

MINUTES

Regular Meeting of the Aurora City Council

Monday, February 23, 2026

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:	Mayor Coffman	Gianina Horton
	Robert Andrews	Alli Jackson
	Françoise Bergan	Angela Lawson
	Alison Coombs	Ruben Medina
	Curtis Gardner	Amy Wiles
	Stephanie Hancock	

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Coffman reconvened the regular meeting of the City Council at 6:00 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

3. INVOCATION/MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Coffman led in prayer for the February 23, 2026 council meeting.

Mayor Coffman read a land acknowledgment.

4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

(All Standing)

Mayor Coffman led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

5. EXECUTIVE SESSION UPDATE

Mayor Coffman provided an update on the Executive Session, stating a lease agreement, property acquisition, and legal advice were discussed.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

6.a February 9, 2026 Meeting Minutes

Moved by: Françoise Bergan

Second by: Gianina Horton

Does Council wish to approve the minutes of the February 9, 2026 meeting?

Voting Aye: (11): Mayor Coffman, Robert Andrews, Françoise Bergan, Alison Coombs, Curtis Gardner, Stephanie Hancock, Gianina Horton, Alli Jackson, Angela Lawson, Ruben Medina, and Amy Wiles

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7. PROCLAMATIONS OR CEREMONIES

8. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Moved by: Curtis Gardner

Second by: Angela Lawson

Does Council wish to adopt the agenda as presented?

Voting Aye: (11): Mayor Coffman, Robert Andrews, Françoise Bergan, Alison Coombs, Curtis Gardner, Stephanie Hancock, Gianina Horton, Alli Jackson, Angela Lawson, Ruben Medina, and Amy Wiles

9. PUBLIC INVITED TO BE HEARD

(non-agenda related issues only)

Council heard public comment on non-agenda related matters.

CM Coombs motioned to let the four remaining people after the hour limit of public invited to be heard speak and take that time off the time at the end.

Moved by: Alison Coombs

Second by: Gianina Horton

Suspend Rules – Does council support the motion to extend the 1-hour time limit to allow the last 4 speakers to speak during first PITBH and take the 12 mins off the end of the second PITBH?

Voting Aye: (8): Robert Andrews, Alison Coombs, Curtis Gardner, Gianina Horton, Alli Jackson, Angela Lawson, Ruben Medina, and Amy Wiles

Voting Nay: (3): Mayor Coffman, Françoise Bergan, and Stephanie Hancock

10. CONSENT CALENDAR - MOTIONS

Any member of Council may request an item be removed from Consent Calendar and considered separately. Removed items are considered immediately following the adoption of the Consent Calendar.

Moved by: Alison Coombs

Second by: Amy Wiles

Does Council wish to approve the Motions Consent Calendar as presented?

Voting Aye: (11): Mayor Coffman, Robert Andrews, Françoise Bergan, Alison Coombs, Curtis Gardner, Stephanie Hancock, Gianina Horton, Alli Jackson, Angela Lawson, Ruben Medina, and Amy Wiles

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10.b Planning Matters

10.a Motions

10.c Appointments to Boards and Commissions

10.c.1 Consideration to Appoint (1) Member to the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Advisory Board

Cecilia Zapata, Deputy City Clerk / Andrea Wood, Assistant City Attorney

10.c.2 Consideration to Appoint One (1) Member and Reappoint One (1) Member to the Citizens' Water Advisory Commission

Cecilia Zapata, Deputy City Clerk / Ian Best, Assistant City Attorney

11. CONSENT CALENDAR - RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

Any member of Council may request an item be removed from Consent Calendar and considered separately. Removed items are considered immediately following the adoption of the Consent Calendar.

Moved by: Alison Coombs

Second by: Gianina Horton

Does Council wish to approve the Resolutions and Ordinances Consent Calendar?

