



TOWN COUNCIL STUDY SESSION AGENDA
November 3, 2025
4:00 PM

I. Study Session Items

1. Economic Development Incentives Discussion - Feazell - 45 minutes
2. Introduction of Substitute Judges - White - 15 minutes
3. Legislative Policy Agenda Update - Hogan - 15 minutes

II. Staff Updates

III. Town Council Updates/Items



MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers
FROM: Weldy Feazell, PAR & Economic Development Director
DATE: November 3, 2025
SUBJECT: Economic Development Incentives Discussion

ISSUE:

The Town's existing incentive programs are outdated, fragmented across multiple code sections, and lack consistency with current economic development goals.

FISCAL/BUDGET IMPACT:

None.

BACKGROUND:

The purpose of the incentives discussion is to review draft changes to the Town's economic development programs that consolidate them into a single framework under Chapter 4.02 of the Parker Municipal Code. The new ordinance repeals outdated sections and establishes three coordinated programs:

- Retail and Restaurant Assistance Program – Rebates up to 50% of Town sales tax to support retail and restaurant projects that fill market gaps and enhance community activity.
- Job Creation and Employment Program – Offers use tax and permit fee rebates to businesses that create quality jobs and align with the Town's targeted industry clusters.
- Electric Excise Tax Rebate Program – Provides rebates to high-electricity-use employers that invest in redevelopment or new facilities meeting updated energy code requirements.

These updates simplify administration, align incentives with Council's policy goals, and ensure the programs support key priorities: job creation, redevelopment, local business vitality, and industry diversification.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that Town Council provide direction to proceed with preparing the final ordinance and implementation materials based on the proposed structure and feedback received during the study session.

REQUESTED DIRECTION:

Staff seeks Town Council feedback on the proposed consolidated incentive framework and draft program guidelines prior to preparing the final ordinance and administrative materials for formal consideration.

ATTACHMENT:

None



MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers
FROM: Chris Vanderpool, Town Clerk
Ashley Perrino, Court Administrator
DATE: November 3, 2025
SUBJECT: Introduction of Substitute Judges

ISSUE:

This item is to introduce the two individuals being recommended for approval to serve as substitute judges for the Parker Municipal Court.

FISCAL/BUDGET IMPACT:

This is included in the Municipal Court Budget.

BACKGROUND:

To ensure that the Court is covered during times when Judge White is unavailable to run Municipal Court, staff felt it was necessary to contract with two individuals to serve as substitute judges. If one substitute judge is unavailable, the other individual should be able to fill in.

Staff received six resumes with three individuals being interviewed. Staff and Judge White conducted interviews on October 3, 2025. Two individuals were selected and are being recommended for approval by Town Council. Their resumes are attached for review.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff and Judge White recommend placing resolutions on the next Town Council agenda for approval of Gina Edwards-Hickman and Tom Ramunda for substitute judge services for the Town of Parker.

REQUESTED DIRECTION:

Staff and Judge White recommend placing resolutions on the next Town Council agenda for approval of Gina Edwards-Hickman and Tom Ramunda as substitute judges for the Town of Parker.

ATTACHMENT:

1. Resume-Tom Ramunda
2. Resume-Gina Edwards-Hickman



August 21, 2025

Mr. Chris Vanderpool, Town Clerk
20120 E. Mainstreet
Parker, CO 80138
sent via email to cvanderpool@parkerco.gov

Re: Substitute Judge Position

Greetings Town Clerk,

I am writing to express my interest in the Substitute Judge position with the Town of Parker. With 33 years of experience representing both indigent and private-pay individuals in criminal matters, I bring a balanced understanding of the justice system, including a demonstrated knowledge of, and the ability to analyze and apply, the Colorado Rules of Evidence, the Colorado Rules of Criminal Procedure, the Colorado Rules of Municipal procedure, various ordinances, statutes, and other legal authority in Colorado. I also closely follow the changes and challenges to municipal courts due to recent case law and legislation.

In addition to criminal law, my practice spans family and probate matters, where I regularly serve as Guardian ad litem and respondent counsel in cases across Arapahoe, Douglas, Elbert, and Lincoln counties. I am a certified mediator and approach emotionally sensitive cases with patience, common sense, and respect. Throughout my career, I have built trusted relationships with clients, colleagues, and public servants, and have developed a reputation for fairness, professionalism, and empathy. Since establishing my private practice in 2000, I have also gained extensive experience in business management by overseeing budgets, operations, and staff while fostering a collaborative and efficient workplace.

My judicial experience includes serving as Associate Municipal Judge for the Towns of Elizabeth and Johnstown, where I became well-versed in municipal codes, procedures, and best practices. I also served on the 18th and now the 23rd Judicial District Performance Review Committee, working with legal professionals and community members to assess and support judicial performance.

