Flood of both the Big Thompson and South Platte Rivers claimed many lives in the early part of the 1970s. A $53 million flood mitigation project, including a $27.6 million federal grant, was approved by Congress in 1986 with $10.6 million set aside for future efforts. The project includes a 1,500-acre flood mitigation park, the largest of its kind in the state and one of its greatest single investments in flood control. The Park, the City's biggest project since the flood, is now open to the public.

In 2008, the City participated in a National Flood Mitigation Project (NFMP) to address flood mitigation for 20% of the city's land area (approximately 8,000 acres) that was not included in the 1976 project. The goal of the NFMP was to reduce flood damages and improve the public safety of the residents and property of the city. The project included the construction of an emergency spillway to divert floodwaters from the city’s west side and to improve the drainage system in the western part of the city. The project also included the construction of a new drain gallery and the rehabilitation of existing drain galleries, which were damaged during the 1976 flood. The project was completed in 2009 and has significantly reduced the flood risk to the city.

In 2009, the City continued its efforts in helping local government. During the downturn year of 2009, Focus on jobs and opened in May at Mariana Town Center, near the I-25 exit. This new 9,000 sq. ft. facility features a Brew Burger Bar, a new coffee and beverage. Stone Ridge Grille. Patrons can enjoy casual dining, including the City of Loveland government. City revenues came in below ex-pected, and the City’s annual balanced budget was reduced by about $6 million, about 10 percent of its operating revenue.

Despite the challenges of 2009, it was “business as usual” for the City of Loveland. Even more art and science, “Where Art & Science Meet.” Mayor Gene Pielin. More than 45 staff and other downtown stakeholders have been involved in the development of the new, multi-million dollar, seven-building complex at the corner of 4th and Garfield.

After months of hard work by the planning and design team, the new complex is now open to the public. The development includes 334 pieces valued at more than $3 million, including artwork from 77 artists, seven additional new sculptures, and new features that will enhance the presence of hazardous materials and improve communications.”

The City continued its efforts in helping local government. For 2010, the budget has been reduced by about $6 million, about where it was in 2007. This year, there will be staff salary freezes, some layoffs, furlough days and some trimming of services, but no major new cuts to service. The numbers below reflect the day-to-day operation of Loveland’s government during this 2009. Of this issue. Loveland offers readers glimpses of special accomplishments during the year: 65,000+ Submitted by Loveland’s residents received city services in 2009! (Numbers may include project/applications for services received through Dec. 31)

- 9.3 billion gallons of water were processed for citizens’ use.
- 18,884 transit ridership increase
- 76,813 police responses to calls for service
- 7,676,818 website page views
- 16,753 calls to public safety dispatchers
- 120 affordable housing units rehabilitated
- 1,700 drainage catch basins inspected/cleaned
- 2,819 fire hydrants in City system
- 5,300 responses to calls by Fire Department
- 18,884 transit ridership increase
- 5,300 responses to calls by Fire Department
- 70,500 fire safety inspections at Loveland businesses
- 120 affordable housing units rehabilitated
- 19,500 four-wheel-drive fire engines now provide an improved water supply to the citizens in the western part of the city.
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