



# Help wanted: Loveland transportation planners



## *Citizens will craft a vision for city's transport future*

More than a dozen City of Loveland employees met last summer in a large Public Works Department conference room to begin their discussion of the next citywide transportation plan.

Presiding at the meeting was Senior Civil Engineer Dave Klockeman, who has been a key participant in most of Loveland's transportation planning efforts for the past two decades and who is the project manager for the newest, "Connect Loveland."

Opening the session, he held

up a bound copy of the City's 2035 Transportation Plan, a hefty document loaded with charts, maps, data and diagrams, all knitted together by a narrative describing projects and priorities that might rescue the city from transportation paralysis.

"I said to the group, 'If we produce something that looks like this, I'm going to get fired,'" Klockeman said in mid-December, as the Connect Loveland planning project was gearing up.

The problem with the 2035 plan, Klockeman said, is that it was too heavy on nuts-and-bolts engineering solutions to traffic and mobility problems. It lacked the community's vision of whether any of them were wanted, whether they

would contribute to the benefit of all city residents and, if so, practical ways to put them in place.

Connect Loveland will be less a product built by City engineers and traffic experts, and more a community endeavor driven by Loveland residents who drive, walk, bike and bus from points 'A' to points 'B' throughout the city. Its three ingredients are separate, but integrated, frameworks for vehicular travel, bicycle/pedestrian mobility and transit systems.

### **The vision quotient**

"Unlike some of the previous plans, this one will look more toward the future from a visioning perspective," Klockeman said. "It will require lots of community input to make sure we develop that (see **Transportation** page 2)

kind of vision. Our challenge is to go out into the community and get that information.”

A review of proposals from firms that specialize in community-guided transportation planning brought a Denver-based team from Fehr & Peers Transportation Consultants to Loveland. Their proposal describes 10 team members with specialties in vehicle, bicycle, pedestrian and transit systems – all of them with keen eyes on technology, demographics, land use and economics that will shape the planning.

Ann Bowers, who leads the Fehr & Peers team as project manager, said the citizen-driven model has produced results that are now in place in communities statewide, and that public outreach has become as important as engineering analysis in formulating those plans.

“The more involvement we get, the more fun it is to do this, and the more valuable our product will be,” she said.

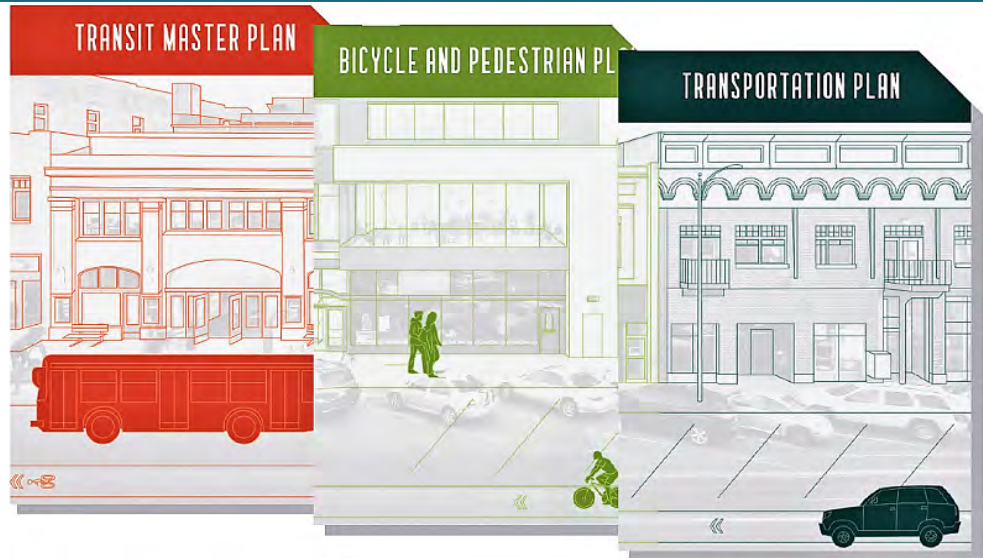
Beginning this month, Loveland residents can enlist in the planning effort, meeting face-to-face with City planners and the Fehr & Peers specialists, or participating at a greater distance with responses to surveys seeking their vision for the city’s transportation future.