As a long-time resident of Douglas County and a member of the Parker community, this opportunity is particularly meaningful to me. Parker is where I've raised my family, built my practice, and contributed to the well-being of the community. I am deeply committed to the Town's values of transparency, accountability, service, and civic engagement, and I would be honored to serve the residents of Parker in this role.

Thank you for considering my application. I welcome the opportunity to further discuss how my background, skills, and passion for justice can contribute to the Parker Municipal Court.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Thomas A. Ramunda Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Thomas A. Ramunda Jr., Esq.



Thomas A. Ramunda Jr.

ATTORNEY

19590 E Mainstreet, Ste. 103, Parker, CO 80138

(303) 840-2700

tom@southdenverlaw.com

Profile

Experienced attorney with over 33 years of experience. Licensed in Colorado with a distinguished record as a solo practitioner, Associate Municipal Judge, and certified mediator. Known for delivering results-driven representation and serving the community through court-appointed roles.

Experience

Town of Elizabeth & Town of Johnstown | Associate Municipal Judge

Elizabeth, CO (2022–present) & Johnstown, CO (2023–present)

- Preside over traffic, criminal, juvenile, parking, and municipal code violation cases
- Conduct arraignments, hearings, and trials while ensuring compliance with laws and evidence rules
- Delivered timely, fair, and consistent judgments, enhancing public trust in the judiciary

Judicial Performance Commission (2019–present)

- Appointed by Colorado Senate President to review judicial performance
- Provide voters with fair, responsible, and constructive evaluations of judges seeking retention

The Law Offices of Thomas A. Ramunda Jr., LLC | Owner & Attorney (2000–present)

- Oversee all aspects of firm operations ensuring efficient service and client satisfaction.
- Specialize in criminal defense and family law, and a certified mediator.
- Advocate for defendants as an attorney contractor with the Office of Alternate Defense Counsel
- Serves as Guardian *ad litem*, counsel for respondents, witness counsel, or advisory counsel through State Judicial as Court Appointed Counsel (CAC)

Colorado State Public Defender's Office | Senior Trial Attorney (1992–2000)

- Represented clients in municipal, county, district, and appellate courts
- Supervised legal teams and conducted training sessions

Education

Juris Doctor | Denver, CO

University of Denver, Sturm College of Law

Bachelor's Degree | Dayton, OH

University of Dayton

Major: Political Science

Associations

Colorado Bar Association (CBA), Colorado Municipal Judges Association (CMJA), Colorado Criminal Defense Bar (CCDB), Douglas Elbert County Bar Association (DEBA), National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers (NACDL), Martindale-Hubbell (BV Distinguished Rating)

GINA N. EDWARDS - HICKMAN

Phone (720) 648-2510 • E-mail: ghickman@edgewaterco.com

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

EDGEWATER MUNICIPAL COURT

Edgewater, Colorado

Presiding Judge

10/2024-Present

- Preside over cases involving municipal and Model Traffic Code violations, to include arraignments, in-custody bond hearings, pretrial conferences, motions hearings, jury and bench trials
- Administrative experience including but not limited to court policy and procedures

EDGEWATER MUNICIPAL COURT

Edgewater, Colorado

Interim Presiding Judge

06/2024-10/2024

- Preside over cases involving municipal and Model Traffic Code violations, to include arraignments, in-custody bond hearings, pretrial conferences, motions hearings, jury and bench trials

EDGEWATER MUNICIPAL COURT

Edgewater, Colorado

Deputy Associate Judge

01/2024-06/2024

- Preside over cases involving municipal and Model Traffic Code violations, to include arraignments, bond hearings, pretrial conferences, jury and bench trials

AURORA MUNICIPAL COURT

Aurora, Colorado

Relief Judge

01/2023-Present

- Preside over cases involving municipal and Model Traffic Code violations, to include arraignments, bond hearings, pretrial conferences, motions hearings, jury and bench trials
- Preside over the Armed Forces and Wellness Courts

LAW OFFICE OF GINA N. HICKMAN, LLC.