Voting Aye: (10): Robert Andrews, Françoise Bergan, Alison Coombs, Curtis Gardner, Stephanie Hancock, Gianina Horton, Alli Jackson, Angela Lawson, Ruben Medina, and Amy Wiles

11.a Resolutions

11.a.1 Water Shortage Response Plan

R2026-10 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, APPROVING AURORA'S WATER SHORTAGE RESPONSE PLAN

Tim York, Manager of Water Conservation, Aurora Water / Ian Best, Assistant City Attorney

11.a.2 Big John Fire Engine Local Landmark Nomination

R2026-11 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, EXPRESSING THE AURORA CITY COUNCIL'S APPROVAL DESIGNATING BIG JOHN FIRE ENGINE AS A LOCAL LANDMARK

Chris Geddes, Museum Program Supervisor, Library and Cultural Services / Erika Taylor, Assistant City Attorney

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Outside Speaker: Mike Ackman, City of Aurora Public Safety Training Center (CAPSTC) Manager, Retired Aurora Firefighter and Historic Preservation Commissioner

11.b Finalizing of Ordinances

Ordinances approved unanimously at first reading.

12. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public hearings with or without related ordinances.

12.a Urban Cottages Jewell - Zoning Map Amendment

2025-06 A PUBLIC HEARING AND CONSIDERATION OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, FOR A ZONING MAP AMENDMENT TO REZONE APPROXIMATELY 3.91 ACRES OF LAND TO MEDIUM-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL DISTRICT (R-2), LOCATED SOUTH OF THE INTERSECTION OF EAST JEWELL AVENUE AND SOUTH JOLIET STREET (URBAN COTTAGES ON JEWELL REZONE)

Rachid Rabbaa, Planner III, Planning and Business Development / Lena McClelland, Assistant City Attorney

Mayor Coffman opened the public hearing.

Staff gave a brief presentation on the item.

The applicant presented on the item.

The Council heard public testimony on the item.

CM Bergan asked if it is true that in area 3, this particular product of paired homes would be considered R1. She noted there are discrepancies between areas A, B, and C.

Staff answered the zoning allotments in subarea C, which are further east, are more permissive in R1, and they do permit duplex development in Subarea C.

CM Bergan shared they brought that up in Planning and Economic Development policy committee last year and are making changes to zoning and the code in terms of allowing small lots. She said it is a big factor, as it is not consistent across the city, and she has heard from residents stating they prefer it to be R1 and not R2. She asked if other areas of the city were zoned RR and then later changed zoning.

Staff responded yes, and said RR has a very low density allowance.

CM Bergan inquired if this was denied tonight, would it be possible that another applicant could come and convince Council to put in apartments.

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Staff answered yes, if they were to pursue a rezone.

CM Bergan asked the applicant if they could guarantee this would be the site plan and not be an apartment complex.

The applicant answered yes.

Mayor Coffman closed the public hearing.

Moved by: Alison Coombs

Second by: Françoise Bergan

MPT Coombs appreciated the patience and consistency of the people who came to speak. She clarified that when buses are frequent and reliable, people use them, and Bus 105 is one of the more frequent and reliable routes they have, as it runs every 15 minutes and has connections to the Colfax 15 and 15 Limited. She said the D.R. Horton site that was referenced is a 45-minute walk from this site, and she listed places that are in walking distance. She shared she would enjoy buying a house in this location, including a paired home.

CM Bergan commented it was a difficult decision and they had a lot of delays to make sure they were not voting just on the zoning without having the context of a site plan. She felt the applicant made changes in terms of reducing the density with the paired homes and buffering on the south side, and it looks to fit in compatibly with the neighborhood. She was sorry to the neighbors that opposed, but felt they could have ended up with a multifamily apartment complex down the road versus a for sale product that will be attractive.

CM Gardner agreed that one of the things they are missing in Aurora is middle housing, especially at a for purchase price point. He appreciated this, as it does fit in nicely with the neighborhood and the rural residential zoning does not really exist anywhere near there. He shared that he has been consistent in approving housing issues, whether it is multifamily or single family, that have turned out beautifully and has no regrets and felt this would be the same.

Does the City Council wish to support the approval of the Ordinance to rezone 3.91 acres of Rural Residential (R-R) to Medium Density Residential (R-2) for the Urban Cottages Jewell Zoning Map Amendment?

