



TOWN COUNCIL STUDY SESSION AGENDA
November 17, 2025
4:00 PM

I. Study Session Items

1. Cultural Strategic Plan Update - Glassburn/Keen Independent Research - 1 hour
2. Legislative Update - Hogan/Legislative Representatives - 1 hour
3. 250-150 Update - Spain - 15 minutes

II. Staff Updates

III. Town Council Updates/Items



MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers
FROM: Carrie Glassburn, Cultural Director
DATE: November 17, 2025
SUBJECT: Cultural Strategic Plan Update

ISSUE:

The Town's most recent *Cultural Strategic Plan* expired in 2023. Master Plans are intended to be living documents that evolve over time to reflect the community's changing vision and goals.

Cultural staff, in partnership with Keen Independent Research, are preparing an updated *Parker Arts Cultural Strategic Plan*. Staff and the consultant will provide Town Council with an overview of the plan's draft Vision, Mission, and Priorities, and will seek input on the material shared.

FISCAL/BUDGET IMPACT:

The consultant fee for the Cultural Strategic Plan project was included in the approved 2025 budget. Any costs associated with implementing specific objectives and tactics identified in the plan will be incorporated into future budget cycles as needed.

BACKGROUND:

The previous *Cultural Strategic Plan* (adopted in 2019) focused primarily on internal operations within Parker's cultural facilities. As Parker Arts programming has grown in both scope and success, community demand for expanded cultural offerings has increased.

To align with this growth and the Town's evolving character, the new plan takes a broader, community-wide approach to arts and culture. It provides direction for the next decade, establishing a clear framework of **Priorities, Objectives, and Tactics** to guide cultural policy, programming, and investment decisions.

During this update to Town Council, staff and the consultant will present:

- An overview of the planning process and key steps
- Highlights of major findings
- A review of the draft Vision, Mission, and Approaches
- A summary of proposed Priorities, Objectives, and Tactics

- A projected timeline for plan completion

This session offers an important opportunity for Council to provide feedback and guidance on the draft plan elements.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff requests that Town Council review and provide input on the draft Vision, Mission, and Priorities for the *Parker Arts Cultural Strategic Plan*.

REQUESTED DIRECTION:

Staff and the project consultant seek Council feedback on the presented material that will inform the *Cultural Strategic Plan*.

ATTACHMENT:

None



MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers
FROM: Emily Hogan, Assistant Town Manager
DATE: November 17, 2025
SUBJECT: Legislative Update

ISSUE:

Staff is presenting a legislative briefing for Council, including an update from Parker's legislative delegates, Representative Hartsook and Senator Frizell.

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 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.

The Legislative Policy Agenda identifies the Town's positions on major policy issues 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. The Agenda was shared with Parker's legislative delegates prior to the study session. The Town's 2026 Legislative Policy Agenda was adopted by Council on November 3, 2025.

The Council serves as the Town's legislative review body and is apprised of bills throughout the session and receives regular updates throughout the legislative session. The Council also receives updates from staff and the Town's lobbyist (Mutch Government Relations) when out of session as there are interim committees meeting and discussing potential bills. The Town's lobbyist is contracted to provide legislative advocacy services to the Town. In addition to maintaining a daily presence at the State Capitol when in session, the lobbyist acts as a policy advisor, strategic consultant, coalition organizer and legislative advocate on behalf of the Town.

Parker's legislative delegates, Representative Anthony Hartsook (HD 44) and Senator Lisa Frizell (SD 2), were invited to attend this legislative briefing and share their legislative priorities for the upcoming session with Council. Likewise, Council will share the Town's legislative priorities.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff is sharing an update on items of interest for the upcoming 2026 legislative session of the Colorado General Assembly.

REQUESTED DIRECTION:

Staff is sharing an update on items of interest for the upcoming 2026 legislative session of the Colorado General Assembly.

ATTACHMENT:

1. 2026 Legislative Policy Agenda 110425

2026 TOWN OF PARKER LEGISLATIVE POLICY AGENDA



PARKER
COLORADO

TOWN OF PARKER - 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.

Mission and Vision

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.

Strategic Priorities

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.



TOWN OF PARKER - 2026 LEGISLATIVE POLICY AGENDA

INTRODUCTION

Legislative Policy Agenda

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.

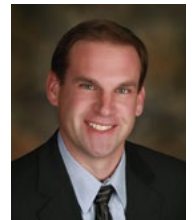
Town of Parker Officials



Joshua Rivero
Mayor



Anne Barrington
Councilmember



John Diak
Councilmember



Erik Frandsen
Councilmember



Laura Hefta
Councilmember



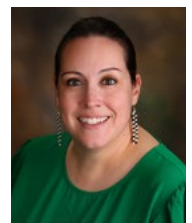
Todd Hendreks
Councilmember



Brandi Wilks
Councilmember



Michelle Kivela
Town Manager



Emily Hogan
Asst. Town Manager

For contact information, please see page 6.

TOWN OF PARKER - 2026 LEGISLATIVE POLICY AGENDA

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).



TOWN OF PARKER - 2026 LEGISLATIVE POLICY AGENDA

2026 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

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 the creation of an adequately financed statewide housing trust fund.
- 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.

Public Health and 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.



TOWN OF PARKER - 2026 LEGISLATIVE POLICY AGENDA

2026 LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES

Public Health and Safety (con't)

- 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.



TOWN OF PARKER - 2026 LEGISLATIVE POLICY AGENDA

LEGISLATIVE DELEGATIONS

Town of Parker <i>(all Councilmembers serve at large)</i>		
Name	Email	Phone
Joshua Rivero, Mayor	jrivero@parkerco.gov	(303) 841-0353
John Diak, Mayor Pro Tem	jdiak@parkerco.gov	(303) 841-0353
Anne Barrington, Councilmember	abarrington@parkerco.gov	(303) 841-0353
Erik Frandsen, Councilmember	efrandsen@parkerco.gov	(303) 841-0353
Laura Hefta, Councilmember	lhefta@parkerco.gov	(303) 841-0353
Todd Hendreks, Councilmember	thendreks@parkerco.gov	(303) 841-0353
Brandi Wilks, Councilmember	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

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

State General Assembly		
Name	Email	Phone
Lisa Frizell, Senator (SD 2)	lisa.frizell.senate@coleg.gov	(303) 866-2949
Anthony Hartsook, Rep. (HD 44)	anthony.hartsook.house@coleg.gov	(303) 866-4869

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



MEMORANDUM

TO: Honorable Mayor and Councilmembers
FROM: Brooke Spain, Events Manager
DATE: November 17, 2025
SUBJECT: 250-150 Update

ISSUE:

Staff is sharing an update on the America 250/Colorado 150 anniversary plans for 2026.

FISCAL/BUDGET IMPACT:

None.

BACKGROUND:

In 2026, America celebrates 250 years of independence, marking the United States' semiquincentennial (250th anniversary). Colorado is also celebrating 150 years of statehood, marking Colorado's sesquicentennial (150th anniversary). Because these two milestones align in the same year for Colorado, the state is branding it together as one big celebration.

Town staff has made plans to incorporate the 250/150 theme within our existing events and programs. In 2026, Parker will go 'Back to Our Roots' in celebration of America 250/Colorado 150/Parker 45. Staff will share an overview of plans for 2026.

RECOMMENDATION:

None.

REQUESTED DIRECTION:

Staff is seeking Council's feedback on the Town's 250/150 anniversary plans.

ATTACHMENT:

None