

## MINUTES

### Regular Meeting of the Aurora City Council

Monday, March 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	

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**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 March 23, 2026 meeting.

**4. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

*(All Standing)*

Mayor Coffman read a land acknowledgment.

**5. EXECUTIVE SESSION UPDATE**

Mayor Coffman provided an update on the Executive Session, stating confidential documents, negotiations and legal advice were discussed.

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**6.a February 23, 2026 Meeting Minutes**

Moved by: Alison Coombs

Second by: Stephanie Hancock

Does Council wish to approve the minutes of the February 23, 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

**6.b March 9, 2026 Meeting Minutes**

Moved by: Stephanie Hancock

Second by: Alison Coombs

Does Council wish to approve the minutes of the March 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

**7. PROCLAMATIONS OR CEREMONIES**

**8. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by: Françoise Bergan

Second by: Stephanie Hancock

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.

**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 with item 10.a.1 removed?

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

**10.a Motions**

**10.a.1 Homeless Resolution Program Grant Funding**

Stephanie Keiper, Manager of Homelessness and Behavioral Health, Housing and Community Services / Andrea Wood, Assistant City Attorney

Staff gave a brief presentation on the item.

CM Bergan asked if the variable outreach staff position is full-time.

Staff answered yes.

CM Bergan stated it is \$80,000 of grant money from the state. She asked if they also supplement that through their marijuana money for outreach.

Staff responded the \$80,000 will go toward salary, and some of the extra money this past year went toward overtime for cold weather activation, when staff worked overtime at night. That money can also be used for outreach items for things like blankets, food, and water.

CM Bergan inquired if any could be used for transportation.

Staff said it can be used for transportation. She noted they used it for bus tickets in the 2025-2026 grant year for clients that needed to get to housing or medical appointments.

CM Bergan asked if they anticipate the grant will be there next year again so they can reapply for it.

Staff stated that is the hope, and this is the third year they have applied for the grant and received funding.

Moved by: Françoise Bergan

Second by: Angela Lawson

Does Council wish to approve this item 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

**10.b Planning Matters**

**10.c Appointments to Boards and Commissions**

**10.c.1 Consideration to Appoint One (1) Adult Member and Three (3) Youth Members to the Aurora Youth Commission**

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

**10.c.2 Consideration to Appoint Three (3) Members to the Human Relations Commission**

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

**10.c.3 Consideration to Remove One (1) Member from the Judicial Performance Commission**

Cecilia Zapata, Deputy City Clerk / Andrea Wood, 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: Françoise Bergan

Second by: Stephanie Hancock

Does Council wish to approve the Resolutions and Ordinances Consent Calendar with items 11.a.1, 11.a.3, and 11.b.1 removed?

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 Annual Reporting and Evaluation of the Tobacco, Kratom, and Age-Restricted Hemp Retail Licensing Ordinance**

**R2026-20** A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, DIRECTING THE CITY MANAGER OR DESIGNEE TO PROVIDE AN ANNUAL REPORTING AND EVALUATION OF THE TOBACCO, KRATOM, AND AGE-RESTRICTED HEMP RETAIL LICENSING ORDINANCE, AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS

Sponsor: Curtis Gardner, Council Member

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

Staff gave a brief presentation on the item.

P. Schulte shared they received the new document and there was not a change in the subject of the resolution, so he recommended making a motion to substitute, and if passed, they could present and debate on the merits of the new version of the resolution.

MPT Coombs clarified that CM Gardner accepted the new version as a friendly amendment. She thanked CM Gardner, the public health

community members, Mr. Vaughn, and people from the industry who very diligently to come to something agreeable to everyone involved.

Mayor Coffman asked for comment on the difference in the substitute amendment and the original.

Staff explained there were substantial changes to the whereas statements, mostly regarding details in some of the wording.

Moved by: Alison Coombs

Second by: Françoise Bergan

Does Council wish to substitute the resolution as presented in the packet with the CM Gardner amended resolution?

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: Alison Coombs

MPT Coombs proposed a slight amendment in Section 2, that instead of being completely stricken, it would read that City Council may use the information contained in the annual report to evaluate the implementation of the retail licensing framework and inform refinements to program administration.

CM Gardner accepted that as a friendly amendment.

Does Council wish to approve this substituted resolution with the friendly amendment by CM Coombs?