Voting Aye: (9): Robert Andrews, Françoise Bergan, Alison Coombs, Curtis Gardner, Gianina Horton, Alli Jackson, Angela Lawson, Ruben Medina, and Amy Wiles

Voting Nay: (1): Stephanie Hancock

13. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES

13.a Lead Ordinance Revisions

2026-04 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, AMENDING SECTION 138-229 OF THE AURORA CITY

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CODE PERTAINING TO LEAD AND GALVANIZED SERVICE LINES REQUIRING REPLACEMENT

Shonnie Cline, Deputy Director of Water Internal and External Relations,
Aurora Water / Ian Best, Assistant City Attorney

Staff gave a brief presentation on the item.

Moved by: Alison Coombs

Second by: Françoise Bergan

Does the Council support the approval of the amendment to section 138-229 of the Aurora City Code pertaining to lead and galvanized service line replacement?

Voting Aye: (10): Robert Andrews, Françoise Bergan, Alison Coombs, Curtis Gardner, Stephanie Hancock, Gianina Horton, Alli Jackson, Angela Lawson, Ruben Medina, and Amy Wiles

13.b Tobacco and Age Restricted Psychoactive Product Retail Licensure

2026-05 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, AMENDING CHAPTER 6 OF THE CITY CODE TO ADD ARTICLE IV AND SECTIONS 6-501 THROUGH 6-522, TO ESTABLISH A TOBACCO, KRATOM, AND AGE-RESTRICTED HEMP LICENSE AND AMENDING SECTION 94-343 OF THE CITY CODE RELATING TO DISPENSING OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS

Sponsor: Ruben Medina, Council Member / Stephanie Hancock, Council Member

Trevor Vaughn, Manager of Licensing, Finance / Hanosky Hernandez, Senior Assistant City Attorney

Staff gave a brief presentation on the item.

The Council heard public testimony on the agenda related item.

Moved by: Ruben Medina

Second by: Stephanie Hancock

CM Gardner discussed the definition for good cause. He asked if they come up for renewal and codes, zoning, or other things have changed, are they required to come up to date with the current standards, or if there has not been a change in use, do they get to remain at their current status.

Staff answered when zoning changes, as long as they continue the same use, they are allowed to continue doing that.

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CM Coombs inquired if they made updates to building codes and come up for renewal, would they be required to make updates to their building to comply with the current building code at that time.

Staff responded no.

CM Gardner proposed striking number 4 completely, as there are a lot of problems in it. He did not think it was the responsibility of the business owner to police loitering, prostitution, drug and alcohol consumption, as well as other things on the list. He said the stated goal of the ordinance by the sponsors was to prevent youth nicotine access, and this item specifically is not germane to that topic. He went over different bullet points he had issues with, including Letter B, to implement crime prevention through environmental design, as it requires businesses to go through the CPTED process to make any potential upgrades to their business; Letter C, directing the business to promptly report crime behavior, as there is nowhere in the definition that defines the word promptly, leaving it very subjective; and Letter E, other effective alternatives, as it is completely subjective and at the discretion of staff. He proposed striking Number 4 and all subletters in its entirety.

CM Bergan asked CM Gardner if he was okay with leaving A.

CM Gardner agreed he was okay with that.

Does the Council wish to support the approval of the Tobacco and Age Restricted Psychoactive Product Retail Licensure ordinance as amended?

Voting Aye: (10): Robert Andrews, Françoise Bergan, Alison Coombs, Curtis Gardner, Stephanie Hancock, Gianina Horton, Alli Jackson, Angela Lawson, Ruben Medina, and Amy Wiles

Moved by: Curtis Gardner

Second by: Françoise Bergan

Amendment 1 - Good Cause Definition

Strike (4) with the exception of portion (a) of the good cause definition

Voting Aye: (4): Robert Andrews, Françoise Bergan, Curtis Gardner, and Stephanie Hancock

Voting Nay: (6): Alison Coombs, Gianina Horton, Alli Jackson, Angela Lawson, Ruben Medina, and Amy Wiles

Moved by: Curtis Gardner

Second by: Françoise Bergan

Amendment 2 - Good Moral Character Definition

Use the following definition for good moral character: The Licensing Authority may deny, suspend, or revoke a license based on a determination of good moral character

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only where such determination is supported by demonstrable, objective evidence of violations directly related to the sale of age-restricted products, including repeated or willful violations of applicable state or local laws governing youth access, retail compliance, or licensing requirements. Conduct unrelated to the sale of age-restricted products shall not, standing alone, constitute grounds for license denial, suspension, or revocation. The licensing authority may consider, as relevant to the licensed activity, whether the individual has been convicted of a crime of moral turpitude in the last (10) years.

