

October 2016

City of
Wheat Ridge
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

Mayor's Matters

AS AN ASIDE

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Deep Roots, Short Commutes



Mayor Joyce Jay

Mayor's Matters is your connection to learn about the great things happening in the City of Wheat Ridge!

Feel free to share this newsletter with any friends or family who may wish to know more about our great city.

Trunk or Treat at the Ridge on the Green

Join the Halloween fun at this safe Trunk or Treat event on Saturday, October 29, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. on the Green at the Ridge. Kids and families are welcome and firefighters, police officers and community members will also be present. Participants decorate their cars and trucks and distribute candy to trick-or-treaters. There will be a haunted house, carnival games, a costume parade, a trunk decorating contest and "Thriller" zombie dancers. Additional information http://ridgeat38.com/event/trunk-or-treat-3/?instance_id=2884



Coffee with the Mayor

**Saturday November 5th
9:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. at Vinnola's
7750 W. 38th Ave.**



Wheat Ridge Parks and Recreation Receives National Accreditation

The City of Wheat Ridge Parks and Recreation Department recently received national accreditation from the Commission for Accreditation of Park and Recreation Agencies (CAPRA).

Wheat Ridge is one of only eight agencies in Colorado receiving this prestigious designation. A board of 14 CAPRA members from all over the country presided at the hearing on October 4, 2016 in St. Louis, Missouri. Their review and comments were very positive and noted that Wheat Ridge is a model community for the accreditation process.

“We credit Wheat Ridge Parks and Recreation Director Joyce Manwaring for her leadership and direction on this process, as well as the dedication to excellence exhibited every day by all Parks and Recreation employees on behalf of the City,” stated Patrick Goff, City Manager.

Accreditation is based on an agency’s compliance with the 151 standards for national accreditation. To achieve accreditation, an agency must comply with all 37 fundamental standards and achieve 103 (90%) of the 114 non-fundamental standards upon initial accreditation.

“National Accreditation only goes to cities who demonstrate the required 151 standards representing the best management practices for park and recreation agencies,” said Mayor Joyce Jay. “While we are the 17th largest city in Colorado, we have a Parks and Recreation Department that stands out as a powerful first in exceeding standards set at the national level.”





Budgeting Truly Is a Balancing Act

Earlier this month the City launched a new budget software Balancing Act which is a fun and easy way for residents to learn about the City Budget and the choices their elected officials face in the budgeting process. It allows participants to try allocating funds— expressing their priorities and preferences. Balancing Act was designed for those individuals interested in taking an active role in making their community better by sharing their voice.

Please note, this is a working budget and does not include any new positions or vehicle requests. It is the responsibility of the City Manager to present a balanced budget to City Council. The 2017 Proposed Budget is balanced.

Direct link to our budget simulation: <http://wheatridge.abalancingact.com>

November 26, 8:30 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Walmart - 3600 Youngfield

Walmart Shoppers!
Purchase a toy or clothing item and fill the police cruiser!

OPERATION BLUE SANTA

Sponsored by:
Walmart, The Optimist Club
and Wheat Ridge Police Department

FILL A CRUISER

*Collections will help children in need within Wheat Ridge.



2016 Election

**November 8th is
Election Day.**

Visit the City website for important information regarding the 2016 Election at the following link.

<http://co-wheat-ridge3.civicplus.com/1317/2016-Ballot-Issues>

City Increases Smoke-Free Spaces

The City of Wheat Ridge defines smoking as inhaling, exhaling, or carrying any burning tobacco or other plant matter or inhaling vapor containing nicotine, THC, or other chemicals. This includes but is not limited to: cigarettes, cigars, chew, pipes, e-cigarettes, vape pens, and other vapor devices. Wheat Ridge joins cities with similar laws, including Edgewater, Lakewood, and Golden, that also added the use of vaporizing devices to smoke free laws. City Ordinance #1584 makes the following areas smoke and vapor free:



- Outdoor parks, trails, open space, sports fields and other recreation areas
- The 15-foot perimeter around main building and facility entrances
- Public transit waiting areas, bus stops, shelters, light rail platforms, etc.
- Indoor areas of businesses and other facilities open to the public.