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.2 Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for the City of Aurora to License a Shower Unit to Commerce City**

**R2026-21** A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, APPROVING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL LICENSE AGREEMENT WITH THE CITY OF COMMERCE CITY FOR USE OF AURORA'S MOBILE SHOWER UNIT

Stephanie Keiper, Manager of Homelessness and Behavioral Health, Housing and Community Services / Andrea Wood, Assistant City Attorney

### **11.a.3 Notice and Outreach Prior to Abatement of Unauthorized Camps**

The City Charter prescribes the Mayor may vote on resolutions and ordinances only to create or break a tie vote of Council Members present. The Mayor Pro-Tem is always permitted to vote on all items.

**R2026-22** A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, REQUIRING NOTICE AND OUTREACH PRIOR TO ABATEMENT OF UNAUTHORIZED CAMPS, WITH LIMITED EXCEPTIONS

Sponsor: Robert Andrews, Council Member

Stephanie Keiper, Manager of Homelessness and Behavioral Health, Housing and Community Services / Andrea Wood, Assistant City Attorney

Council heard public testimony on the agenda-related item.

Staff gave a brief presentation on the item.

CM Bergan asked if currently, with no notice, they give assistance to those experiencing homelessness in terms of outreach.

Staff answered yes, and this is formalizing their current practices, where they are post and the outreach team goes out to the abatement spots a least a day before the abatement happens to give services and offer transportation.

Mayor Coffman commented that in the way things have been done, by the time someone has noticed, it currently takes three days before the abatement occurs, so this codifies what they have been doing.

Staff agreed that is correct.

CM Lawson asked where the discrepancy was and if there is an issue with the vendor, Keesen.

Staff responded depending on where the encampment areas are, they sometimes need 4X4 trucks, which they have to coordinate with Keesen on to make sure they have everything that can take more time than usual.

CM Lawson shared that when she sends them requests for Ward 5, they go out and clean it up right away, so she did not understand why all of the sudden they have a new council and they are going back to the 72 hours when this was not an issue before. She asked what happened in that gap where they now are not able to abate the camps and have all the added conditions in Section 2.

Staff answered they did not change their practice from then to now.

CM. Lawson she felt they were lacking transparency because something happened, as they did not have this issue before. She said if there is an issue with Keesen, they need to find another one. She

stated if residents want an encampment abated to make sure they state it is a public safety issue so they can get it abated faster than 72 hours. She added that in regard to what happened on Himalaya with

the fires from the encampment, if they would have went out and got them that probably would not have been happening. She added they should have never opened up the Navigation Campus until they really checked it out to make sure they had the resources.

Mayor Coffman believed that on CDOT property, it is not a 72-hour requirement.

Staff confirmed that is correct.

CM Bergan felt this neuters the enforcement and ties the hands of code enforcement to do the abatements. She said they had been doing abatements faster than 72 hours. She stated they are giving 72 hours for them to move, which result in them moving to another site and the clock will start all over, so this is going to make the situation way worse. She added that residents appreciated them putting in a camping ban and abating those encampments from a safety perspective. She felt this was going to harm neighborhoods, parks, and businesses. She asked how the risks are defined for the safety.

P. Schulte shared they are in the ordinance, and the ordinance is not being changed by this resolution.

CM Bergan shared that recently, on Himalaya, Aurora Fire Rescue had to put out a fire from an encampment, and they are in drought season. She stated when they say they are going to assess the situation, they do not know when that fire is happening until it happens, and by then it could be too late and they could burn down people's homes, apartments, and businesses. She asked if it considered a safety risk if it is next to a school or playground.

Staff answered a school or playground is not mentioned in the ordinance, but what is listed is death of or serious body injury to any person, criminal activity, areas where fires occurred that resulted in response by the fire department, evidence of rod infestation where human fecal matter or hypothermic needles have been found, evidence of unauthorized electrical connections, evidence of unauthorized public utility connection, unauthorized camp layouts that prevent access by emergency services, no adequate evacuation route present, a public health order or violation is observed, and if it physically undermines or erodes public infrastructure.

CM Bergan stated some of those will happen with every encampment. She said she will tell her constituents to say it is a fire safety hazard so they can get it abated immediately. She added they should not

have to codify anything, and they are going to go back to the days where there are encampments all over the city, which is why they put the camping ban in place in the first place.

