

## Population shifts require ward changes in 2023

Join the City to have a say in new ward map options

As the City works to update Loveland's ward boundaries, some residents may find themselves in a different ward for the 2023 election season.

This process is what's known as redistricting, and these efforts are necessary for several reasons – but most importantly, it ensures that wards remain as equal in population as possible and allows the City to coordinate with Larimer County on local elections, making it easier for residents to vote.

Redistricting is an as-needed process that usually happens after new population data is calculated through the U.S. Census Bureau.

### A brief history

Loveland's Čity Charter established four wards to divide the City in 1966, and nine other boundary adjustments have been made since then, with the last adjustment in 2017. In 2021, both the State of Colorado and Larimer County went through similar efforts and established new boundaries for state congressional Loveland is divided into four wards as part of the City Charter. Pictured above is the and legislative districts as well as county precincts.

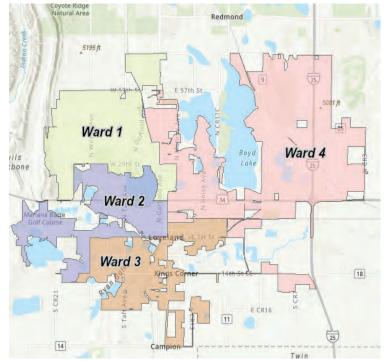
As Loveland continues to grow and as boundaries expand, population data shows that Loveland's current ward counts are off-balance - with several wards having a population difference of more than 10% – more than twice the allowed amount.

### The redistricting process

The redistricting process is driven by the City Clerk's Office with support from the Geographic Information Systems (GIS) team and is guided by the City Charter and the Municipal Code. When establishing new ward boundaries, the City needs to ensure that:

- 1. Currently seated City Čouncilors remain in their same ward:
- 2. There is no more than a 5% deviation in population between wards;
- 3. Wards match County precincts with only one ward in each precinct;
- 4. Wards be as compact as possible without splits;
- 5. Wards align with natural breaks (such as roadways, neighborhoods, lakes/rivers and railroads) as much as possible.

City staff have taken necessary steps to create four possible options that meet the above criteria.



current ward map, which will change following necessary redistricting efforts.

## Share your voice in the process

Residents are invited to provide comments on the proposed options ahead of the 2023 election season. This feedback will be considered as final decisions are made.



Vote on your favorite ward map, as well as ask questions and provide feedback now through January 15, 2023.

### **Online:** Visit LovGov.org/redistricting

In-Person/Online: Attend the Redistricting Hybrid Town Hall from 6 – 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2023 at the Chilson Recreation Center (700 E. 4th St.). Registration for the livestream will be available at LovGov.org/redistricting.

City Update is a monthly publication of the City of Loveland. City Update is also available on the City's website at www.lovgov.org/cityupdate. Your comments are welcome. Please call (970) 962-2302, or email oce@cityofloveland.org. The City of Loveland is committed to providing equal opportunity 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 ADA. For questions, please call (970) 962-3319.

## 2022 Was A Big Year for Pulse, 2023 Is Shaping Up To Be Even Bigger

s year three of Pulse network construction comes to a close, the team is proud of what has been accomplished since the beginning of 2022 - and excited for what's to come in 2023! In the spirit of the season, these are a few of our favorite things...

#### International Customer Experience Award

We are always working on ways to deliver on our promise of a rock-solid utility backed by outstanding customer service. First, we are building a stateof-the-art multi-gigabit network that will be available at every address in the city. Then, optimized backend systems to create an incredible customer experience. We are proud to report that Pulse was recognized with the SugarCRM "2022 Customer Experience Innovation Breakthrough Award." This recognition is for a true end-to-end customer experience implemented across service, tech support, engineering, marketing, and sales. The Breakthrough Awards celebrate businesses across the globe, so it is an honor for Pulse's bold vision to be recognized.

#### **Gold Stars From Our Customers (7)**

With over 70 Google customer reviews, we are rated at 4.6 stars. With grades like these, we know our customers are satisfied. See for yourself at LovelandPulse.com/CustomerLoveStories

### Accessible and Affordable

We launched the Pulse Affordable Connectivity Program Supplement in September, offering assistance beyond the standard Federal plan for disadvantaged households. With the Pulse ACP Supplement, qualifying customers are eligible for free or reduced-priced connectivity, depending on their selected package. Since launching this expanded aid, we've doubled the number of homes in need being served with these funds. Find out if you're eligible at LovelandPulse.com/ACP

#### Loveland Businesses Love Pulse

Service to Loveland's businesses - the economic life-blood of our community - is hopping! We recommend businesses interested in switching to Pulse in the near future reach out to us as soon as possible for bookings in the new year. Our dance card is filling up quickly! Fill out this online form, and we'll get back to you ASAP: LovelandPulse.com/Business

### (R) Out In the Community & Recognized By The Community

Pulse has been out and about (and in some cases, in or online) at over 30 events to connect with our community this year. Sponsoring a blood drive, educating the community at farmer's markets and on webinars, hanging out at the Corn Roast, and many others. We have also been honored by the community. Pulse was recognized at the LiveLoveland.Org 60 Years of Seeds of Innovation Event with the 2022 Community Champion Award, and with the 2022 Aspiring Innovation Award from the Loveland Chamber of **Commerce**.