### Rubber meets road

For most of the past few decades, Loveland’s planning tradition has mirrored those in other Front Range communities. When traffic congestion chokes the city’s streets, the solution has been to build bigger streets, with more lanes, to accommodate it.

While adding lanes to existing streets will be part of an ongoing solution, Bowers said that more communities are realizing that other options have to gain equal consideration in planning efforts.

“What if Loveland says, ‘We don’t want to build our way out of congestion,’” she said. “What if they tell us they want to find alternate ways to solve that problem? That’s



**Three separate plans** - for transit, bicycle/pedestrian and traffic – will integrate in the “Connect Loveland” master plan. While each can stand alone, together they provide a guide to the city’s transportation development during the coming two decades.

## [www.cityofloveland.org/connectloveland](http://www.cityofloveland.org/connectloveland)

Find out more about Connect Loveland and ways to participate at the website listed above. The Fehr & Peers planning team will become familiar faces in Loveland during the next year, as they meet with city residents in forming a vision for Loveland’s transportation future.

Residents can also participate in surveys that will be promoted on the website, in future editions of City Update and on the City’s social media channels.

what we need to address.”

Candice Folkers, who joined the City last year as manager of the City of Loveland Transit (COLT) system, said the timing of the integrated Connect Loveland planning push matches well with work to energize the city’s transit services.

### Ridership spike

In mid-December, two months after restructuring COLT’s route system to respond to rider demand, Folkers said a use report showed ridership had risen 14 percent over the same period in 2017 – a snapshot statistic that could illustrate the emerging importance of transit.

“That shows a very positive response to our route changes,” she said. It also provides rationale for Connect Loveland’s integration of transit as an equal component of a new city plan.

“What Connect Loveland does is to keep transit more involved in the process, to ensure it is

considered in overall planning,” she said. “You can’t have these things stand alone, because they don’t exist independently.”

Folkers is already making plans for a new COLT link to a transit center at Interstate 25 and Kendall Parkway, part of the I-25 Express Lanes project that builds express bus service into the plan for additional I-25 lanes.

“That will become our east transfer point,” she said. “It’s an example of how this is not just a long-term planning project. It also has very short-term benefits.”

Klockeman and the Fehr & Peers team begin 2019 with another 12 months of their Connect Loveland work ahead of them.

“There will be plenty of opportunities for public input during that time,” he said. “In the old days, we would hold a meeting and expect everyone to come to us. This will be different. People can expect that we’ll be coming to them.”



# It's a go - Council gives City thumbs up for a locally-owned broadband option

## LET'S TALK BROADBAND

The City of Loveland will be the next northern Colorado community to offer community-owned broadband or high-speed internet service.

Last November, Loveland City Council approved the broadband project, allowing the City to build, own and operate its own 100 percent fiber-optic broadband network.

As an internet service provider (ISP), Loveland Broadband will be the first to offer high-speed internet across the entire City. More ISP provider choices will enable consumers to select the provider

that best fits their needs for service availability, speed and price. Optional high-speed internet and phone service will also be available to residents and businesses.

Establishing a brand new utility takes time. The City's broadband team is working to complete the necessary steps for the new fiber-optic network. Key elements of the build process include:

- Developing key initiatives to set the foundation for establishing the new utility including finalizing the network design, setting-up facilities, hiring broadband staff and developing the brand.
- Securing financing through the bonding process that will take 65

days following approval of the bond issuance ordinance.

- Establishing operations including developing plans, processes and systems.
- Hiring staff in engineering, operations, sales and marketing and opening a local call center.
- Building the network, which is estimated to take approximately 3-4 years once construction begins.

Service will become available as infrastructure is placed and the system is activated.

Residents can access news, timelines and ask questions at [www.cityofloveland.org/Broadband](http://www.cityofloveland.org/Broadband), email [Broadband@cityofloveland.org](mailto:Broadband@cityofloveland.org) or call 962-2010.

## Even in the dead of winter there's lots to do at the Loveland Public Library

### Family Fun & Preschool Fair

The Children's division of the Library will be holding its annual Be Ready Preschool Fair from 9 a.m. to noon on Saturday, Feb. 23. This family event provides community resources to help families with school readiness, including preschool information for parents, activities and book giveaways for kids, free breakfast burritos, plus some City emergency and community vehicles will be on-site to check out.