Moved by: Alison Coombs

Second by: Gianina Horton

CM Hancock concurred with CM Lawson and CM Bergan that the 72-hour notification requirement on the camping ban is an attempt to undermine and overturn the policy. She said their constituents have made it very clear they are not in favor of this change, and none of the current council members, that she is aware of, campaigned on removing or weakening the camping ban. She expressed that in Ward 4, she has noticed significant changes since they instituted the camping ban. She stated the Navigation Center has been opened for less than six months and it was always intended as a pathway to help people move forward to stability, employment, treatment, and housing. She noted the spirit of the 72-hour camping notice weakens enforcement, creates uncertainty, and moves them away from the balanced approach Aurora worked hard to implement. She was not in favor of the resolution.

MPT Coombs stated she wants a meaningful navigation campus that will actually move people directly into the resources they need, not something that will keep them in a cot until they meet the bar. She said 60% of people experiencing homelessness have jobs and pay taxes. She stated in regards to what is not working, they are telling people they will abate all the camps immediately by saying they do not have a notice requirement anymore, but when the camping ban was passed there was a notice requirement, as the courts at the time said not giving notice and not providing an alternative was cruel and unusual punishment. She added later Supreme Court overturned that decision, and they ended up with a camping ban that took the 72 hour notice out. She added that many people voluntarily leave when given notice and access to resources, and when they oppose the 72 hours, it shows cruelty was always the point and she does not stand behind that. She voiced that being realistic and honest is a reason to pass this. She was concerned about fire and hoped any person talking about fire in this instance brings the same energy when they are addressing the insane use of fireworks during the hot summer.

CM Bergan reiterated the fact that when you give the 72 hours at a minimum, they are going to see encampments take advantage of that and move and then the clock will start all over again. She stated they have a navigation center and an outreach team, and if that is not enough resources, they need to put more money into those resources to make sure people experiencing homelessness at an encampment get transportation to the Navigation Center and get them treatment and get them into a work program to be self-sufficient and productive, which is the whole point of having it. She said leaving people in these

terrible conditions is not compassionate and is inhuman for them to be there. She noted in 2024, the Supreme Court upheld the anti-camping enforcement without shelter, but Aurora actually has shelter.

CM Wiles shared they are talking about how it is working so well right now and everything is great, but staff is saying it takes 72 hours to clean up the camps most of the time. She stated all they are doing by changing the language is setting realistic expectations. She said she gets angry calls from people who read the current code and ask why it was not cleaned up today if they called that morning, but in reality they do not have the manpower to do it same day.†She added there is a lot of work to be done with the Navigation Campus, and they do not have case management available and are struggling with the people who cannot actively work and finding a path for them to alternate housing and support.

CM Bergan voiced they have seen them get done within a 24-hour or 48-hour period, so now they are codifying 72 hours when it came be done sometimes earlier than that. She agreed they should have some flexibility but they should not codify it. She stated if they are lacking resources, they need to look at how to fix that.

CM Hancock expressed it is the spirit and feeling of this, that they have seen since the last council passed the camping ban. She expressed it is like when they are dealing with people who understand the limits on what they can do and push them as far as they can, and she has definitely seen in her ward what happens with camping and wastes publicly on the streets and behind people's businesses. She agreed they need to be more intentional about how they handle this, but this sends a message that they are going to be lax on this, so they should expect to have hundreds of people calling them and writing letters complaining about this. She voiced she would those complaints straight to ones voting for this so they can handle it.

MPT Coombs asked for clarification that the current 72-hour timeline is not due to a lack of outreach staff.

Staff responded it is not due a lack of outreach staff. She explained they get information, the team goes out to look at the area, and if it is in violation of the camping ordinance, they start coordinating and scheduling with Keesen to be abatement, and in the meantime, the outreach workers go out and give resources to the individuals camping and let them know they are in violation and will be abated.

CM Lawson voiced that at the Study Session a couple weeks ago, she asked if this was a resource issue, and they said it could be due to Keesen or the inability to get there, and that this would come to the Housing Committee, but now they are saying it is not that. She asked if they do or do not have enough resources with the vendor.

Staff responded the distinction they are making is the resources of the outreach and the vendor. He said they are staffed to be able to handle the current demand they have on camping and access Aurora requests, but the vendor is limited in the ability to have them move out and do abatements in a timely fashion, which is a resource issue. He stated he did not know if they could find another vendor, but they could have that conversation at the Housing Committee Meeting.

CM Lawson argued that is not what is being proposed here, as they are saying they have the resources and the vendor is not the issue, but it is the issue. She inquired if this was an issue last year.

Staff answered they have always been clear that the vendor has always been the challenge. He said when they were asked to assess the camping ordinance when it was first introduced, staff always provided the analysis that they would require a third party and the third party had limitations on their ability to respond to their requests.