CM Gardner proposed an amendment on the good moral character definition by striking the entire section and replace with "The Licensing Authority may deny, suspend, or revoke a license based on a determination of good moral character only where such determination is supported by demonstrable, objective evidence of violations directly related to the sale of age-restricted products, including repeated or willful violations of applicable state or local laws governing youth access, retail compliance, or licensing requirements. Conduct unrelated to the sale of age-restricted products shall not, standing alone, constitute grounds for license denial, suspension, or revocation. The licensing authority may consider, as relevant to the licensed activity, whether the individual has been convicted of a crime of moral turpitude in the last (10) years.

Voting Aye: (10): Robert Andrews, Françoise Bergan, Alison Coombs, Curtis Gardner, Stephanie Hancock, Gianina Horton, Alli Jackson, Angela Lawson, Ruben Medina, and Amy Wiles

Moved by: Curtis Gardner

Second by: Françoise Bergan

CM Bergan asked if the intent of the new definition was because of the last sentence about not standing alone and the entirety of what is currently under that.

CM Gardner answered no, the purpose was because the stated goal of this ordinance is to prevent the sale of tobacco products to youth, and he does not want any other factors considered other than the sale of age restricted products to youth.

CM Horton inquired if what CM Gardner read would be completely wiped from the ordinance.

CM Gardner said what he read would be the definition of good moral character.

MPT Coombs voiced that number 6, the crimes of moral turpitude, are included in other types of similar licenses. She asked if there was a reason to not keep that within the good moral character definition.

CM Gardner stated he would be fine adding number 6 into the definition he proposed.

Amendment 3 - Amend Section 6-507(a)

Section 6-507(a) strike - "or for any temporary duration in the form of a sponsored event, festival, or otherwise."

Add: Must apply for a City permit

CM Gardner proposed to remove the last part of 6-507(a), "or for any temporary duration in the form of a sponsored event, festival, or otherwise." He did not know how that was relevant of the sale of these products to youth and felt there was potential for a sponsored event or festival where it might be appropriate to have these products sold.

Voting Aye: (8): Robert Andrews, Françoise Bergan, Curtis Gardner, Stephanie Hancock, Gianina Horton, Alli Jackson, Angela Lawson, and Amy Wiles

Voting Nay: (2): Alison Coombs, and Ruben Medina

Moved by: Curtis Gardner

Second by: Françoise Bergan

CM Jackson asked if there was a festival with a vape shop vendor and youth under 18 or 21 in attendance, would this lift the ordinance for that festival.

Staff responded there is a process and state code for a tobacco festival, but the city has not had any. It would allow tobacco retailers to potentially have a festival within the city on a temporary basis, and it would not necessarily be ones licensed by the city. He suggested if they want to adopt this, to consider there is a process for locals to adopt a local tobacco festival permit.

CM Gardner expressed there is currently a cigar festival held in Denver, and how this is currently written would not allow that event to be held in Aurora.

MPT Coombs asked for clarification that if they did not strike this and left it in, they could do a permit for a local tobacco festival permit, and if they had natural process in place then they could remove this, versus right now they would not have to get a local permit and only have to get a state permit.

Staff clarified that as written, they would not be allowed to have a festival in the city under this code at all. If they strike it, they only have to get state permit and not a local one unless Council amends the ordinance to add that requirement.

CM Bergan offered a friendly amendment to add they would have to apply for a city permit.

CM Gardner accepted that as a friendly amendment.

Amendment 4 - Strike Sec. 6-514 (change this section to 'reserved')

CM Gardner proposed to strike section 6-514, minimum package size for little cigars and cigars. He said letter B limits sell of cigars unless sold in a package of six or

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more, but there are products that are sold with five; therefore, this is a de facto ban on an entire category of product that is sold legally to adults, and again, the goal is not to sell to youth.

P. Schulte asked the following sections to be renumbered if this passes.

Staff suggested just doing it as reserved instead.