Aurora, Colorado

Attorney at Law

06/2016-Present

- Independent Contractor with the Office of the Child Representative as Guardian ad Litem and Child Legal Representative
- Best Interest Representation for children in Delinquency, Truancy, Dependency and Neglect, Paternity, Adoption, and Domestic Relations cases
- Conduct independent investigations for review, dispositional, and contested hearings
- Educational, Mental Health, and Pro-social advocacy for the unique needs of children
- Substantial experience with motions practice and trial litigation

- Experience with education law, including educational surrogate duties for children who qualify for services under IDEA
- Experience representing the best interest of parents in Dependency and Neglect cases
- Manage licensed social workers
- Administrative experience as owner of law practice

BETTENBERG, SHARSHEL & MAGUIRE, LLC.
Centennial, Colorado

Guardian ad Litem
11/2012-06/2016

- Best interest representation for children in Dependency and Neglect and Delinquency cases
- Conducted independent investigations to make recommendations to the court in representing the best interests of children in all legal proceedings

18TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT, DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
Arapahoe County, Colorado
Douglas County, Colorado

Deputy District Attorney
12/2005–10/2012

- Managed a docket of hundreds of felony, juvenile, misdemeanor and traffic cases
- Conducted numerous felony, misdemeanor and traffic jury trials and several bench trials
- Prepared pleadings, responses, and other legal documents in connection with trials and various court proceedings
- Interviewed and advised victims, police officers, and witnesses regarding prospective criminal complaints, court proceedings, and criminal procedure

Appellate Division

- Researched and wrote on various legal issues including but not limited to: Notice of Appeals, Appellate Briefs, Department of Motor Vehicle Answer Briefs
- Appeared on behalf of the Department of Motor Vehicles for DMV stay hearings

Supervisor/Trainer of the First Appearance Advisement Center

- Trained interns and Deputy District Attorneys on office policies and criminal procedure

18TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT
Arapahoe County, Colorado

Judicial Clerk to Honorable Marilyn Antrim
09/2005- 11/2005

- Legal research, analysis and writing in the areas of criminal and civil law

COLORADO ACCESS
Denver, Colorado

Corporate Intern/Independent Legal Consultant
01/2004–07/2004

- Conducted extensive research on Colorado statutory and case law related to health care
- Tracked health care legislation and provided weekly reports to senior counsel
- Performed interviews and investigations concerning compliance and applied regulatory laws to investigated facts to deterring compliance with Code of Federal Regulations
- Drafted policy concerning disclosure requirements to health plan beneficiaries and drafted policy for marketing department in regard to health plan marketing procedures

DNAX RESEARCH INSTITUTE
Palo Alto, California

Patent Legal Intern
05/2003-08/2003

- Gained extensive experience in all substantive and administrative aspects of patent prosecution, including analysis of scientific material for purposes of interviewing inventors regarding basis of inventions to be patented and prepared patent applications and drafted responses to Office Action rejections

DNAX RESEARCH INSTITUTE,
Palo Alto, California

Associate Scientist
10/1997-06/2002

- Developed and characterized therapeutic proteins utilizing various Molecular Biology, Immunology, and Protein Chemistry techniques resulting in several research discoveries, including publications in Nature Immunology (2002) and The Journal of Immunology (2001)

EDUCATION

The University of Denver College of Law, Denver, Colorado
Juris Doctor, May 2005

- Vice President, Intellectual Property Law Society, 2002-2003

University of California, Davis, Davis, California
B.S. Biology, Medical Microbiology Emphasis, Spring 1997

- Biology Undergraduate Scholars Program
- Undergraduate Science Research Presenter

National Institute of Trial Advocacy (NITA)

- Robert E. Harley Advocacy Program: Advanced Trial Skills July 2010
- Office of the Child Representative Trial Advocacy Training April 2017

AWARD(S)

“Standing Up for Kids” Office of the Child Representative Annual Conference 2019

PRESENTATION(S)

The Importance of Resolving Paternity Early in Dependency and Neglect Cases (April 26, 2024-Office of the Child Representative Spring Conference)

Justice: Know Your Rights as Immigrants and Communities of Color (November 5, 2019-Community College of Aurora)

Criminal Justice and Law Program-Career in Juvenile Law (February 10, 2017-Overland High School)

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS/AFFILIATIONS

- Member, Colorado Municipal Judges Association
- Member, Irving P. Andrews Inn of Court
- Cherry Creek School District-Leadership Academy 2022-2023
- Chairperson, Cherry Creek School District Criminal Justice and Law Program Advisory Board
- National Association of Counsel for Children
- National Legal Aid and Defense Association
- Member, Colorado Bar Association
 - Member, Denver Bar Association
 - Member, Juvenile Law Section
 - Member, Family Law Section



MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of Town Council
FROM: Emily Hogan, Assistant Town Manager
DATE: November 3, 2025
SUBJECT: Legislative Policy Agenda Update

ISSUE:

Staff is presenting the 2026 Legislative Policy Agenda for review.

FISCAL/BUDGET IMPACT:

None.

BACKGROUND:

The Town has established a framework for legislative advocacy and takes positions on major policy issues under consideration at the federal, state and local levels that may impact the Town and its residents and businesses. The Council serves as the Town's legislative review body.

