

Interchange improvements ahead

In 1963, when I-25 grew northward to connect with US 34 to Loveland, John F. Kennedy was President and agriculture was the mainstay of the town of 12,000. The cloverleaf design for the occasional vehicles getting on and off the freeway worked well.

Since then, Loveland's population has grown more than five-fold and the I-25/US 34 interchange area has become a busy part of Loveland – the volume of traffic has outgrown the cloverleaf design. With speeds of 75 mph and more, a constant flow of vehicles using the same piece of roadway to enter and exit the freeway has become a safety issue.



That's about to change. Construction has begun for \$8.7 million in major improvements for the interchange.

Two "leaves" of the cloverleaf design
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[More about I-25/US34 improvements inside](#)

Annual survey results positive again

It's been a tougher than usual economy in Loveland since 2008, but local residents say the overall quality of life here remains high. That's the result indicated by the annual citywide survey this year.



Again, Loveland residents have given high marks to City government services, facilities and opportunities despite current economic challenges. Responses to individual survey questions as well as overall trends show continued satisfaction.

This summer, the City again sent its 24-question survey to 3,000 local addresses and received 870 questionnaires back, a 29 percent response. Only about 380 responses were needed for a 95 percent

confidence interval of +/- 5 percentage points.

With the exception of 2007, the City has mailed out the annual Quality of Life Survey since 2004. In 2007, the City hired a consulting firm to administer a broader, more in-depth survey. Another in-depth survey is likely in 2012.

Of the 24 questions, responses to 8 showed a significant satisfaction increase—3 percentage points or more—and 3 showed a significant decrease.

Due to the repetitive nature of the survey, trend lines were included in the survey report this year. Trends were shown for each individual question, plus a trend line for all the questions combined was also included.

In addition to responding to questions, the survey provided respondents an opportunity to write comments. More than 340 comments were received.

The entire survey report including year-to-year comparisons, trends and comments is available at www.cityofloveland.org.

Saving energy just makes cents

You don't have to read by candlelight or keep the thermostat at 60 all winter to save energy. Making even a few small adjustments at home can have a measurable impact on your home's energy consumption—and on your wallet.

Sealing: A home's 'envelope' refers to its doors, windows, floors, walls, ceiling

and attic—anywhere outside air can get in or inside air can get out. When there are air leaks or poor insulation, the envelope is not energy efficient.



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New holiday calendar by Engaging Loveland

Engaging Loveland supports the development of community-wide events and celebrations to promote Loveland's economic health and enhance local tourism. All kinds of community activities and events can be found on the Engaging Loveland website, www.engaginglovelandinc.org.

Recently, Engaging Loveland developed a new website devoted specifically to holiday activities such as the Loveland Turkey Trot, Community Tree Lighting, Horse Drawn Carriage Rides, Santa's Workshops and other Santa appearances, and the 'Tis the Season Community Sing-a-long. For a complete list of holiday events and activities, visit www.lovelandholidays.com.

The new site is sponsored by Engaging Loveland, Centerra, Promenade Shops at Centerra, Rialto Theater, Loveland Museum/Gallery and McKee Medical Center Foundation.

For more information, call (970) 980-4664.



Interchange improvements ahead (continued from page 1)

will disappear. Two existing ramps will be reconstructed and widened, plus new traffic lights will be installed on both sides of the bridges over the freeway. Both northbound and southbound acceleration lanes for entering I-25 will be extended as well.

The entire interchange will also receive some aesthetic improvements with landscaping and lighting, with further visual improvements intended in future years.

Construction is expected to take about 15 months.

For the motorist

Currently, two leaves of the cloverleaf are used for entering the freeway and two for exiting, with entry and exit roadway sections being shared under the bridges. While exiting motorists are using the shared section and braking, entering motorists are pressing hard on the accelerator.

During busy times, multiple vehicles with a variety of braking and accelerating characteristics—cars, trucks, semis, motorcycles, etc.—are engaged in this slow down/speed up choreography. Frazzled nerves, close calls and accidents occur.

The new design will separate the on/off traffic. Exiting and entering traffic will each have its own roadway sections to slow down or speed up. No more sharing.

Entering the freeway will change very little. Eastbound US 34 motorists heading south toward Denver will continue to use the current entry ramp while northbound motorists will continue to use the existing cloverleaf, but with an extended acceleration lane. Westbound US 34 motorists heading north will use the existing ramp while southbound drivers heading to Denver will use the

existing leaf, again with an extended acceleration lane.

For exiting I-25, the exit leaves will be eliminated. The existing ramps will be re-built and widened to allow traffic to exit and then travel either east or west on US 34. The intersection of the ramps and US 34 will be controlled by traffic signals.

The new interchange will be simpler, less stressful and far safer.

