



# REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

CITY OF  
**LONGMONT**  
C O L O R A D O

# INTRODUCTION

In 2018, the City of Longmont continued the work of the Council vision — to be the world’s greatest village. Highlighted in this report are a few ways we are working on making a difference for those who live, work and play in Longmont.

## City Council Vision

### PEOPLE:

In 20 years, Longmont will be the world’s greatest village, where children are most fortunate to be born and raised, where people will have access to food and shelter, and where everyone has the opportunity to thrive and feel that they belong.

### PLACES:

In 20 years, Longmont will have a developed Main Street from Pike Road to Highway 66 and a river corridor that stretches from the sugar mill to the fairgrounds providing a vibrant economic, residential, cultural and entertainment epicenter that is sustainable and respects the natural environment.



## NEW BRANDING

The City of Longmont unveiled a new mark in the summer of 2019. Residents will start to see it make its way into materials gradually, including in this 2018 Annual Report. We hope you like our new look!

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*“Lady and the Damsel” sculpture picture on cover by @awdart Instagram*

# SUSTAINABILITY

## Elimination of Surface Oil & Gas Operations Within City Limits

[bit.ly/oil-gas-regs](https://bit.ly/oil-gas-regs)

The City successfully entered into agreements with oil and gas operators to accomplish the City Council’s goal of eliminating all oil and gas surface operations within city limits. They also established a baseline water quality monitoring program in and around Union Reservoir to understand potential future impacts of oil and gas wells in its vicinity.



## Resilient St. Vrain

[longmontcolorado.gov/ResilientStVrain](https://longmontcolorado.gov/ResilientStVrain)

2018 marked the completion of construction on the first phases of creek improvements: Sandstone Ranch and Left Hand Creek to Main Street. This is the first step in fully restoring the St. Vrain Greenway trail and protecting people, property, and infrastructure from future flood risk throughout the City. The Greenway trail at Sandstone Ranch was reconstructed and a new pedestrian bridge crossing St. Vrain Creek opened to the public. In addition, the City began construction of the area from Main Street to west of South Pratt Parkway, including the replacement of the South Pratt Parkway Bridge.





For the first time, Fire service calls decreased in 2018, as a direct result of people being helped by enrolling in LEAD.

## PUBLIC SAFETY

[longmontcolorado.gov/publicsafety](https://longmontcolorado.gov/publicsafety)

### Focusing on Collaboration and Compassion

The City's public safety department strives to work with the community to improve safety and connect those who are struggling to resources that can help them gain or regain their ability to be valuable and valued members of the community. Now in its second year, the Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) program connects low-level drug offenders to harm reduction based intervention and community-based supportive resources, offering them an opportunity to participate in a program that also provides intensive ongoing engagement and follow-up to support their progress and recovery.

In addition, the Public Safety Department relies on the Crisis Outreach Response and Engagement (CORE) team, consisting of a licensed clinician, police officer, and a paramedic, to respond to 911 calls for service that indicate a mental illness or substance use issue. CORE provides triage and assessment, crisis de-escalation, field clearances, and direct transport to an appropriate destination, which is often not jail or the emergency room. Case management and resource navigation services are provided if needed.





## ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS

[bit.ly/hsbc2018annualreport](https://bit.ly/hsbc2018annualreport)

### Take One Step

In an ongoing effort to address homelessness in Longmont, the City continued to build on the “Take One Step” initiative, in which Longmont community members are encouraged to become part of the solution and “take one step” toward ending homelessness.

Coordinated entry, Boulder County’s new system for working with adults experiencing homelessness, focuses efforts and resources on a path out of homelessness and into stable housing. Community conversations addressed what residents could do to help, and identified key issues surrounding homelessness within the community. Two ongoing working groups are focusing on accountability and the role of neighborhoods and faith communities.

**76**  
participants found treatment for substance abuse with help from Police and Fire’s Angel Initiative

**45.6%**  
cardiac arrest survival rate was achieved by Fire Services (national average: 14%)

**MORE THAN 40**  
community partners actively engaged in providing services to LEAD participants

**MORE THAN 300**  
referrals and “warm hand-offs” from LEAD case managers

**20%**  
decrease in Public Safety contacts (Police and Fire) for the 80 participants engaged in LEAD for at least 180 days

### Home Steady Program

The Home Steady program offers case management and short-term financial assistance to Longmont residents who are either struggling to retain housing or are at-risk of losing housing. In 2018, the Home Steady program served 44 households, the majority of which were dealing with unforeseen medical expenses.