The Town supports legislation that is consistent and furthers advancement of the priorities and objectives found in the Strategic Plan. Conversely, the Town opposes legislation that inhibits achievements of the Strategic Plan and its objectives. These positions are captured in the Town's Legislative Policy Agenda, which is adopted annually.

Staff is seeking feedback from Council on the 2026 Legislative Policy Agenda. The Town's legislative delegates are scheduled to attend a study session on November 17, 2025, to share their legislative priorities and hear about the Town's.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff is seeking feedback on the 2026 Legislative Policy Agenda.

REQUESTED DIRECTION:

Staff is seeking feedback on the 2026 Legislative Policy Agenda.

ATTACHMENT:

1. 2026 Legislative Agenda clean 102225
2. 2026 Legislative Agenda redline 102225



2026 Legislative Policy Agenda

Introduction

The Town of Parker's 2026 Legislative Policy Agenda ("Agenda") establishes positions taken by the Town Council on major policy issues under consideration at the federal, state, and local levels that may impact the Town and its residents and businesses. The Agenda builds on the Town's existing values, priorities, and objectives identified in its Strategic Plan. With the Strategic Plan as its foundation, the Agenda is given the flexibility to represent the Town's interest in a wide range of policies, even if the policies in question are not explicitly addressed on the Agenda.

The Town's mission and vision are:

Mission

To enrich the lives of residents by providing exceptional services, engaging community resources and furthering an authentic hometown feel. We promote transparent governing, support sustainable development, and foster a strong, local economy.

Vision

Be the pre-eminent destination community of the Denver Metro area for innovative services with a hometown feel. We will be an area leader in economic and community development, and strive to be at the forefront for services, civic engagement, and quality of life.

The Town's Strategic Priorities are:



Support an active community

Parker will demonstrate our commitment to the health of our community, both indoors and out by providing access to outstanding parks, trails and recreation amenities and activities. We promote a healthy lifestyle and work to meet the needs of a diverse, multigenerational community.



Foster community creativity and engagement

Parker will stimulate community creativity and engagement through high quality cultural and educational programs and amenities. These will include community events, accessible cultural venues, state-of-the-art facilities and innovative lifelong learning opportunities, all of which are vital to a creative community.



Enhance economic vitality

Parker will be an area leader for economic growth by supporting the development of thriving businesses and industry. We will play a critical role in shaping quality of life through exceptional residential, commercial, and open space development; and creating a sense of place that attracts new employees, residents, and visitors to ensure fiscal stability for the community.



Provide a safe and healthy community

Parker will promote the wellbeing of our community by protecting our residents' welfare through prevention services and a safe transportation network. Parker fosters a feeling of personal safety and security through a visible, responsive public safety presence and a proactive focus on prevention, intervention and safety education.



Innovate with collaborative governance

Parker employs a high-quality dedicated workforce to support transparency, accountability, and fiscal sustainability by using innovative techniques to optimize performance. We engage in regional relationships, including our education, fire, water providers, and other governmental agencies and partnerships.



Develop a visionary community through balanced growth

Parker will demonstrate our commitment to balanced growth, well-planned development, and quality infrastructure using a visionary plan for a sustainable future. We support a healthy, future-focused community with exceptional services, while preserving our historical elements and hometown feel.

The Town of Parker supports legislation that is consistent and furthers advancement of the priorities and objectives found in its Strategic Plan. Conversely, the Town opposes legislation that inhibits achievement of the Strategic Plan and its objectives.

Limitations on legislative involvement

The Town will not take a position on every policy likely to impact the Town or its residents, businesses or other stakeholders in the community. The Town's legislative advocacy function has finite resources and focuses on areas with potential to have the greatest impact to the Town. The Town Council exercises discretion in determining when the Town takes a position on a policy.

Revisions to the Legislative Policy Agenda

The Town Council will review and update this Agenda each year as it deems appropriate. The Council may also choose to revise the Agenda outside of the regular update cycle in limited circumstances. Such circumstances may include a need to quickly respond to a particularly impactful policy or provide further direction to staff where the Agenda is not sufficiently specific on a topic.

The Council approves the Agenda each year via resolution.

Support of other organizations

The Town of Parker may from time-to-time partner with other municipalities or agencies on items of mutual interest. The Town may take a position on legislation to support its partners even if there is no direct impact to the Town itself.

Legislative review process

The Council serves as the Town's legislative review body. The Council is apprised of legislation throughout the session by staff and receives regular updates during Council meetings.

