

## 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)*

*More about 2010 budget inside*

## 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.,

### Running for Mayor

(2-year term):

**Cecil Gutierrez**

Councilor, Ward 1 – term expires Nov., 2011

**Dave Clark**

Mayor Pro Tem 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**

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## 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](http://www.cityofloveland.org) or call 962-2510.

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

# 2010 Budget Summary

## Recommended Loveland Budget Revenues and Expenditures

(in millions) % of Total

Includes Operations and Capital Improvements

<b>Beginning Balance</b>		
	<b>\$151.0</b>	
<b>Revenues</b>		
Sales and Use Taxes	32.0	18%
Property, Open Space, Specific Ownership, & Franchise Taxes	11.7	7%
Intergovernmental/Private Capital Contributions	13.1	8%
Impact Fees	5.4	3%
User Fees/Permits/Fines	31.4	18%
Interest	4.1	2%
Utility Charges	61.3	35%
Transfers Between Funds	15.5	9%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$174.5</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Beginning Balance Plus Revenue</b>	<b>\$325.5</b>	
<b>Expenditures by Department (All Funds)</b>		
Administration (Council/Legal/Executive/Bus. Relations/ Public Info./City Clerk)	2.6	1%
Cultural Services	1.6	1%
Development Services	2.9	2%
Finance, including Workers Compensation and Property Insurance	4.1	2%
Fire & Rescue	7.4	4%
Human Resources, including Employee Benefits	11.0	6%
Information Technology	3.1	2%
Library	10.3	6%
Parks & Recreation	15.2	8%
Police	15.6	8%
Public Works	31.7	17%
Water & Power	65.0	35%
Non-Departmental	1.6	1%
Transfers	12.8	7%
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$184.9</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$140.6</b>	



### 2010: A slightly leaner year (continued from page 1)

positions were already vacant. For more information, provided below are a budget overview and a list of specific budget reductions. The complete 2010 Recommended Budget is available at [www.cityofloveland.org](http://www.cityofloveland.org), at the library's Reference Desk, and at the Loveland City Clerk's Office.

## Building permit fees waived

Through the end of 2009, Loveland City Council has waived building permit and plan check fees for work done on existing owner-occupied residences.

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



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.

projects that result in sales of building materials and hiring of local contractors.

The fee waivers include all owner-occupied residences—houses, duplexes, condos, townhouses, etc.—for improvements such as basement finishes, decks,

kitchen remodeling, porch enclosures, garages and other projects.

For further details, visit the Building Department pages at [www.cityofloveland.org](http://www.cityofloveland.org) or call 962-2505.

## “Money Talks”

### How to do the holidays on a budget

Don't let a tighter budget turn you into a holiday Grinch. Gift purchasing and other holiday indulgences are still do-able with a few spending-control strategies.

At the Nov. 10 Money Talks presentation, Laurel Kubin will present *Wise Spending for the Holidays and Beyond*. Kubin will share ideas on how to save money during the holidays and the rest of the year, too.



Money Talks is free and presented at noon and 6:30 p.m. in the Gertrude B. Scott room of the Loveland Public Library. Beverages are provided and attendees are welcome to bring a bagged lunch or supper. For more information, call 962-2402.