### 2018 Data

**ADULTS SCREENED FOR SERVICES:**

**2,448** | **612**  
in Boulder County | in Longmont (25%)

**LONGMONT NUMBERS:**

- 27** adults entered housing
- 2** adults entered other programs
- 50** adults exited the shelter system
- 21** adults reunified with social supports

# FROM ENVISIONING TO ACHIEVING

## Building our Future Longmont

City Council's vision for Longmont's places includes a vibrant economic, residential, cultural and entertainment epicenter that is sustainable and respects the natural environment.



## Main Street Corridor Plan

### FORTIFYING MAIN STREET AS THE CITY'S CULTURAL, BUSINESS, & COMMERCIAL CENTER

Main Street is the heart of Longmont. Today, it has a mix of commercial, instructional, retail, professional offices, medium to high density residential, and service-oriented uses, but what will it look like in the future? Main Street Corridor planning efforts began late summer of 2018, including an initial community survey and open houses. This planning process is scheduled to conclude in Fall 2019.

#### HIGH LEVEL GOALS FOR THE CORRIDOR INCLUDE:

- **Embracing Historic Significance:** Recognize the corridor's place in history, automobile culture, significance as a gathering place, and as Longmont's "historic main street"
- **Strategic Infill:** Revitalize the corridor through infill development, new housing, community facilities/amenities and urban open space
- **Strengthen Economic Base:** Promote economic growth by attracting and retaining a diverse range of businesses and housing to strengthen the corridor, while preventing displacement of existing businesses and homes
- **Integrating Main:** Create connections between Main Street and surrounding neighborhoods; connect streets and transition building heights and massing
- **Improving Safety and Mobility:** Improve safety for all modes; preserve corridor mobility while enhancing the multimodal network. Incorporate technology to support safety and mobility.
- **Transit as Catalyst:** Leverage transit investments – orient stops around activity centers and form new mobility hubs
- **Creating a Sense of Place:** Create a cohesive identity and sense of place; improve livability for all residents; enhance aesthetics and incorporate green spaces.

# HOUSING AFFORDABILITY

[bit.ly/hcilongmont](https://bit.ly/hcilongmont)

The City of Longmont continues to prioritize safe and affordable housing opportunities for residents. In late 2018, City Council adopted an affordable housing mandate requiring 12% of homes in new residential developments to be affordable for low- and moderate-income buyers. The City helped form the Boulder County Regional Housing Partnership, with a goal of having 12% of the county's housing stock be permanently affordable by 2035.

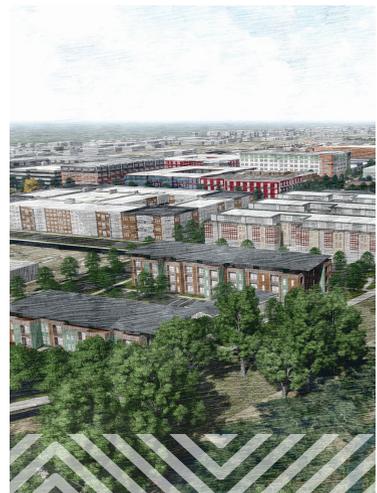
## IN 2018, HOUSING AND COMMUNITY INVESTMENT SUCCESSFULLY:

- Provided \$3.25 million in funding for new construction of affordable housing, leveraging more than \$15 million in other public and private funds.
- Increased the total number of affordable housing units in Longmont to 6.2% (2,336 housing units).
- Provided a total of \$455,374 in Community Development Block (CDBG) funds for direct assistance to Longmont households, funding 12 general rehabilitation projects, 14 mobile home repair projects, 6 emergency grants, and 20 architectural barrier removal projects.

## Building STEAM

[engage.longmontcolorado.gov](https://engage.longmontcolorado.gov)

The Council's vision of Longmont as a nationally recognized geographic center of science, technology, engineering, education, arts, and entrepreneurialism began to take shape in the Building STEAM project. Focused on the St. Vrain River Corridor, the community came together to create a vision for this area, including aspects such as a performing arts center, hotel and convention center, new housing opportunities, an educational campus and makerspaces. While new amenities are fun to think about, it is also vital to protect the river itself as new opportunities arise. This project will continue through 2019.



Rendering by DHM Design

## Art in Public Places

Since 1987, Longmont's Art in Public Places Program has been weaving art throughout the City of Longmont. In 2018, the Longmont Museum launched nine new Art on the Move installations, successfully collaborated on two City murals, completed five new Shock Art boxes, selected a sculpture to be installed in 2019 at Sunset Golf Course and initiated new projects in Collyer Park and along the St. Vrain Greenway.

