Aurora

The city of Aurora recently kicked off work on Connecting Aurora—its first-ever citywide multimodal transportation master plan—and the first opportunity for community input is coming up in April.

The city is currently evaluating Aurora's existing transportation system, including critical safety issues, mobility and connectivity challenges, and opportunities for improvement.

In April, the community is invited to participate in insightful discussions, interactive surveys, in-person open houses, and online review and feedback opportunities. For complete details and to sign up to be notified of updates, visit EngageAurora.org/ConnectingAurora.

Whether you walk, bike, roll, drive or take transit in Aurora, join us to share what challenges and opportunities you face related to transportation. Tell us what you care about in your community related to mobility, and how we can involve the community in shaping the future of Aurora's transportation system. Be an active participant in this planning process.

The city is committed to reaching diverse voices in this effort and gathering meaningful feedback to make sure the plan reflects the community's priorities and influences the plan's outcomes.

Connecting Aurora will examine the city holistically to identify necessary projects, policies and programs that will make the city's transportation systems safer, more comfortable, and more convenient for everyone. The plan will build upon the public engagement efforts of previous transportation projects in recent years and the city's commitment to inclusive public engagement.

Visit EngageAurora.org/ConnectingAurora to learn more about the project. To ask questions, email connectingauroraco@gmail.com or call **720.984.2109**. Spanish interpretation will be provided at the open houses. For American Sign Language or other language interpretation, please email or call using the contact information above.



Connecting People. Connecting Places.

CONNECTING AURORA
OUR MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN

Register for Aurora's next HOA 101 series

After conducting a successful Homeowners Associations (HOA) 101 series last year, the city is hosting another series—in partnership with Mueller Graf Community Association Law—for current HOA members or those interested in joining an HOA in the future.

The three-day series aims to develop and educate neighborhood leaders to help build strong neighborhood connections in Aurora.

Classes take place on Thursdays from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at the Aurora Municipal Center, 15151 E. Alameda Parkway, Aurora Room, on the following dates:

- **March 28, HOA Funds:** A general overview of how associations can collect money to run the organization, including loans, and how funds should be used.
- **April 4, Economics of Assessments and Reserves:** An overview of Colorado Reserve Study Laws and funding requirements on budgeting as well as how to run budget meetings, the board and adoption process, the meeting quorum, the voting process and more.
- **April 11, HO-6 and Deductible Reapportionment:** An overview of the legal requirements for condo property insurance, insurance for multifamily properties and more.

More information is available at AuroraGov.org/Liaison. Space is limited to 50 participants per class. To register, email engagecec@auroragov.org.



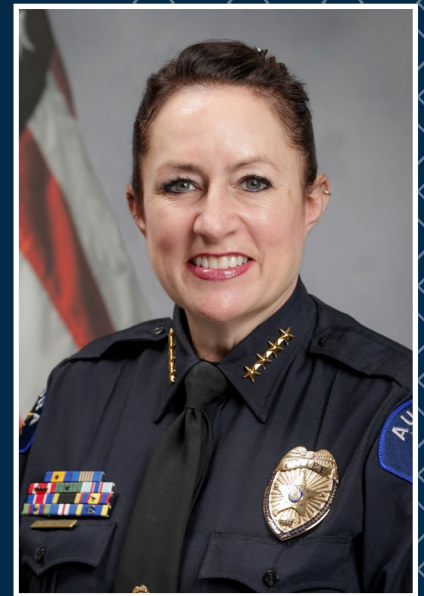
Aurora has new interim police chief

The Aurora Police Department has a new leader following the departure of Interim Chief Art Acevedo, who returned to Texas in January to be with his family.

Heather Morris, who was serving as interim deputy chief, was appointed as the department's interim chief of police.

Morris helped establish the department's current leadership team and has had significant involvement in the department's demonstrated successes over the last year. She will provide continuity and stability for the agency and continue to focus on furthering the city's ongoing public safety goals, employee retention, recruitment of high-caliber talent and crime reduction strategies.

Under Acevedo's and Morris' leadership, the two championed the professionalism of the agency's staff, ushered in best practices, and focused on accountability. They focused on relational policing to strengthen valuable connections between officers and community. Their strategic crime-fighting approach contributed to notable decreases in crime across the city. Under their tenure, the agency made significant progress on the provisions of the Consent Decree. They were instrumental in streamlining APD's recruitment and hiring processes, resulting in dramatic increases in academy classes.



Explore Aurora History Museum's newest free exhibits

Building on Stanley's Foundation

In collaboration with Wings Over the Rockies Air & Space Museum and Stanley Marketplace

On display now (open during regular business hours) Stanley Marketplace, 2501 Dallas St.