### Ben Clanton comes to the LPL

Author and illustrator Ben Clanton will make an appearance at the library's Gertrude Scott room from 6-7:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb 7.

Many of Loveland's first graders were given his books through the library's Summer Reading Program so Clanton has an active following among Loveland's young readers.

Clanton will discuss his books and unique illustrations that bring his stories to life.



### Design a Heart community art project

The Library Innovation and Technology

Lab invites residents to participate in a community art project leading up to Valentine's Day. Participants can paint on ready-made 3D printed and carved wood candy hearts, or custom design their own for display at the library in February.

For more information on all of these events go to [www.lovelandpubliclibrary.org](http://www.lovelandpubliclibrary.org).



## Loveland's newest downtown signature event enlivens Valentine season

*The Loveland Sweetheart Festival: Love Locks and Lights* debuts as the city's signature valentine season festival, Feb. 8-9 in downtown Loveland.

America's Sweetheart City will show off its unique, art-centered qualities during two nights of music, light, art and love. The nation's largest love-lock sculpture – four unique pieces spelling LOVE – is the centerpiece featuring

customizable locks available for purchase. Each piece of the sculpture is 10 feet tall and weighs 6,000 lbs.

Visitors will enjoy live music, laser light shows, art and sculpture installations, and events including the *Love in a Steampunk World* exhibit at the Fourth Street Gallery, *For the Love*



*of Chocolate* tasting event with beer and wine, the *Sweetheart Classic* 4-mile run and North America's largest inflatable toboggan slide. Children age 4 and under can compete in Little Miss Valentine and Little Mr. Cupid contests.

The event is presented by Visit Loveland and the Loveland Chamber of Commerce. Learn more and see a full schedule at [www.LovelandSweetheartFestival.com](http://www.LovelandSweetheartFestival.com).



**GET READY!**  
**REGISTRATION IS COMING**

Fall 2019 Small Fries  
Preschool Registration  
(ages 3-5)  
begins Friday, Feb. 1  
Download forms at  
[cityofloveland.org/smallfries](http://cityofloveland.org/smallfries)

2019 Summer Camp  
Registration  
(ages 5-16)  
begins Thursday, Feb. 7  
Download forms at  
[cityofloveland.org/ABDC](http://cityofloveland.org/ABDC)

Registration not  
available online.  
Sign up in person  
at the Chilson Center.

 Questions?  
970.962.2FUN

MOUNTAINFILM ON TOUR



**FEBRUARY 2, 2019**  
Rialto Theater - 228 E. Fourth Street  
Presented by City of Loveland Parks & Recreation

2:00 PM Matinee - \$12.00  
7:00 PM Evening Show - \$16.00  
Tickets at [RialtoTheaterCenter.org](http://RialtoTheaterCenter.org)

A SELECTION OF CULTURALLY RICH, ADVENTURE-PACKED & INCREDIBLY INSPIRING DOCUMENTARY FILMS.



**Woo Hoo!**  
**Chilson**  
**3-month**  
**pass**  
**available**  
**all year!**



<b>Youth</b> (6-18 Years)	<b>\$86.50</b>
<b>Adults</b> (19-61 Years)	<b>\$157</b>
<b>Senior Adults</b> (62+)	<b>\$90</b>
<b>Family</b> (1-2 adults + child(ren) under 21 at home)	<b>\$229</b>

**Purchase at Chilson or online!**  
[cityofloveland.org/webtrac](http://cityofloveland.org/webtrac)

**Chilson** 970.962.2FUN  
Recreation Center 700 E. 4th St. | Loveland



Unlock your *Love* in Loveland, Colorado  
this Valentine's season at the 1st annual  
Loveland Sweetheart Festival February 8 - 9.





[www.VisitLovelandCO.com](http://www.VisitLovelandCO.com)

**VOLUNTEER**



**OPEN LANDS & TRAILS  
OPEN HOUSE**

**TUES FEBRUARY 26, 5:00-7:00PM**  
Details: [offero.cityofloveland.org](http://offero.cityofloveland.org)  
or call 970.962.2643

Learn about volunteer opportunities!