CM Bergan asked if this was an oversight.

Staff believed it was an unintended consequence.

MPT Coombs inquired if CM Gardner wanted to strike the whole 6-514 or just part B.

CM Gardner responded the whole thing, as requiring a little cigar to have a certain number in a package does not have any relevance to the prevention of sale to youth. He did not believe it was an accident because there are several products sold with five or fewer.

MPT Coombs voiced having little cigars in packages of less than 20 would be cheaper and therefore easier for kids to buy with just their pocket money, which is a reason to keep A. However, she understood striking B.

CM Bergan expressed they did not want anybody underage buying any of these products, and it will be illegal whether it is a package of 20, 5, or 2, and they have all the penalties in the ordinance if they are sold to underage people.

CM Hancock agreed they do not want to restrict product because of the packaging size and it is important to make that distinction. She said this was not intentional and just an oversight.

CM Gardner did not feel the cost of 20 or 5 is relevant, as if they vote yes on this ordinance because they believe it will prevent the sale of tobacco products to youth, the cost did not matter.

Voting Aye: (6): Mayor Coffman, Robert Andrews, Françoise Bergan, Curtis Gardner, Angela Lawson, and Amy Wiles

Voting Nay: (5): Alison Coombs, Stephanie Hancock, Gianina Horton, Alli Jackson, and Ruben Medina

14. FINALIZING OF ORDINANCES

Ordinances not approved unanimously at first reading.

14.a Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) Text Amendment to the Repeal City Property Sign Allowance

2026-03 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, AMENDING SECTIONS 146-4.10.13 AND 146-6.2.S

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AND REPEALING SECTION 146-4.10.16 OF THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE PERTAINING TO SIGNS

Sponsor: Mike Coffman, Mayor / Alison Coombs, Mayor Pro Tem

Jeremiah Fettig, Planner II, Planning and Business Development / Lena McClelland, Senior Assistant City Attorney

Staff gave a brief presentation on the item.

Moved by: Alison Coombs

Second by: Mayor Coffman

Does Council wish to support the approval of the ordinance to repeal the City Property Sign allowance?

Voting Aye: (8): Robert Andrews, Françoise Bergan, Alison Coombs, Gianina Horton, Alli Jackson, Angela Lawson, Ruben Medina, and Amy Wiles

Voting Nay: (2): Curtis Gardner, and Stephanie Hancock

15. ANNEXATIONS

15.a Tapias LLC Annexation Substantial Compliance

R2026-12 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, FINDING A PETITION FOR ANNEXATION OF A CERTAIN PARCEL OF LAND LOCATED IN THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER OF SECTION 25, TOWNSHIP 3 SOUTH, RANGE 66 WEST OF THE SIXTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN, COUNTY OF ADAMS, STATE OF COLORADO, TO BE IN SUBSTANTIAL COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 31-12-107(1), C.R.S., AND GIVING NOTICE OF A PUBLIC HEARING ON THE PROPOSED ANNEXATION (TAPIAS LLC ANNEXATION) 2.496 ACRES

Justin Andrews, Development Project Manager, Development Services / Brian Rulla, Assistant City Attorney

Staff gave a brief presentation on the item.

CM Bergan asked if they are just voting to make sure this is in compliance.

Staff answered the resolution finds the annexation as presented is following the state law and also sets a public hearing date for April 6th.

Moved by: Alison Coombs

Second by: Ruben Medina

Does City Council wish to support the approval of the resolution as proposed and set the date for a public hearing on the proposed annexation?

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Voting Aye: (10): Robert Andrews, Françoise Bergan, Alison Coombs, Curtis Gardner, Stephanie Hancock, Gianina Horton, Alli Jackson, Angela Lawson, Ruben Medina, and Amy Wiles

16. RECONSIDERATIONS AND CALL UPS

17. GENERAL BUSINESS

18. REPORTS

18.a Mayor

Mayor Coffman expressed he puts a lot of his events on his Facebook page so he does not take up too much time in the meetings, but shared he was able to go to all the Build Up Aurora events and Downtown Development Authority events. He thanked staff for all their hard work in making those effective, as well as those who showed up. He stated they recognized one of their own for Black History Month, Dr. Barbara Shannon Banister, with a great event they had in renaming the street that wraps around the Aurora Municipal Building in her honor. He thanked patrol officer, Jesse Sotelo, for taking him out for a ride along in District 2.

