2010: A slightly leaner year ahead

Like most individuals, businesses and other government agencies, the City of Loveland will be reducing its budget for next year, by about six percent. In fact, the City has been reigning in expenses during 2009, including reducing employee pay raises and not filling most open staff positions. More challenges are ahead for 2010 and therefore a major effort has been put into designing a leaner budget that will minimize service decreases to Loveland citizens. The budget for the City’s General Fund—police, fire, streets, building and zoning, parks and recreation, library, culture, administration and more—will be reduced to 2007 levels, with a cutback of about $5.7 million. Revenue changes bring the overall budget impact total to nearly $6.2 million. Most residents are aware that 2008 and 2009 have been bad news /good news years for Loveland and northern Colorado. The bad news is that jobs and the economy have fallen back. The good news is that the City of Loveland has been more resilient to the recessionary pressures than many nearby communities.

Revenue for Loveland’s local government has fallen short of expectations this year and revenue is not expected to increase in 2010. For the 2010 budget, sales tax—the City General Fund’s greatest revenue source—plus lesser revenue sources including property tax, use tax, building permit fees and interest on the City’s savings—are generally expected to remain flat during 2010. Every City department was involved in reducing the overall budget. In designing the budget, several objectives were sought, including:

- Minimizing service impacts on citizens
- Maintaining financial reserves
- Considering 5-year impacts
- Maintaining a safe community
- Reviewing equipment replacements

Personnel costs—salaries and benefits—are the largest costs to the City and therefore were directly affected by the cost cutting. In all, the 2010 budget includes cuts or reductions in the General Fund equal to 23.33 full-time equivalent (FTE)

(continued on page 2)

Municipal election November 3

This year’s Loveland election will be one of the busiest in recent memory. There will be a race in every ward and five candidates are running for mayor. In addition, a vote on implementing a three percent lodging tax will be on the ballot.

This election will be conducted using mail-in ballots. Ballots will be mailed to all registered City of Loveland voters, both inactive and active, between Oct. 9 and 19. Completed and signed ballots must be received by Larimer County by 7 p.m., October 20, 2009.

Running for Mayor (2-year term):
- Cecil Gutierrez: Councilor, Ward 1 – term expires Nov., 2011
- Dave Clark: Mayor Pro Term and Councilor, Ward 4 – term expires Nov., 2009
- Walt Skowron: Councilor, Ward 3 – term expires Nov., 2009
- Glenn Rousey: Councilor, Ward 2 – term expires Nov., 2009
- Alexi Grewal

Running for Councilor, Ward 1 (4-year term):
- Jan Brown
- Daryle Klassen: Councilor, Ward 1 – term expires Nov., 2009
- Adam Koniecki

Running for Councilor, Ward 2 (4-year term):
- Bob Snyder
- Joan Shaffer

Running for Councilor, Ward 3 (4-year term):
- Joseph Hertwig
- Hugh McKean

Running for Councilor, Ward 4 (4-year term):
- Cathleen McEwen
- Teri Volk

For more information on the 2009 Municipal Election, call the City of Loveland Clerk’s Office at 962-2322 or 962-2324.

US 34 & Wilson Avenue Median Improvement Project

The center medians on Wilson Avenue between 8th and 18th Streets are being reconstructed to improve traffic flow, reduce wait times in the left-hand turn lane onto Eisenhower Boulevard and limit access to some of the businesses and private driveways on Wilson, including Kmart, Safeway/Columbine Shopping Center and the Butte Apartments. Traffic on and around Wilson and Eisenhower will be rerouted and redirected as needed until construction is complete.

The total cost of construction will be $400,000. $250,000 will be paid through federal stimulus monies and $150,000 will be funded by the Colorado Department of Transportation.

For more information, visit www.cityofloveland.org or call 962-2510.
Through the end of 2009, Loveland City Council has waived building permit and plan check fees for work done on existing owner-occupied residences. Remodeling, repairs, renovations or additions will still require a permit, but no permit or plan check fees will be charged for projects valued up to $50,000. City Use & County Tax will still be collected. Savings could total $1,000 or more.

This fee waiver is another way Loveland City Council is working to stimulate the local economy. Council hopes the savings will encourage homeowners to move forward with projects that result in sales of building materials and hiring of local contractors.

Remodeling, repairs, renovations or additions will still require a permit, but no permit or plan check fees will be charged for projects valued up to $50,000. City Use & County Tax will still be collected. Savings could total $1,000 or more.

For further details, visit the Building Department pages at www.cityofloveland.org or call 962-2505.