# 2010 Budget Changes

## 2010 General Fund Budget Changes

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

Program	FTE	Savings
<b>Program Eliminations or Reductions:</b>		
No Pay Increase for Employees		(\$1,200,000)
4 Furlough Days, excluding Sworn Fire and Police	-	(296,710)
Reduced Building Inspection, Development Review Services	5.00	(390,970)
Corridor and Regional Planning	1.00	(57,900)
Employee Tuition Reimbursement	-	(25,000)
Reduced Park Maintenance Program	2.00	(171,910)
Mountain Park – Closure November, March	0.17	(20,510)
Mounted Horse Police Patrol	-	(11,000)
Reduction of One Canine Unit	-	(14,300)
Eliminate Records Backlog Scanning Program	2.00	(92,400)
Reduced Right-of Way Tree Trimming	-	(50,000)
Reduced Gravel Alley Rebuild Program	-	(43,000)
Reduced Street Inspections for New Streets	1.00	(74,120)
Reduced Local Street Striping	-	(15,000)
Reduced Traffic Count Program	-	(12,000)
Reduced Major Facility Maintenance	-	(125,000)
Reduced Housekeeping in City Facilities	-	(150,000)
Reduced Street Rehabilitation	-	(600,000)
Reduction in Fire Truck Replacement	-	(485,000)
Other Departmental Reductions	12.16	(1,906,550)
Vehicle Maintenance -Fuel and maintenance		(886,280)
Other Citywide Core Budget Reductions		(93,533)
<b>Total Eliminations or Reductions</b>	<b>23.33</b>	<b>(\$6,721,183)</b>

Half of these positions are currently vacant

## 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 (\$5,653,060)**

## 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		
Vehicle Maintenance - School District	2.00	(365,380)
Maintenance Transition		
Golf Enterprise		(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.

## 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.

## 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 that they do not arrive to school in a

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## 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. Also, wipe off greasy dishes and utensils with paper towels before loading them into the dishwasher.

Grease and oil are hydrophobic. No matter how much hot water follows, they can stick to pipe's interiors and continue to build up until a blockage occurs. The safest bet is to keep FOG out of the system. Used cooking oil (such as from a turkey fryer) can be disposed at the City's Recycling



Center, 400 N. Wilson Ave.

### Minimize garbage disposal use

Another way to help protect your home's pipes is by minimizing the amount of food wastes that go down the disposal.

Disposals require more water usage resulting in higher utility bills. On the water treatment end, water with more food waste requires more oxygen to process—resulting in another potential cost-increase for the homeowner. The better option is to compost food waste or throw it away.

This holiday season and year-round, keeping fats out of the drain, minimizing disposal use and throwing items 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](http://www.cityofloveland.org).

### Never put the following items down the drain:

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

## 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Halloween Family Fun Festival Sat., Oct. 31, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., FREE

Peters Park, Loveland  
Museum/Gallery, 503 N. Lincoln

Join the Loveland Museum/Gallery and downtown merchants for this fun-filled event. Dress in your Halloween best and head to town for fun, food and treats! Costume contest entries must be received by 12:15 p.m.

- Costume contest
- Downtown trick-or-treating
- Vendor booths and children's activities
- Food
- Live Entertainment
- Character Meet-N-Greets

Call 962-2410 for event details.  
Call 962-2562 for vendor and sponsor information.

## T-N-T Tuesdays begin Oct. 6 (continued from page 3)

personal vehicle in hopes of winning one of two inflatable obstacle courses for their school's Fun & Fitness Day in May.

T-n-T Tuesdays is funded through the Colorado Department of Transportation and administered through the City's Public Works Department.

For more information on the SRTS program and T-n-T Tuesdays, go to [www.ci.loveland.co.us/PublicWorks/Traffic/SafeRoutes.htm](http://www.ci.loveland.co.us/PublicWorks/Traffic/SafeRoutes.htm).

## Police department part of regional CopLink

The City of Loveland's Police department and 41 other Colorado law enforcement agencies have become part of CopLink.

CopLink is a data search engine that links criminal records from all of the participating agencies. It enables street officers and investigators to analyze information regarding individuals, property, vehicles and incidents from other state and local law enforcement agency records.

For example, investigators can compare suspect information based on height, weight, hair color, tattoos etc. Cars can similarly be identified by make, model, color and other physical features.

In Larimer County, participants include the police departments of Loveland, Fort Collins, Berthoud, Estes Park and the Larimer County Sheriff's Department.

For more information on CopLink, call 962-2223.

## 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 Designs\* (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
- (varieties and discounts vary from store to store)

### 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!*

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

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](mailto:hillea@ci.loveland.co.us). Visit the City's website at [www.cityofloveland.org](http://www.cityofloveland.org).