18.b Council

CM Andrews wished everyone a happy Black History Month. He attended Barbara Shannon Banister's roadway celebration and read the proclamation for Black History Month earlier in the month.

CM Coombs thanked the firefighters from Company 8 for showing her child their firetruck at the Cuba Bakery. She met with community members who are concerned about the GEO Facility and ICE increasing operations in the city, and they are asking Council to identify the ways to address that issue. She attended Lunar New Year on Havana Street and had her swearing in and first meetings for the Cherry Creek Basin Water Quality Authority and the Mile High Flood District. She was able to be with Mayor Coffman and CM Andrews when he delivered the Black History Month proclamation, which will be delivered again at the BEFABA Luncheon on Friday. She noted the turnout from the public at the meeting and acknowledged some of their questions, as they should all be able to understand the killing of unarmed people in the city by police is an injustice. She was very concerned about the communication coming from the police chief regarding these situations and expressed those concerns to City Manager Batchelor, and she asked for the chief to receive the coaching needed to address the inability to communicate with all our communities in a way to engender trust and respect.

CM Jackson met with Northwest Aurora Neighborhood Organization and East Colfax Network of Action to talk about Aurora and Denver's shared border. She attended the CDC Meeting with nonprofits. She shared she is chair of the HORNS Committee, and talked about the camping ban that came up, that really only applies to public property, and she clarified they are putting a pause on abatements of encampments

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during extreme cold weather. In honor of Black History Month, she stated that Dr. Linda Davis, a black special education teacher in Savannah, Georgia, was killed by a Guatemalan man who ran a red light while being chased by ICE agents. She noted that now none of those people get to return home to their families, and that is very relevant to what they are seeing in Aurora, as so many immigrant families are reaching out concerned about the involvement of ICE and the chaos ensuing. She added ICE have quotas that are driving demands to apprehend anybody and everybody. She echoed a previous statement that the void of grief and pain gets deeper the longer accountability is denied.

CM Horton updated the Board that the Downtown Development Authority application is due February 28th, and they are looking for more people to apply and want to have a robust and diverse representation in the applicant pool. She shared they hosted a community development corporation, with the goal of building that alongside the DDA. She thanked staff, CM Gardner, Mayor Coffman, and CM Jackson for their participation in that. She voiced that bus rapid transit is coming to Aurora this spring and they hope there is not as much disruption as there was on the Denver side. She participated in the North Aurora Neighborhood Association Meeting and talked to many residents who provided tremendous insight on the pros, cons, beauty, and challenges of living in northwest Aurora, and they also talked with the East Colfax Neighborhood Association about how they can utilize the Colfax Corridor in a way that bridges the relationship between Denver and Aurora. She noted that 13th and 14th Avenue are two-way streets, not one-ways anymore. She announced that tomorrow they have an event with the Fort Worth Independent Police Monitor to educate Aurora on their model, at the Aurora Center for Active Adults, at 6 p.m., and her Ward 1 Town Hall will be on February 26th, at Moorhead Recreation Center, at 6 p.m., where they will discuss the retail strategy. CM Horton expressed she has spoken with many community members who are very concerned and appalled about what is happening at the GEO Facility, as they have around 1500 individuals currently detained, many of whom have not had their due process and only have access to one or two toilets. She honored Civil Rights Leader Jesse Jackson, who passed away. She also thanked those who came to the meeting today and shared their experiences.

CM Wiles thanked everyone who has emailed her in the past week. She attended a meeting with hotel partners regarding the concerns at the Navigation Center and the Out Front Magazine Fundraiser. She thanked city staff who ensure they support these important causes that allow their diverse residents to feel safe and valued in the community. She stated this week they have the oversight meeting, Build Up Aurora sessions, and her Ward 2 Meeting on Thursday, at the Aurora Central Rec Center. She noted the April Meeting will be at the Aurora Highlands Welcome Center, and she encouraged Ward 2 residents to fill out the Build Up Aurora surveys so they can get the facilities and infrastructure they need. She highlighted the powerful legacy and future of black leadership in Aurora spanning generations, including the Mosley family, the Adan brothers and Bright Minds, YAASPA, Aurora Partners for Thriving Youth, and Aurora NAACP Youth and College Chapter. She expressed that while they

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honor the past, they also need to uplift the present and invest in the future. She addressed the dozens of emails from concerned residents on what is occurring regarding ICE, and shared a quote from Akinola Davies, Jr.