Remodeling, repairs, renovations or additions will still require a permit, but no permit or plan check fees will be charged for projects valued up to $50,000. City Use & County Tax will still be collected. Savings could total $1,000 or more.
Another option is to sign up for the stormwater quality, Robinett said. Can have a very negative impact on the street. Not only is it illegal, but it is a violation of municipal code to sweep or rake leaves from the yard into it. "It can get clogged causing back-ups problems for storm drains, which can cause flooding. Saturated leaves also provide an ideal breeding ground for mosquitoes.

Robinett, streets/stormwater maintenance superintendent.

"We want to remind residents that it is a violation of municipal code to sweep or rake leaves from the yard into the street. Not only is it illegal, but it can have a very negative impact on stormwater quality," Robinett said.

Another option is to sign up for the City's weekly curbside yard waste collection service that runs through the end of November. These 96-gallon carts, delivered to residents' homes, can be filled with leaves and other clean (no dog droppings, rock, soil, sod, or other litter) yard wastes. The carts are emptied on residents' trash collection day. Cost for curbside yard waste collection is $7.50 per month.

The service is offered April through November. Cart customers who plan to use the carts again next spring are asked to keep the carts during the winter months.

The City's Recycling Center is open 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Mon. – Fri., and 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. on the weekends. For more information call 962-2529. To request a yard waste cart call 962-2111.

### 2010 Budget Changes

#### 2010 General Fund Budget Changes

(Police, Fire, Parks & Rec, Public Works, Library, Culture, HR, Finance, Executive, IT, Development)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>FTE</th>
<th>Savings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No Pay Increase for Employees</td>
<td>($1,200,000)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Furlough Days, excluding Sworn Fire and Police</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(296,710)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced Building Inspection, Development Review Services</td>
<td>5.00</td>
<td>(390,970)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corridor and Regional Planning</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>(57,900)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Employee Tuition Reimbursement</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(25,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced Park Maintenance Program</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>(171,910)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mountain Park – Closure November, March</td>
<td>0.17</td>
<td>(20,510)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mounted Horse Police Patrol</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(11,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduction of One Canine Unit</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(14,300)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eliminate Records Backlog Scanning Program</td>
<td>2.00</td>
<td>(92,400)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced Right-of-Way Tree Trimming</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(50,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced Gravel Alley Rebuild Program</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(43,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced Street Inspections for New Streets</td>
<td>1.00</td>
<td>(74,120)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced Local Street Striping</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(15,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced Traffic Count Program</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(12,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced Major Facility Maintenance</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(125,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced Housekeeping in City Facilities</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(150,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduced Street Rehabilitation</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(600,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reduction in Fire Truck Replacement</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(485,000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Departmental Reductions</td>
<td>12.16</td>
<td>(1,906,550)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle Maintenance -Fuel and maintenance</td>
<td>(886,280)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Citywide Core Budget Reductions</td>
<td>(93,533)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Eliminations or Reductions** 23.33 ($6,721,183)

### What to do when the leaves fall

Autumn is here and that means those beautiful russet and gold leaves on the trees will soon be all over lawns and sidewalks. Fallen leaves pose a number of hazards if not raked and disposed of properly. Street sweepers can run into piles of leaves, scattering them and making a mess. Leaves also cause problems for storm drains, which can get clogged causing back-ups or flooding. Saturated leaves also provide an ideal breeding ground for mosquitoes.

The best option is to bag up leaves and take them to the City's Recycling Center at 400 N. Wilson Ave. for recycling at no charge. "Recycling is the best and most environmentally responsible solution," said Danny Robinett, streets/stormwater maintenance superintendent.

"We want to remind residents that it is a violation of municipal code to sweep or rake leaves from the yard into the street. Not only is it illegal, but it can have a very negative impact on stormwater quality," Robinett said.

Another option is to sign up for the City's weekly curbside yard waste collection service that runs through the end of November. These 96-gallon carts, delivered to residents' homes, can be filled with leaves and other clean (no dog droppings, rock, soil, sod, or other litter) yard wastes. The carts are emptied on residents' trash collection day. Cost for curbside yard waste collection is $7.50 per month.

The service is offered April through November. Cart customers who plan to use the carts again next spring are asked to keep the carts during the winter months.

The City's Recycling Center is open 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Mon. – Fri., and 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. on the weekends. For more information call 962-2529. To request a yard waste cart call 962-2111.