# TRANSPORTATION

## Safer Roads and Trails

For the past 30 years, the City of Longmont has used the Street Fund Tax for a variety of City transportation services, programs, and improvements. This year, it included two major projects which focused on transportation safety and efficiency.

 [bit.ly/street-fund-tax](https://bit.ly/street-fund-tax)



## South Pratt Parkway Bridge

The South Pratt Parkway Bridge underwent expansion joint and guard rail improvements and updates. The new, wider bridge can safely carry traffic and provide pedestrian and bike facilities along both sides of this major roadway, as well as connections to the St. Vrain Greenway trail. The new bridge is designed to safely pass 100-year flood flows of the St. Vrain Creek, which the old bridge did not do.



## Bike Lane Trial Project

Improving and expanding Longmont's bicycle network is an important and ongoing effort. In June 2018, the City installed three different types of on-street bicycle treatments in southwest Longmont as part of a bike lane trial project to allow bicyclists to test different types of treatments, evaluate the operation and maintenance impacts, and collect feedback from both bicyclists and motorists.

 [bit.ly/bike-lane-trial](https://bit.ly/bike-lane-trial)



# LONGMONT POWER & COMMUNICATIONS

## Electric

### [bit.ly/just-transition-plan](https://bit.ly/just-transition-plan)

City Council asked Longmont Power & Communications (LPC) to take on a new challenge: provide energy from 100% renewable sources by 2030 while maintaining reliability and affordability. To support this initiative, LPC helped the City's Sustainability division implement the Just Transition Plan, focusing on creating inclusive engagement recommendations and actions to minimize the impact of transition on underserved and underrepresented populations.

#### **IN ADDITION, LPC'S ELECTRIC SERVICE:**

- Offered the second-lowest residential electric rates in Colorado out of 57 utilities.
- Saved customers approximately \$29 million in electric costs compared to a typical Colorado community.
- Ranked in the top quartile for reliability nationwide by the American Public Power Association.
- Provided \$2.38 million on energy efficiency programs through Efficiency Works, saving Longmont's homes and businesses almost 8.5 million kilowatt-hours ... enough to power almost 12,400 homes for a month.
- Opened the online Efficiency Works store at [www.encyciencyworksstore.com](http://www.encyciencyworksstore.com), offering devices to save money and energy at home.
- Promoted the purchase of almost 13,000 energy-saving items through lighting and consumer product rebates.

## NextLight

NextLight, the community-owned fiber-optic internet service from Longmont Power & Communications that offers gigabit uploads and downloads to homes and businesses across Longmont, without contracts or data caps, continued to add value to their service. Recently recognized with the Broadband Communities Cornerstone Award for the success of its fiber network, judges characterized NextLight as a utility that "is dedicated to making life better for Longmont's residents and enabling businesses to start up, grow, and stay in the city."

#### **IN 2018, LPC'S NEXTLIGHT SERVICE:**

- Was declared the fastest ISP in the nation by PC Magazine
- Was a key element in Longmont receiving the All-America City award from the National Civic League
- Reached 55% take rates, exceeding original projections of 37%, and expanded its already strong community support
- Further encouraged its most dedicated fans, by offering a free month of service for successfully referring a friend to NextLight
- Added robocall blocking from Nomorobo to its Digital Voice phone service
- Added free nationwide long-distance service to Digital Voice at year's end, making the phone service even more affordable
- Saw a 98% adoption rate of gigabit service

# SHARING THE NEXTLIGHT™

For today's students, being connected matters. It powers up their learning, placing a universe of resources at their fingertips. It's a universe that all students should have available, at home or at school, regardless of their family's circumstances.

That's where Sharing the NextLight comes in.

Sharing the NextLight is a new opportunity for low-income Longmont families with children in the St. Vrain Valley Schools to get a free 25 megabit NextLight internet connection to their home. There's no monthly charge and no installation cost. The family even receives a free built-in wireless router.

Providing this service will be a community effort. NextLight customers and Longmont residents can donate to this initiative with a recurring gift or on a one-time basis. With the community's support behind it, Sharing the NextLight can continue to help our city's schoolchildren into the future as well, providing a key element of their education.

The more that's raised, the more families can be helped – and more of Longmont's network can be shared by Longmont's children. NextLight is a partnership between the Longmont Community Foundation, Longmont Power & Communications, and Longmont Children, Youth and Families.



To contribute or apply, visit

 [longmontcolorado.gov/SharingTheNextLight](https://longmontcolorado.gov/SharingTheNextLight)