The Wheat Ridge Parks and Recreation Department has increased smoke-free signage at parks, playgrounds and ballfields.

District 1 Neighborhood Watch

When: Saturday, October 29 from 1-3 PM

Where: Ye Olde Firehouse located at 3227 Chase Street

Help us create a safer community! Join District 1 Councilor Monica Duran and a representative from the Wheat Ridge Police Department. They will be discussing how to protect families and neighborhoods from criminal activity.

This event will be a great time to meet neighbors, discuss ideas for a safer community, ask questions and enjoy refreshments.

R.S.V.P. via email to Councilor Duran at mduran@ci.wheatridge.co.us or via phone at 720-312-0583.

Catch up with Kristi

District II Outreach Meeting with Council Member Kristi Davis.

Tuesday, November 15, 2016

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Clancy's Irish Pub

7000 W. 38th Avenue

This will be an opportunity to meet with members of your community and receive updates on City activities. There will be plenty of time for Q & A.

The CAT (Crash and Traffic) Team hopes for a safe and fun Halloween for all the ghosts and goblins out there!

The Wheat Ridge Police Department has implemented "Street Feet" a project to help with pedestrian safety throughout the City. Part of the project is to identify potential hazards to pedestrians. With Halloween approaching, we are asking motorists and parents to be even more aware of pedestrian safety.

Drivers:

- Drive slowly through residential areas; give yourself extra time to react
- Be mindful of children when entering and exiting alleys and driveways
- Watch for children darting between cars
- Don't be distracted by the costumes; keep scanning the road

Parents:

- Have an adult or older siblings accompany the little ones when trick or treating
- Know where your children will be trick or treating
- Stay off of busy streets
- Have a curfew for Trick or Treaters
- Instruct your kids on pedestrian safety
- Check candy before allowing children to taste treats
- Keep pets safely inside and away from the door to avoid children from being frightened and pets from escaping or being anxious



Congratulations Margaret Paget, Forestry and Open Space Supervisor, for her recognition from the Good News Jefferson County Coalition

Margaret has spent the last 25 years working to protect and preserve Wheat Ridge open space areas. In 2016, Margaret was recognized by the Good News Jefferson County Coalition for her support of resident projects including protecting and reclaiming the Baugh House property, helping the Wheaties University team execute an environmental education festival, and encouraging residents to eliminate invasive plants near the Greenbelt and surrounding areas. Wheat Ridge has been recognized as a Tree City USA community for the past 33 years.



NO SHAVE NOVEMBER

Join the Wheat Ridge Police Department for No Shave November and help raise awareness for cancer. No-Shave November is a month-long journey during which participants forgo shaving in order to increase conversation and raise cancer awareness.

If you would like to voluntarily participate (open to anyone, police officers, professional staff, elected officials, community members), here are a few rules:

Rules? No rules, just don't do anything and let it grow!

OK, there are a few steps to take:

- 1) Take a selfie "before" picture. With your permission, we will post photos on the PD Facebook page.
- 2) We are asking for a voluntary donation of \$25 or higher. Go to the Wheat Ridge Police Department Team page at <https://no-shave.org/team/WRPD> (either donate to the team or join and get people to donate to you)
- 3) The department reserves the right to require grooming if someone gets out of hand (safety clause, because we don't know what might happen)
- 4) Grow between November 1 through November 30 (Can I start early? No, growth prior to November 1 does not count)
- 5) Do you have to grow a full beard or can you just do a moustache, goatee, etc.. Your choice.
- 6) On November 30 @ 3:00 pm, we will have a ceremony in the Police Training Room to award prizes.

Judges will be local professional hair stylists.

- a. The Missing Link Award (longest, fullest, etc...)
- b. The Evolution Award (sparsest, thinnest, etc...)
- c. Best In Show (most attractive)
- d. Most Money Raised

Organizations benefited from No Shave November:

American Cancer Society
Prevent Cancer Foundation
Fight Colorectal Cancer
St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital

For more info about No Shave November: <https://no-shave.org/> or contact Division Chief Lorentz @ (303) 235-2955