### Expenditure Additions:

- Police Step-in-Grade Salary Increases 97,010
- City portion of 2 new School Resource Officers 69,180
- Parks Surveillance Cameras 25,000
- Economic Gardening Software 14,160
- Audit Contract 24,000
- Housing of Municipal Court Prisoners 15,000
- Telephone Switch Maintenance 16,040
- Traffic Signal Contract Obligations with CDOT 240,400
- Planned increase in Equipment Replacement 567,333

**Total Expenditure Additions** $1,068,123

### Total Change in Expenditures

- New Revenue
  - New Revenue - Recreation Division 144,000
  - New Revenue - improvement Fund Reallocation 300,000

**Total New Revenue** ($444,000)

**Net Impact - General Fund** ($6,097,060)

### Changes to Other Budget Funds

(Water Enterprise, Wastewater Enterprise, Power Enterprise, Golf Enterprise, Storm Water Enterprise, Solid Waste Enterprise, Internal Service Funds and Special Revenue Funds)

- Water, Wastewater and Power Enterprise 11.00 ($877,100)
- Funds - operating reductions and furlough days 365,380
- Vehicle Maintenance - School District 2.00
- Maintenance Transition 329,550
- All Other Funds 4 Furlough Days 175,930

**Total Change in Expenditures - Other Funds** 13.0 ($1,747,960)

**Grand Total Budget Reduction** 36.33 ($7,845,020)

Note: Shaded areas are not permanent reductions.

**T-n-T Tuesdays begin Oct. 6**

October is Colorado Pedestrian Month and to celebrate, six of Loveland’s elementary schools will kick off their Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program, T-n-T Tuesdays.

On three consecutive Tuesdays, Oct. 6, 13 & 21, almost 2,000 families from BF Kitchen, Centennial, Garfield, Truscott, Van Buren and Winona Elementary will be encouraged to leave their cars home and use their own tires-n-tennies (T-n-T) to get to school. As students arrive to school those mornings, they will be greeted by local mascots: Smart T. Fox, Justice Joe and Trauma Roo.

Throughout the rest of the school year, these students will log each Tuesday from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. on the weekends. For more information call 962-2529. To request a yard waste cart call 962-2111.

(continued on page 4)
Avoid a sewer back-up

Keep fats out of the drain

Fats, oil and grease (FOG) can cause big problems for home-owners, especially around the holidays when large meals often include roasted or fried meats.

FOG can build up in a home’s pipes, clogging interior sewer lines and resulting in big messes and even bigger repair bills. Clogged pipes in residences are homeowners’ financial responsibility.

FOG can do even more damage if it spreads to the sewer lines in the streets. The result can be a serious overflow leading to regulatory fines, or a backup of sewage which may pose a health hazard as well as potentially increasing citywide costs for sewer service due to greater cost for maintenance and repairs.

To safely dispose of FOG, pour oil from skillets, broilers, etc. into an old soup can or other closable container. Allow it to cool and harden, then throw it in the trash, can mean clearer pipes and lower maintenance costs in the future.

For more information call Loveland Water & Power, 962-3000, or visit the Water & Power web pages at www.cityofloveland.org.

Never put the following items down the drain:

- Acne pads
- Band aids
- Cardboard
- Coffee grounds
- Condoms
- Cotton balls
- Dental floss
- Diapers
- Drinking straws
- Egg shells
- Feminine hygiene products
- Flammables
- Hair
- Insecticides
- Kitty litter
- Medications
- Needles
- Nursing pads
- Paint
- Paper towels
- Peppings
- Pesticides
- Plastic
- Q-tips
- Razors blades
- Small toys
- Toothpicks
- Wipes of any kind

Lighting with a Twist

A BRIGHT Idea for BIG Savings!

TAKE ADVANTAGE OF REDUCED PRICES YEAR-ROUND

Loveland Water and Power along with Platte River Power Authority invite you to learn more about compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs)

at the following retail in-store events

10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

October 3 - Orchards Ace Hardware
October 10 - Lighting Design* (11 a.m.-3 p.m.)
October 17 - Jax Ranch & Home
October 24 - The Home Depot
October 31 - Sam’s Club
November 7 - Albertson’s
November 14 - Bed Bath & Beyond
November 21 - Lowe’s

*These retailers provide free (and safe) recycling for burned out CFLs. CFLs contain trace amounts of mercury.

Compact Fluorescent Light Bulbs (CFLs):
- provide high-quality lighting
- last longer
- reduce energy costs
In fact, a standard CFL can pay for itself in just 3 months!

City Update is a monthly publication of the City of Loveland. Residents receive City Update on various dates throughout the month depending on their utility billing cycle. Timeliness of the information may be affected by recipients’ bill distribution schedule. Your comments are encouraged and welcomed at 962-2302, hillea@ci.loveland.co.us. Visit the City’s website at www.cityofloveland.org.