Individual advocacy and free speech

These procedures do not limit and are not intended to abridge the federal and state Constitutional rights of the Town Council and staff when they choose to express personal opinions on legislative matters. When expressing personal opinions, Councilmembers and staff are strongly encouraged to communicate that any personal opinions are not issued in an official capacity or on behalf of the Town of Parker or the Town Council. Individuals must refrain from the use of the Town's copyrighted logo or other branded materials.

While individual Councilmembers may advocate for or against legislation in their personal capacity, no Councilmember may represent that they speak on behalf of the Town or Town Council when engaging in political advocacy unless the Town Council has taken a formal position for or against such legislation.

Advocacy for new legislation

Formal approval of the Town Council is required for the Town to propose new legislation. Neither the Mayor nor individual Councilmembers may propose legislation on behalf of the Town without the consent of the full Town Council.

2026 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Home rule authority and local control

Strategic Priority: All

- The Town supports local control and municipal government home rule authority.
- The Town supports collaboration with local municipalities and counties as certain issues require statewide and multi-jurisdictional response, which are best addressed through early and meaningful engagement.
- The Town supports retention of authority for all municipalities to set local tax rates, expand municipal taxing authority and equitably share new state revenue with municipal governments.
- The Town opposes state legislation that creates unfunded mandates on local municipalities without state funding or other sources of revenue.
- The Town supports property tax policies that do not reduce local government revenue and allow municipalities the flexibility to retain excess revenue and modify debt service mill levies, among other tools.
- The Town opposes federal legislation that negatively impacts municipalities' ability to issue tax exempt municipal bonds including private activity bonds assigned to partnering agencies.
- The Town of Parker opposes budget cuts at the state or federal level that result in reduced funding for local governments, such as transportation, public safety, etc.

Land use and building

Strategic Priority: Support an Active Community; Enhance Economic Vitality; Promote a Safe and Healthy Community; Innovate with Collaborative Governance; Develop a Visionary Community Through Balanced Growth

- The Town supports local control and determination of local land use issues. The Town supports municipal home rule authority to establish appropriate building, energy and fire codes to ensure safe, sound construction activity and opposes state mandates that supersede local control.
- The Town supports municipal discretion concerning the imposition of development fees and requirements.
- The Town supports municipal discretion to adopt, update and enforce local building codes, including those that meet or exceed state standards.

- The Town opposes delegation of municipal land use authority to state agencies or preemption of municipal land use controls.

Economic development

Strategic Priority: Enhance Economic Vitality; Develop a Visionary Community Through Balanced Growth

- The Town supports the diversification and expansion of local economies, including support for existing businesses and the creation of new jobs.
- The Town supports regional economic development through partnerships and coordination with local, county, regional and statewide economic partners.
- The Town supports appropriate state tax policies and incentive programs that encourage business expansion, retention and attraction through job creation, investment in capital equipment and employer facility development.
- The Town supports workforce development, including higher education funding and vocational training.
- The Town opposes unreasonable restrictions on urban renewal authorities and downtown development authorities.
- The Town opposes limitations on municipalities' ability to utilize financing mechanisms such as tax increment financing (TIF).

Employment

Strategic Priority: Promote a Safe and Healthy Community

- The Town opposes initiatives that have the potential to compromise officer safety.
- The Town opposes efforts to undermine local control and create mandates for local governments related to personnel policies and benefits structures.
- The Town opposes the reduction and loss of qualified immunity for government officials.
- The Town supports limitations on the liability of municipalities and their officers and employees.

Energy and environment

Strategic Priority: Develop a Visionary Community Through Balanced Growth

- The Town opposes preemption of municipalities in setting and implementing long-term renewable energy goals.

- The Town opposes unfunded federal and state mandates on energy sources that would create unnecessary economic burden on municipalities, local businesses or residents or would reduce energy supply in a significant manner.
- The Town supports reasonable and practical application of air and water pollution control laws by federal and state agencies and encourages restraint in modifying legislation and regulations that have a fiscal impact on municipalities.
- The Town supports practices to assure public health, safety and environmental protection and the protection of domestic water sources.
- The Town opposes state preemption of local government authority to adopt environmental ordinances.

Housing

Strategic Priority: Support an Active Community

- The Town opposes mandated affordable housing requirements that infringe upon local home rule authority or pose a safety issue.
- The Town supports incentives and voluntary measures to promote a full range of housing options including attainable and affordable housing based upon sound planning and policy.
- The Town opposes state preemption of local authority to adopt and enforce ordinances that regulate use of public spaces and rights-of-way.
- The Town supports increasing local governments' ability to regulate, manage or generate alternative sources of funding for affordable housing, including public-private partnerships.
- The Town supports an adequate supply of diverse housing options and continued public and private sector support for such an effort.
- The Town supports solutions at the state level to limit litigation on construction defects to encourage a variety of housing types, particularly for-sale multifamily housing.
- The Town supports the creation of an adequately financed statewide housing trust fund.