CM Lawson stated if that was the case, she wished it was brought up last year, as that was never proposed to any of them on the Council.

CM Bergan asked if there is cold weather if they cannot abate with this resolution.

Staff responded with the cold weather, their outreach team will go out and continue transportation to the Aurora Regional Navigation Campus. The way it is written, she would have the option to cancel or postpone abatements for the safety of staff and for those experiencing homelessness. She added that Keesen has other contracts with hospitals and other businesses in the area, so sometimes when it snows, they get pulled off the abatement list to go plow different parking lots to keep those portions of the city running, so when that happens they may have to postpone.

CM Bergan pointed out the resolution says they will not abate those camps instead of saying maybe they cannot. She asked what defines cold weather in that instance. She added that most of the time during cold weather, people accept the shelter they are offering.

Staff clarified it says they may cancel, not that they will cancel.

MPT Coombs expressed that abate does mean telling someone they need to leave a camp, it means to clean up the stuff that is physically at a camp.

Staff agreed an abatement is when they go and clean up belongings. She said usually police and the liaison team will give them so much time to gather what they can and leave the area, and when they are doing the abatements, they generally are in areas where camping or loitering is not allowed, so people are asked to leave the area as well.

Does Council wish to approve this resolution?

Voting Aye: (6): Robert Andrews, Alison Coombs, Gianina Horton, Alli Jackson, Ruben Medina, and Amy Wiles

Voting Nay: (4): Françoise Bergan, Curtis Gardner, Stephanie Hancock, and Angela Lawson

**11.a.4 Otero Pipeline Maintenance and Valve Project  
Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA)**

**R2026-23** A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, EXPRESSING THE AURORA CITY COUNCIL'S APPROVAL OF THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF AURORA, ACTING BY AND THROUGH ITS UTILITY ENTERPRISE AND THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS, ACTING THROUGH ITS UTILITIES ENTERPRISE REGARDING COST SHARING, REIMBURSEMENT AND OWNERSHIP OF A HOMESTAKE PROJECT SECOND VALVE INSTALLATION

Sarah Young, Assistant General Manager of Planning and Engineering, Aurora Water / Ian Best, Assistant City Attorney

**11.a.5 Gun Club Road Transportation Working Group**

**R2026-24** A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, IN SUPPORT OF THE GUN CLUB ROAD (STATE HIGHWAY 30) INTERGOVERNMENTAL TRANSPORTATION WORKING GROUP

Sponsor: Françoise Bergan, Council Member / Amy Wiles, Council Member

Laura Perry, Deputy City Manager / Michelle Gardner, Senior Assistant City Attorney

**11.a.6 Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) Community Schoolyards Grant Program – Aurora Public Schools Partnership for Yale Elementary**

**R2026-25** A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, APPROVING THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY OF AURORA AND THE ADAMS-ARAPAHOE JOINT SCHOOL DISTRICT 28J FOR THE COMMUNITY USE OF THE YALE PLAYGROUND

Waiver of reconsideration requested in order to meet the grant deadline of April 1, 2026.

Nicole Ankeney, Manager of Planning, Design, and Construction, Parks, Recreation, and Open Space / Kimberly Skaggs, Senior Assistant City Attorney

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### **11.a.7 Residential Lease of City-owned Property in Weld County**

**R2026-26** A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, APPROVING THE RESIDENTIAL LEASE BETWEEN THE CITY AND TARGET RECLAMATION SERVICES, LLC ON CITY-OWNED LAND IN WELD COUNTY

Hector Reynoso, Manager of Real Property Services, Public Works /  
Michelle Gardner, Senior Assistant City Attorney

### **11.a.8 Agricultural Lease of City-owned Property in Weld County**

**R2026-27** A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, APPROVING THE AGRICULTURAL LEASE BETWEEN THE CITY AND TARGET RECLAMATION SERVICES, LLC ON CITY-OWNED LAND IN WELD COUNTY

Hector Reynoso, Manager of Real Property Services, Public Works /  
Michelle Gardner, Senior Assistant City Attorney

## **11.b Finalizing of Ordinances**

*Ordinances approved unanimously at first reading.*

### **11.b.1 13th Avenue Station Urban Renewal Plan**

**2026-06** AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, APPROVING THE 13TH AVENUE STATION URBAN RENEWAL PLAN AND CREATING TWO TAX INCREMENT FINANCING AREAS

Jennifer Orozco, Senior Development Project Manager, Planning and Business Development / Rachel Allen, Deputy City Attorney

Council heard public testimony on the agenda-related item.