With 2023 around the corner, we're getting excited as Phase 1 of the construction project is entering the home stretch. We are also working on new features, tools, and processes to keep delivering on our promises of incredible service to the community (current Pulse customers, you'll want to keep a close eye on upcoming announcements!). If you haven't already, check to see if your address is in a Pulse-ready area now, and keep in touch with us for news, updates, and feature launches at

LovelandPulse.com/CheckAvailability



Dozens of happy Loveland Pulse customers visited our booth at the 60 Years of Seeds of Innovation Event at The Forge campus on October 8, 2022.



## **UTILITY NEWS**

## LWP EARNS 'SMART ENERGY PROVIDER' DESIGNATION FOR SECOND TIME



### **EFFICIENTSMARTSUSTAINABLE**



Loveland Water and Power (LWP) has for the second time earned a Smart Energy Provider (SEP) designation from the American Public Power Association (APPA) for demonstrating a commitment to energy efficiency, distributed generation and environmental initiatives that support the goal of providing safe, reliable, low-cost and sustainable electric service. Carl Woodworth, LWP's Customer Relations Business Specialist, accepted an award commemorating our SEP designation on November 15 in Minneapolis, at APPA's annual Customer Connections Conference.

The SEP designation, which lasts for two years (December 1, 2022 to November 30, 2024), recognizes public power utilities for demonstrating leading practices in four key disciplines: smart energy program structure, energy efficiency and distributed energy programs, environmental and sustainability initiatives and customer experience. The SEP designation is a coveted status amongst public utilities; LWP joins just 90 public power utilities nationwide that hold the SEP designation.



## WANT TO CONTINUE THE SPIRIT OF GIVING?

**Consider donating to our Help a Neighbor in Distress** (HAND) Program. The HAND Program keeps LWP water and electric services turned on for people facing a loss of utility service due to an unpaid City utility bill. Visit lovgov.org/HAND or call 970-962-2111 for more information or to donate to the program. "On behalf of our team, the City of Loveland Water and Power Department is honored to be applying best practices for smart energy applications," Loveland Water and Power Director Kevin Gertig said. "The APPA SEP designation represents our dedication to offering programs that keep our power affordable, maintain reliability, reduce environmental impact and support energy efficiency in our community."

Through the SEP program, utilities have a chance to learn, grow and improve their smart energy practices, as well as serve as an example for others striving for excellence in these areas. LWP is excited to once again learn from other utilities in the SEP program and help share successes from moving our own community toward more efficient, energyresilient operations.

#### WHAT SMART ENERGY PROVIDERS DO

Being a Smart Energy Provider means Loveland Water and Power is committed to:



Giving you choices in how you use (or don't use) energy



Living in a healthy environment and

considering sustainability in our energy choices



Providing you with unmatched service



MAIN SWITCHBOARD 970-962-3000

**UTILITY NEWS** 

UTILITY BILLING 970-962-2111



## LOVELAND RESIDENTS LOWER COSTS WITH EFFICIENCY WORKS

Your home is not only a place to create life narratives but a source of comfort and joy. That comfort comes with a high price tag if your home is inefficient. This new year, resolve to make energy efficiency changes to your home that save you money and keep you warm all winter.

Efficiency Works offers discounts and rebates on energysaving technology for your home or business, brought to you courtesy of Loveland Water and Power and Platte River Power Authority.

The Efficiency Works Store provides discounted energy- and water-saving products available only to utility customers in the Platte River service area. Products include air purifiers, holiday LED lights, LED lightbulbs, smart thermostats, power strips and sockets indoor and outdoor water savers and more.

Each product in the store is discounted with instant rebates up to \$50.

Since 2014, Efficiency Works has helped Platte River communities achieve energy savings equivalent to the average energy use of 11,500 homes – serving over 4500 businesses and 9000 households!

To get started, visit **efficiencyworks.org**. Here's to a new year of savings, and making our community even more energy-resilient!

# Efficiency Works

VISIT US ONLINE... LOVELANDWATERANDPOWER.ORG



Efficiency Works offers rebates and in-store discounts for everything from furnaces to air conditioning units to LED light bulbs and ENERGY STAR® appliances.

In addition to energy-saving products, Efficiency Works also offers homeowners and renters affordable home assessments. An Efficiency Works advisor will enroll you in the program and even help review contractor quotes with you.

## FREE HOME EFFICIENCY AUDITS START SOON WITH



LARIMER COUNTY CONSERVATION CORPS

Members of the Larimer County Conservation Corps (LCCC) perform home energy assessments as a free service to Loveland Water and Power customers.

Join the waitlist to secure your spot for 2023! Just send an email to Iccc@larimer.org with your name, phone number and utility provider. Waitlist members will be contacted starting mid-December to be put on the schedule for 2023.