Public health & safety

Strategic Priority: Support an Active Community; Promote a Safe and Healthy Community

- The Town supports legislation that clarifies that strangulation committed using a deadly weapon (including body parts) could be charged as a crime of violence with enhanced sentencing procedures.

- The Town supports legislation that expands resources for those with mental health needs.
- The Town supports the greatest amount of local control possible for regulating nutraceutical supplements.
- The Town supports federal, state and county funds for those agencies that serve as a resource to municipal emergency services.
- The Town supports state and community-based intervention, prevention and rehabilitation programs and state initiatives that respect the key role of communities and local government officials.
- The Town supports ensuring that municipal governments retain flexibility in implementing federal and state criminal justice programs.

Transportation

Strategic Priority: Support an Active Community; Enhance Economic Vitality; Promote a Safe and Healthy Community

- The Town opposes state transit planning that results in mandates for local governments and infringes upon local home rule authority.
- The Town supports better geographic distribution in transit services provided to communities by RTD to ensure the Parker area has equitable access to multi-modal transit options that meet the needs of its residents.
- The Town supports greater transportation safety and increased funding for multi-modal transportation systems. The Town supports cooperation among Colorado Department of Transportation, transit agencies, counties, municipalities and interested stakeholders in improving Colorado's transportation system.
- The Town supports legislation and regulatory action that maintains or increases the level of funding provided by the state or passed through the state by the federal government to transportation activities at the local level.
- The Town opposes legislation to transfer maintenance responsibility of state-owned roads to municipalities without adequate short and long-term funding to meet these additional responsibilities.
- The Town supports incentives and voluntary programs to support a Complete Streets approach to transportation design and infrastructure improvements to improve safety, increase travel options and support the development of a multi-modal transportation system.

Water and wastewater

Strategic Priority: Innovate with Collaborative Governance

- The Town supports land use and water policies that protect Colorado's water resources.
- The Town supports appropriate water conservation efforts and sustainable water resources management practices by all users.
- The Town supports participation in statewide discussions of water use and distribution.
- The Town supports stakeholder input and involvement in developing laws and regulations related to water and wastewater issues.

LEGISLATIVE DELEGATIONS

Town of Parker (all Councilmembers serve at-large)

Councilmember	Email	Phone
Mayor Joshua Rivero	jrivero@parkerco.gov	(303) 841-0353
Anne Barrington	abarrington@parkerco.gov	(303) 841-0353
John Diak	jdiak@parkerco.gov	(303) 841-0353
Erik Frandsen	efrandsen@parkerco.gov	(303) 841-0353
Laura Hefta	lhefta@parkerco.gov	(303) 841-0353
Todd Hendreks	thendreks@parkerco.gov	(303) 841-0353
Brandi Wilks	bwilks@parkerco.gov	(303) 841-0353
Michelle Kivela, Town Manager	mkivela@parkerco.gov	(303) 841-0353
Emily Hogan, Asst. Town Manager	ehogan@parkerco.gov	(303) 841-0353
Michael Lawson, Asst. Town Manager	mlawson@parkerco.gov	(303) 841-0353
William Mutch, Town Lobbyist	william@mutchgr.com	(720) 308-3497

US Congress

Councilmember	Email	Phone
Sen. Michael Bennet	scheduler@bennet.senate.gov	(202) 224-5852
Sen. John Hickenlooper	andres.carrera@hickenlooper.senate.gov	(202) 224-5941
Rep. Lauren Boebert (CO-4)	boebert.scheduling@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-4761

State General Assembly

Councilmember	District	Email	Phone
Senator Lisa Frizell	SD 2	lisa.frizell.senate@coleg.gov	(303) 866-2948
Representative Anthony Hartsook	HD 44	anthony.hartsook.house@coleg.gov	(303) 866-4869

Douglas County Commissioners

Councilmember	District	Email	Phone
Abe Laydon	1	bocc@douglas.co.us	(303) 660-7400
George Teal	2	bocc@douglas.co.us	(303) 660-7400
Kevin Van Winkle	3	bocc@douglas.co.us	(303) 660-7400



20265 Legislative Policy Agenda

Introduction

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While individual Councilmembers may advocate for or against legislation in their personal capacity, no Councilmember may represent that they speak on behalf of the Town or Town Council when engaging in political advocacy unless the Town Council has taken a formal position for or against such legislation.

Advocacy for new legislation

Formal approval of the Town Council is required for the Town to propose new legislation. Neither the Mayor nor individual Councilmembers may propose legislation on behalf of the Town without the consent of the full Town Council.