Staff gave a brief presentation on the item.

CM Bergan voiced this is for a \$5 million loan. She asked what happens if the development stalls or is delayed beyond the 10 years.

Staff answered that would impact the repayment of the loan and could potentially not pay back the full \$5 million, if there is a significant delay in development.

CM Bergan inquired about the risk to the taxpayers.

Staff responded there is no risk to the taxpayers, as this is AURA money and would just not be available for other projects in the future.

CM Bergan voiced that would affect taxpayers in a way, because that particular AURA would not have any money for any kind of infrastructure or other needs.

Staff stated it would not be on the city, as the city is the borrower, so AURA would not have those funds but it would have infrastructure and a site that is ready for development at a future date.

CM Bergan asked if they could put a risk disclosure in the agreement.

Staff said this item is the adoption of the plan, and the loan agreement has already been approved by AURA and Council. She said the plan could have text added to it, but it would not apply to the loan that has already been approved.

MPT Coombs inquired if they have the ability to have a conversation with RTD about the amount of parking and alternative uses for any of the space currently designated for parking.

Staff answered yes, when RTD is ready to issue the RFP, they will do that in full cooperation and Aurora will help them craft that and set the provisions for how they would describe the opportunity and what types of development they are looking for. She added that RTD already said they are open to redeveloping all the parking.

MPT Coombs asked if they could adopt this plan and the development plans brought forward could include less parking than what is in the conceptual drawings.

Staff responded yes.

Moved by: Alison Coombs

Second by: Gianina Horton

Does Council support the attached ordinance adopting of the 13th Avenue Station Urban Renewal Plan and creating the urban renewal area and two associated TIF areas?

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

**12. PUBLIC HEARINGS**

*Public hearings with or without related ordinances.*

**13. INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCES**

**14. FINALIZING OF ORDINANCES**

*Ordinances not approved unanimously at first reading.*

**15. ANNEXATIONS**

**16. RECONSIDERATIONS AND CALL UPS**

**17. GENERAL BUSINESS**

The City Charter prescribes the Mayor may vote on resolutions and ordinances only to create or break a tie vote of Council Members present. The Mayor Pro-Tem is always permitted to vote on all items.

## **18. REPORTS**

### **18.a Mayor**

Mayor Coffman reported he will be doing a segment on a Spanish Language Talk Radio, on Friday at 11:50 a.m., where he will talk about the Aurora Regional Navigation Campus, and Brenda Mendoza will join him to talk about the new program for low acuity health concerns where someone can contact a physician by phone or virtually. He announced his town hall will be April 18th, at 2 p.m., where they will discuss water and drought conditions.

### **18.b Council**

MPT Coombs appointed Chance Horiuchi to the Business Advisory Board, as her prior appointee put in her resignation because she no longer owns a business in Aurora. She reported she had an orientation with the Mile High Flood District. She also had a conversation about the Reach 1 Construction in the Cherry Creek Basin Water Quality Authority Meeting, and they put in a request for congressionally directed spending to help with the cost that includes rebuilding the road. She noted it would be helpful if the city could advocate for that when speaking with the federal people to ensure that funding request is supported.

CM Jackson gave updates on some of the meetings she had with community stakeholders, including the Colorado Ethiopian Community, CEDS Finance, Salvadorian Presidential Commissioner of Human Rights, and she toured the Zyn Factory being built in Ward 2. She attended the National League of Cities Conference in D.C., and one of the sessions that stood out the most was the Families, Youth and Education Council. She cohosted a Northwest Aurora CDC Workshop with CM Horton and Aurora staff, where they heard from nonprofits along the East Colfax Corridor. She toured the National Museum of African American History, in which she was very moved by and shared some quotes pertaining to that. She expressed that she will never vote pro for harsher penalties and punitive sentencing in connection to black history, as they need creative solutions to crime instead of reproducing the same issues over and over. She reminded people of the upcoming Rules Committee Meeting on March 24th, at 5:30, which is open to the public. She was excited about the animal welfare conversation happening with CM Horton on April 4th.