**RIALTO PRESENTS**



**TICKETS ON SALE NOW!**

**JASON BISHOP**

**FEB 23**  
8:00 PM

**RIALTO THEATER CENTER**  
228 East Fourth Street • Loveland, CO 80537  
(970) 962-2120 • [rialtotheatercenter.org](http://rialtotheatercenter.org)

City Update is a monthly publication of the City of Loveland. Residents receive City Update according to their utility billing cycle. Timeliness of the information may be affected by recipients' billing schedule. City Update is also available around the first of every month on the City's website at [www.cityofloveland.org](http://www.cityofloveland.org). Your comments are welcome. Please call 962-2302, or email [Tom.Hacker@CityofLoveland.org](mailto:Tom.Hacker@CityofLoveland.org). The City of Loveland is committed to providing equal opportunity for citizens and does not discriminate on the basis of disability, race, color, national origin, religion, sexual orientation or gender. The City will make reasonable accommodations for citizens in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. For more information, please contact the City's ADA Coordinator at 962-3319.

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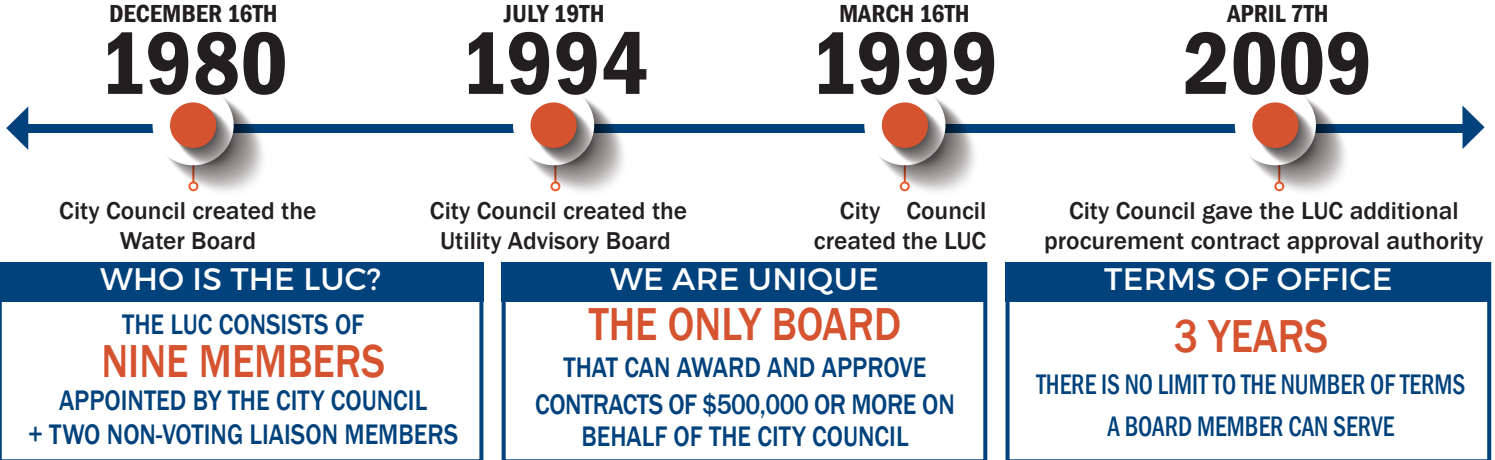
  
  






The Loveland Utilities Commission (LUC) is an advisory board that provides direction to the Loveland City Council on all matters pertaining to water, wastewater and electric utility operations and services.

## HISTORY OF THE LUC



## 2018 LUC ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### SUPPORT THE CITY MUNICIPAL BROADBAND EFFORT

On November 6th, 2018 City Council adopted a resolution establishing a City-owned retail broadband utility. The resolution provides that the City will build, own and operate its own broadband network and will seek collaboration with regional partners such as Fort Collins and Longmont to share resources to save time and money. Learn more about Loveland's Broadband program and sign up for email updates at [www.cityofloveland.org/broadband](http://www.cityofloveland.org/broadband)

### COMPLETE A COMPREHENSIVE UPDATE OF THE 2019 SCHEDULE OF RATES, CHARGES & FEES

The completion of a water and wastewater cost-of-service study in mid-2018 influenced LUC recommendations on 2019 rates. The rates proposed for 2019, as well as a 10-year rate track and borrowing schedule were approved by City Council on Second Reading at their November 6, 2018 meeting. Rates, Charges and Fees can be found on [www.cityofloveland.org/utilityrates](http://www.cityofloveland.org/utilityrates)