2026⁵ LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Home rule authority and local control

Strategic Priority: All

- The Town supports local control and municipal government home rule authority.
- The Town supports collaboration with local municipalities and counties as certain issues require statewide and multi-jurisdictional response, which are best addressed through early and meaningful engagement.
- The Town supports retention of authority for all municipalities to set local tax rates, expand municipal taxing authority and equitably share new state revenue with municipal governments.
- The Town opposes state legislation that creates unfunded mandates on local municipalities without state funding or other sources of revenue.
- The Town supports property tax policies that do not reduce local government revenue and allow municipalities the flexibility to retain excess revenue and modify debt service mill levies, among other tools.
- The Town opposes federal legislation that negatively impacts municipalities' ability to issue tax exempt municipal bonds including private activity bonds assigned to partnering agencies.
- The Town of Parker opposes budget cuts at the state or federal level that result in reduced funding for local governments, such as transportation, public safety, etc.

Commented [EH1]: New - re State budget concerns

Land use and building

Strategic Priority: Support an Active Community; Enhance Economic Vitality; Promote a Safe and Healthy Community; Innovate with Collaborative Governance; Develop a Visionary Community Through Balanced Growth

- The Town supports local control and determination of local land use issues.
- The Town supports municipal home rule authority to establish appropriate building, energy and fire codes to ensure safe, sound construction activity and opposes state mandates that supersede local control.
- The Town supports municipal discretion concerning the imposition of development fees and requirements.
- The Town supports municipal discretion to adopt, update and enforce local building codes, including those that meet or exceed state standards.

- The Town opposes delegation of municipal land use authority to state agencies or preemption of municipal land use controls.
- ~~The Town opposes mandatory approval of wireless telecommunications facilities permits within a 60-day period as this is a local land use issue and there are no known issues with municipalities delaying review of these applications.~~

Commented [EH2]: Removed - re bill from 25 session

Economic development

Strategic Priority: Enhance Economic Vitality; Develop a Visionary Community Through Balanced Growth

- The Town supports the diversification and expansion of local economies, including support for existing businesses and the creation of new jobs.
- The Town supports regional economic development through partnerships and coordination with local, county, regional and statewide economic partners.
- The Town supports appropriate state tax policies and incentive programs that encourage business expansion, retention and attraction through job creation, investment in capital equipment and employer facility development.
- The Town supports workforce development, including higher education funding and vocational training.
- The Town opposes unreasonable restrictions on urban renewal authorities and downtown development authorities.
- The Town opposes limitations on municipalities' ability to utilize financing mechanisms such as tax increment financing (TIF).

Employment

Strategic Priority: Promote a Safe and Healthy Community

- ~~The Town opposes initiatives that have the potential to compromise officer safety.~~
- ~~The Town opposes efforts to undermine local control and create mandates for local governments related to personnel policies and benefits structures.~~
- ~~The Town opposes the reduction and loss of qualified immunity for government officials.~~
- ~~The Town supports limitations on the liability of municipalities and their officers and employees.~~

Energy and environment

Strategic Priority: Develop a Visionary Community Through Balanced Growth

- ~~The Town supports reasonable energy conservation efforts and appropriate legislation that accelerates the development of clean, economical energy resources.~~
- The Town opposes preemption of municipalities in setting and implementing long-term renewable energy goals.
- The Town opposes unfunded federal and state mandates on energy sources that would create unnecessary economic burden on municipalities, local businesses or residents or would reduce energy supply in a significant manner.
- The Town supports reasonable and practical application of air and water pollution control laws by federal and state agencies and encourages restraint in modifying legislation and regulations that have a fiscal impact on municipalities.
- The Town supports practices to assure public health, safety and environmental protection and the protection of domestic water sources.
- ~~The Town supports statewide and regional cooperation in drought response planning including water storage, as well as increasing conservation efforts.~~
- The Town opposes state preemption of local government authority to adopt environmental ordinances.

Commented [EH3]: Removed - duplicate

Commented [EH4]: Removed - duplicate

Housing

Strategic Priority: Support an Active Community

- ~~The Town opposes mandated affordable housing requirements that infringe upon local home rule authority or pose a safety issue.~~
- ~~The Town supports incentives and voluntary measures to promote a full range of housing options including attainable and affordable housing based upon sound planning and policy.~~
- The Town opposes state preemption of local authority to adopt and enforce ordinances that regulate use of public spaces and rights-of-way.
- The Town supports increasing local governments' ability to regulate, manage or generate alternative sources of funding for affordable housing, including public-private partnerships.
- The Town supports an adequate supply of diverse housing options and continued public and private sector support for such an effort.