CM Medina reappointed Sarah Woodson to the Business Advisory Board. He thanked the Aurora Partners Group and the youth that came out to speak in support of the tobacco license ordinance. He invited everyone to a proclamation for Ruben Sims, Jr, the first black African American firefighter for Aurora, when the Aurora History Museum does their dedication for a black history exhibit on July 14th.

CM Hancock addressed the 72-hour notice regarding the camping ban directly impacts their ability to have the camping ban in place and have it be effective. She said they are in trouble if they go in reverse in how they address the homeless issue in their city, as it is not compassionate to leave people on the street no matter the weather, and they need to utilize the services they have available. She shared she gets dozens of emails from constituents thanking them, as they can ride the Highline Canal Trail and not be accosted. She mentioned an email she received about someone riding a scooter who was attacked by someone on the trail, so they have to be diligent in the mastery of helping people find services available to them and make sure adults be adults, and not enable them to be on the street but empower them to take control and possession of their own lives. She clarified the statement made that ICE gets bonuses for turning people in is not true. She said they are federal employees and get a salary just like everyone else and do not get quota bonuses for rounding up people and putting them in jail. She voiced there are people on the Council that have an animus against ICE, the police department, and against the safety and security of this city, but to continue to attack them does not serve their city and ignores the vast majority of people who feel very safe and secure in this city. She clarified that is not to say they should not address those who do not feel safe, but they need to have a balanced approach to how they govern the city and need to make sure they are doing right by all of the people in the city.

CM Lawson thanked all the residents who attended her February 10th and 21st town halls. She announced her March 10th Town Hall will be at Central Rec Center, and she will have another one on the 21st, at Heather Gardens. She stated they have 300 bills before the session concludes and 397 bills were introduced by Friday of last week. She expressed she is the vice chair of the HORNS policy committee, and on February 17th, she asked about the camping ban and if it was just for cold weather or the ordinance they have in place. She said J. Prosser told her it would impact that, so this seems like a slow repeal of the camping ban and people need to stop giving misinformation. In honor of Black History Month, she recognized a teacher she had named Ms. Knight, who was an inspiration to a lot of the students and inspired them to do whatever they wanted to do.

CM Bergan attended the Aurora Economic Development Council Meeting, Region 9 Opioid Abatement Council, Retail Steering Committee, and the Water Policy Committee. She voiced there have been a lot of questions on social media about what is happening on Arapahoe Road. She said there are a lot of construction delays

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of the water infrastructure project that is going on, as they had unforeseen complications. She explained the purpose of the relocation of the water pipe is to reduce future traffic impacts when routine maintenance is needed, and hopefully the work will be done soon so there are less closures on Arapahoe Road. She reminded everyone of the Build Up Aurora ranking event that will be at the Southeast Recreation Center on the 26th, from 6 to 7:30 p.m.

CM Gardner did not have a report.

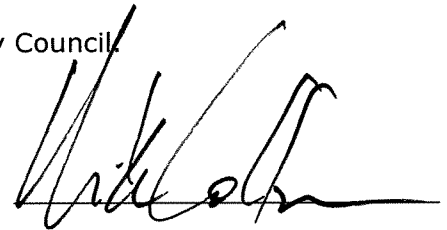
19. PUBLIC INVITED TO BE HEARD

(non-agenda related issues only)

Council heard public comment on non-agenda related matters.

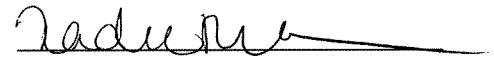
20. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Coffman adjourned the regular meeting of City Council.



MIKE COFFMAN, MAYOR

ATTEST:



KADEE RODRIGUEZ, CITY CLERK

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