CM Horton attended the Spirit of Aurora Board Meeting, had a presentation from the Korean community, went to the 25th Annual State of the Base at Buckley Space Force Base, met with a well-known community member, Mr. Bill, from Ward 1, where they talked about trash and beautification, had a community development corporation conversation with nonprofits, and a Q&A session with senior and juniors at the Aurora Science and Tech High School in Ward 1. She announced the Ward 1 Town Hall is Thursday, at Moorhead Rec Center, at 6 p.m., where they will discuss bus rapid transit and will have a presentation on Xcel. She also talked about the conversation she will be having about animal welfare with CM Jackson, on April 4th, at 11:30 a.m., at the Moorhead Rec Center. She gave a shoutout to the Aurora Animal Shelter, as she was able to adopt a third pet from them. She voiced there

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was a lot of news in the Chicano movement and community about Cesar Chavez and the sexual harassment and rape allegations, and she expressed that she stands with victims of sexual assault and violence and for their ability to seek justice.

CM Wiles attended the State of the Base, and toured the new PMI factory, met with the Colorado Ethiopian Community. She thanked the (inaudible - 02:27:40) community for inviting her to their meeting. She also went to the National League of Cities in D.C., where she took classes on immigration enforcement, youth education and families, infrastructure and retail, and was able to interact with some of the youth board members from across the country. She shared that when they went to the African American History Museum, and a woman freedom writer in the 60s presented to youth and talked about her lived experiences. She announced her ward meeting is April 9th, at the Aurora Highlands Welcome Center, and the special Olympics polar plunge on Sunday, in which she volunteers and does photography for. She invited people to sign up and challenged APD and AFR to participate.

CM Medina attended the Aurora Science and Tech High School to talk about City Council's roles and responsibilities.

CM Hancock shared that as the chair of the Parks, Foundations, and Quality of Life Policy Committee, she toured four of their preschool centers. She stated there will be a garbage cleanup on the Highline Canal between the Community College of Aurora and Delaney Farms and invited people to volunteer for that. She met with a family group who talked about the importance of stable families helping kids grow and feel empowered. She agreed punishment is not always the answer, but when they have stable family dynamics with young people who feel supported, they are better able to be engaged and informed citizens.

CM Lawson gave the legislative update. She voiced Colorado lawmakers entered the 2026 Legislative Session preparing for difficult decisions, and projections show the state facing a shortfall exceeding \$1.5 billion for the 2026-2027 fiscal year. The governor's budget office projects stronger revenue growth, but non-partisan legislative economists are more cautious. She stated General Fund spending pressures in Medicaid, K-12 education, and Correction continue to climb while revenue growth has softened, and economics cite weaker income tax collections. She expressed it is heartbreaking that TSA workers are not getting paid, and she encouraged people to do things like hand out gift cards to them when going to the airport to help, as well as ask Congress to pay them. She announced her next town halls will be April 18th, at Heather Gardens, and April 21st, at Mission Veijo.

CM Bergan attended the E-470 Board Meeting, Infrastructure Task Meeting, and Region 9 Opioid Abatement Meeting, and they will have an all-day strategic planning session in April. They had a second Retail Strategy Committee Meeting with stakeholders and got good feedback from brokers and developers, with one more meeting coming up to help staff implement retail strategies moving forward. She attended the Southeast Rec Center for She Plays Sports, on the 15th, which allowed girls ages 6-13 to experience sports. She spoke at the Eagle Point Ribbon Cutting Ceremony, had a Water Policy Committee, a small lots briefing with staff, and her

The City Charter prescribes the Mayor may vote on resolutions and ordinances only to create or break a tie vote of Council Members present. The Mayor Pro-Tem is always permitted to vote on all items.

Town Hall, where they had close to 150 attendees, and Chief Chamberlain and the officers there got a standing ovation. She expressed that one of the concerns that came up in the town hall was regarding the fire danger with dry conditions.

CM Andrews and CM Gardner did not have a report.

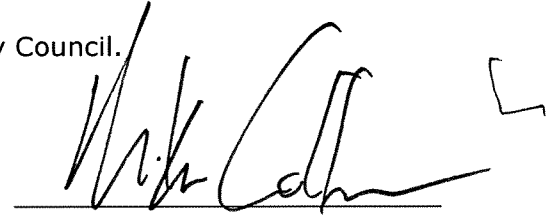
**19. PUBLIC INVITED TO BE HEARD**

(non-agenda related issues only)

Council heard public comment on non-agenda related matters.

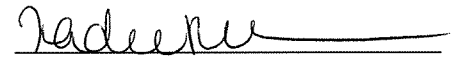
**20. ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Coffman adjourned the regular meeting of City Council.



MIKE COFFMAN, MAYOR

ATTEST:



KADEE RODRIGUEZ, CITY CLERK