Commented [EH5]: New - re affordable housing mandates

- The Town supports solutions at the state level to limit litigation on construction defects to encourage a variety of housing types, particularly for-sale multifamily housing.
- The Town supports the creation of an adequately financed statewide housing trust fund.

Public health & safety

Strategic Priority: Support an Active Community; Promote a Safe and Healthy Community

- ~~The Town supports the greatest amount of local control possible for the regulation and ability to restrict sales of marijuana, kratom, and products with hallucinogenic properties.~~
- ~~The Town supports legislation that clarifies that strangulation committed using a deadly weapon (including body parts) could be charged as a crime of violence with enhanced sentencing procedures.~~
- The Town supports legislation that expands support resources for those with mental health needs.
- ~~The Town supports legislation that provides state resources for mental health initiatives.~~
- The Town supports the greatest amount of local control possible for regulating nutraceutical supplements.

Commented [EH6]: New - re Town-initiated bill

Commented [EH7]: Removed - duplicate

Public safety

Strategic Priority: Promote a Safe and Healthy Community

- ~~The Town opposes initiatives that have the potential to compromise officer safety.~~
- ~~The Town opposes efforts to undermine local control or enforcement of activities on public property.~~
- ~~The Town supports local control of local emergency services, operations, and involvement of the state as a resource to local government in the areas of information, coordination and training.~~
- The Town supports federal, state and county funds for those agencies that serve as a resource to municipal emergency services.
- The Town supports state and community-based intervention, prevention and rehabilitation programs and state initiatives that respect the key role of communities and local government officials.
- The Town supports ensuring that municipal governments retain flexibility in implementing federal and state criminal justice programs.
- ~~The Town opposes efforts to undermine local control and create mandates for local governments related to personnel policies and benefits structures.~~

Commented [EH8]: Removed - combined with Public Health section

Commented [EH9]: Moved to employment

Commented [EH10]: Removed - re bill from 25 session

Commented [EH11]: Moved to employment

- ~~The Town opposes the reduction and loss of qualified immunity for government officials.~~
- ~~The Town supports limitations on the liability of municipalities and their officers and employees.~~
- ~~The Town opposes state preemption of municipal authority to regulate firearms within municipalities.~~

Commented [EH12]: Removed - bill from 25 session

Transportation

Strategic Priority: Support an Active Community; Enhance Economic Vitality; Promote a Safe and Healthy Community

- The Town opposes state transit planning that results in mandates for local governments and infringes upon local home rule authority.
- The Town supports better geographic distribution in ~~programming transit services~~ provided to communities by RTD to ensure the Parker area has equitable access to multi-modal transit options that meet the needs of its residents.
- The Town supports greater ~~flexibility transportation safety~~ and increased funding for multi-modal transportation systems. The Town supports cooperation among Colorado Department of Transportation, ~~transit agencies~~, counties, municipalities and interested stakeholders in improving Colorado's transportation system.
- The Town supports legislation and regulatory action that maintains or increases the level of funding provided by the state or passed through the state by the federal government to transportation activities at the local level.
- ~~The Town opposes legislation to transfer maintenance responsibility of state-owned roads to municipalities without adequate short and long-term funding to meet these additional responsibilities.~~
- ~~The Town supports incentives and voluntary programs to support a Complete Streets approach to transportation design and infrastructure improvements to improve safety, increase travel options and support the development of a multi-modal transportation system.~~
- ~~The Town supports legislation that would allow local governments to impose an additional local motor vehicle registration fee to fund safety improvements for vulnerable road users (i.e. pedestrians, cyclists, etc.) in a local government's jurisdiction.~~
- ~~The Town opposes legislation that would require local governments with a population of 25,000 or more to prepare a transportation mode choice implementation plan every 5~~

Commented [EH13]: New - proposed by CommDev

years to meet mode choice targets and provide different means of travel to reduce emissions.

Commented [EH14]: Removed - re bills from 25 session

Water and wastewater

Strategic Priority: Innovate with Collaborative Governance

- The Town supports land use and water policies that protect Colorado's water resources.
- The Town supports appropriate water conservation efforts and sustainable water resources management practices by all users.
- The Town supports participation in statewide discussions of water use and distribution.
- The Town supports stakeholder input and involvement in developing laws and regulations related to water and wastewater issues.

LEGISLATIVE DELEGATIONS

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Sen. John Hickenlooper	andres.carrera@hickenlooper.senate.gov	(202) 224-5941
Rep. Lauren Boebert (CO-4)	boebert.scheduling@mail.house.gov	(202) 225-4761

State General Assembly

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Representative Anthony Hartsook	HD 44	anthony.hartsook.house@coleg.gov	(303) 866-4869

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