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH - EFFICIENCY

LWP's Efficiency Works program helped customers save energy by conducting efficiency audits and connecting customers with contractors that suit their needs. Efficiency Works distributed hundreds of rebates to Loveland citizens in 2018. LWP assisted customers in recycling more than 100 old (working) refrigerators and freezers. The offerings continue to grow as LWP provides programs that encourage citizens to save on their electric and water utilities. Learn more about energy and water efficiency at [www.cityofloveland.org/saves](http://www.cityofloveland.org/saves)

### WATER QUALITY LABORATORY - DESIGN AND BIDDING

The design of the Water Quality Laboratory is nearly complete. Adjustments continue as bids come in. Loveland water quality is tested frequently. Results and more information on water quality may be found here: [www.cityofloveland.org/waterquality](http://www.cityofloveland.org/waterquality)

### CONTINUE WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT EXPANSION

Construction is on schedule and on budget since design approval in 2017. Construction will continue through the first quarter of 2019. More information and time-lapse footage of the project can be found at [www.cityofloveland.org/wwtpeexpansion](http://www.cityofloveland.org/wwtpeexpansion)

### COMPLETE CIRCUIT 911 (BIG THOMPSON CANYON) PHASE TWO

Phase two of three is complete in the large-scale project to rebuild infrastructure damaged in the 2013 flood while implementing a variety of improvements to canyon power systems. This phase provided significant fortitude to the Big Thompson Canyon utility systems. Phase three is estimated to be finalized in 2019. Learn more at [www.cityofloveland.org/circuit911](http://www.cityofloveland.org/circuit911)

## COME HOME to COMFORT

With Home Performance Packages

Get a \$60 home efficiency audit (\$400 value) and choose a home performance package that will increase your comfort and safety, while lowering your utility bills.

**SCHEDULE TODAY**  
(877) 981-1888 or online, [efficiencyworks.com](http://efficiencyworks.com)



## UTILITY NEWS



MAIN SWITCHBOARD  
970-962-3000

UTILITY BILLING  
970-962-2111

visit us online...  
[cityofloveland.org/LWP](http://cityofloveland.org/LWP)



Loveland Water and Power (LWP) consistently emphasizes the importance of outage preparedness. Whether Loveland encounters a blizzard, a flood, or a wildfire, LWP executes emergency procedures to restore services quickly.

# READY FOR ANYTHING: OUTAGE PROCEDURE

## SYSTEM MONITORING



### DISPATCH

- Uses information from the public to locate outages across the city
- Prioritizes and dispatches crews
- Tracks outage and restoration time and numbers
- Monitors restoration and operation safety
- Dispatch may be staffed 24/7 until outages are resolved

**Your Calls Matter!**  
Public feedback on  
outage locations  
helps cut down crew  
response time

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH



### COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

- Educates customers about outage preparedness
- Establishes staff training on emergency responsiveness
- Initiates a phone tree during large events to ensure customers talk to a live person
- Works with dispatch to keep customers informed of outages and hazards
- Dedicated contact available to address needs of key customers including hospitals and schools
- Maintain communication with newspaper and radio outlets on restoration progress

**Neighborhood Ties** - LWP will reach out to neighboring cities to provide support in an emergency

## RESTORATION



### WATER AND POWER CREWS

- Crews may be dispatched any time of day and may work 12-16 hour shifts to utilize daylight hours
- Teams stay safe with extensive weather gear and safety equipment
- LWP truck fleets include four-wheel drive bucket and pickup trucks, allowing crews to navigate difficult terrain
- Crew trucks are stocked with 2-3 chainsaws to remove downed trees
- Each truck is equipped with spotlights to provide light well into the evening

## TEAM MANAGEMENT



### LEADERSHIP TEAM

- All hands on Deck! All LWP staff may be called in by leadership to assist in an emergency
- Monitors activities and performance of utility plants
- Assigns non-operational staff to assist with other City of Loveland needs

**Let it Snow!** If utilities are up and running, utility crews may assist with snowplowing during blizzards

Learn more about what you can do to prepare for an outage at: [www.cityofloveland.org/LWPSafety](http://www.cityofloveland.org/LWPSafety)