Learn about the innovators 70 years ago who created systems that saved countless pilots' lives in the building that is now home to one of Aurora's most unique destinations.

80 Years Later: Aurora Remembers D-Day

March 5 to July 7, Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aurora History Museum, 15051 E. Alameda Parkway

Eighty years after the event, this exhibit explores the history of D-Day, the impact of the war on our community and Colorado's contributions to the war effort.

Wild Life in Focus: A Journey of Conservation from Global to Local

Through March 31, Tuesday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Aurora History Museum, 15051 E. Alameda Parkway

The photos of Aurora resident and volunteer Open Space trail steward Victoria "Vicky" Samuel highlight the beauty of wildlife. See images she has collected around the world and in our community.

AuroraMuseum.org

Aurora seasonal jobs now posted

If you are looking for temporary full-time or part-time work or know someone who is, the city of Aurora is gearing up to hire seasonal staff to support various essential services. From parks and recreation to public works, city seasonal jobs offer a unique chance to contribute to the community while gaining valuable work experience.

Some of the seasonal jobs include lifeguard, parks worker, program aide youth services, forestry small tree worker, cashier/gate attendant, guest service technician, traffic maintenance and operations worker, and more.

Explore the opportunities available and apply at **AuroraGov.org/Jobs**.

For questions, email **careers@auroragov.org** or call **303.739.7225**.

Register now for camps for youth

Programs are filling fast for the city's spring and summer camps.

Embrace the outdoors with nature camps at Star K Ranch and the Aurora Reservoir. Kick your fitness into high gear this spring with our aquatics, golf and sports leagues. Encourage curiosity and creativity with art, cooking, history, STEM and coding camps.

Check out the 2024 Spring and Summer Camps Activity Guides and register today at **AuroraGov.org/ActivityGuide** and **AuroraGov.org/DayCamps**.

Free Loader Days start in April

Bring your pick-up truck or open trailer—along with your own shovels, pitchforks, and containers—to take advantage of free mulch from the city of Aurora.

The mulch pile will be available while supplies last from 7 a.m. to noon April 20, May 18, June 15, July 20 and Aug. 17 at the intersection of East Hampden Avenue and South Dawson Street (enter via Dawson and follow the signs).

Mulch helps reduce weeds, protects soil from erosion and retains soil moisture. Visit **AuroraGov.org/Trees** for more information on Free Loader Days.

I-70 Picadilly Interchange project update

Since the project groundbreaking in fall 2023, the I-70 Picadilly Interchange project team has been finalizing design details and preparing for the initial construction phases of this design-build project.

In January, crews started earthwork activities to prepare the ground for future construction.

Over the next several weeks, there will be an increase in construction and truck activity in the project area. For more information and to sign up for weekly project email updates, visit AuroraGov.org/I70Picadilly.

Permits required for fire hydrant use

Aurora fire hydrants are primarily for our firefighters, but they can be used on a limited basis by construction companies to reduce dust and for soil compaction. Before anyone can use a hydrant, they must get a permit and hydrant meter from Aurora Water. The permit identifies the user and hydrant location and must be displayed prominently. If you see anyone using a hydrant without a permit and meter, email the location and time of use to hydrants@auroragov.org.



Provide input on lead service line replacement program in April

Aurora Water will host a public meeting from 6 to 7 p.m. Thursday, April 18, at the Moorhead Recreation Center, 2390 Havana St., to provide an overview of its Lead Service Line Replacement Program. The meeting also will offer detailed information that will be given as a part of the Project Needs Assessment and Environmental Assessment required for funding the Lead Service Line Replacement Program through the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund to aid in the cost of lead service line replacements.

A more comprehensive overview of the Lead Service Line Replacement Program and how property owners can get involved will be provided during Council Member Crystal Murillo's Ward I Town Meeting from 6 to 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 25, at the Aurora Fox Arts Center, 9900 E. Colfax Ave.

Aurora Water values your input during these meetings and online.

Learn important details about Aurora Water's Lead Replacement Program and provide feedback at

EngageAurora.org/LeadReplacementProgram. For questions, email leadreplacement@auroragov.org or call **720.859.4411**



City Council and Aurora Water to host first Water-wise Day Expo

Join City Council and Aurora Water at the inaugural Water-wise Day Expo from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 18, in the beautiful Aurora Water-wise Garden, located southeast of the Aurora Municipal Center, 15151 E. Alameda Parkway.

The event will feature educational sessions 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Have questions about water efficiency? Come interact with local professionals and get your questions answered. Learn about programs and services offered by Aurora Water's conservation team, including rebates, free landscape designs and water use assessments. Be sure to stick around for the multiple drawings for awesome giveaways.

For details, visit **AuroraGov.org/WaterClassesAndEvents**.