13 things you should know about the interchange improvements at I-25 and US 34

1. The cloverleaf interchange has been in service since the early 1960s. Before that, it was a large traffic circle called a rotary.
2. Currently at the interchange, 40,000 vehicles per day use US 34 and 70,000 vehicles per day use I-25. By 2020, those numbers will increase to 66,000 and 86,000, respectively.
3. The improvements focus on safety, especially the sections on I-25 and US 34 where vehicles are entering and exiting using the same stretch of roadway. Bottlenecks and accidents are the result.
4. On I-25, the project will remove two loop ramp exits, reconstruct two off-ramps and lengthen the entry acceleration lane. On US 34, two traffic signals will be added.
5. The majority of work will be complete by Thanksgiving 2010, with almost all of the work done with traffic flowing. Closures will be limited to nights.
6. Cost of construction and management for the project is \$8.75 million.
7. Several contractors will be heavily involved in the construction, thereby supporting and creating many jobs.
8. No debt will be incurred. All project funding already exists, the result of Centerra developments.
9. Landscaping improvements will make the interchange more visually attractive. Future additional aesthetic improvements are possible but not currently scheduled.
10. Future I-25 improvements will remove the other two loop ramps and have directional ramps. Future US 34 improvements will include interchanges at Rocky Mountain Avenue and Centerra Parkway.
12. Future improvements will bring total cost to \$350 million or more. They will be built in phases and design has not begun.
13. Your patience during the project will be greatly appreciated and you'll be rewarded with a safer, smoother flowing and far less stressful intersection.

2010 Census - It's Easy, It's Safe, and It's Important

On April 1, 2010 the nation will conduct a complete count of every man, woman and child living in the United States. Everyone, regardless of race, ethnicity, religion, age or legal status, deserves to and should be counted. The Census, which is held every ten years, is simply a count of every living person in the U.S.—nothing more, nothing less.

Answers are strictly confidential and are protected by law. No person or agency—not the Internal Revenue Service, Immigration & Naturalization Service or even the President himself, can solicit or look at anyone's answers.

The upcoming Census will tell us how much we've grown in the last ten years and give residents a snapshot of the Loveland community as it is right now.

Loveland has been participating in the national Census since 1880.

- In 1880, Loveland's population was 236
- In 1940 Loveland's population was 6,145

United States[®] Census 2010

- In 1980 Loveland's population was 30,244
- In 2000 Loveland's population was 50,608—just over the 50,000 mark

The level of participation directly affects the city's ability to access federal monies for numerous programs and projects including Education, Roads, Trails & Open Space, Veteran's Programs, Transportation, Programs for Elderly, Human Services, Parks and Affordable Housing.

The count also provides demographic information for businesses interested in locating in Loveland, as well as determining Loveland's political representation.

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"Money Talks"

Will you need long-term care?

Long-term care can range from limited home help to extended nursing home stays. The costs particularly for nursing home care can be enormous.

In the Jan. 12 and 13 Money Talks programs, Laurel Kubin will discuss how to decide whether or not you need insurance to pay for possible long-term care, what the common policy features are, and how to pick the right provider.

Money Talks is free and presented at noon, Jan. 12 and at 6:30 p.m. on Jan. 13. Both programs are presented 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 info, call 962-2402.





New year—fresh start for your \$\$

The Loveland Public Library is presenting an all-day, personal finances workshop Sat., Jan. 9, in the Gertrude B. Scott room of the library. Attendees can attend several sessions or stay all day.

- 9-10: *Financial Overview*— the building blocks to financial stability
- 10-11: *Making Resolutions a Reality*— budgeting and planning to reach your financial goals
- 11-12: *Using Credit & Banks Wisely*— getting the service, products and rates that are best for you
- 12-1: Lunch
- 1-2: *Investment 101*— the best investments for your future
- 2-3: *Bonds* — what you need to know
- 3-4: *Mutual Funds & Exchange Traded Funds*— the basics for both

Sign up for one or more sessions and lunch by Jan. 4, 962-2402. The programs and lunch are provided through a Smart Investing grant from the Finra Foundation and the American Library Association.

'Tis the season...for fire safety

Over the holidays, make sure that the spirit of the season kindles your heart—not your home. According to the National Fire Protection Association, December and January are the peak months for the overall number of home fires, deaths and injuries, and after kitchen fires, Christmas trees and other holiday decorations are often the culprits.

To ensure a joyous and safe holiday season, follow these important safety tips:

The Christmas tree

- Keep tree base immersed in water
- Use flame retardant decorations and paper
- Unplug lights when leaving home and at night before going to bed
- Inspect Christmas lights for frayed or cracked wiring, broken plugs and defective sockets
- Recycle your tree soon after the holidays—before the needles dry out

For more information on fire safety at the holidays and year-round, contact Loveland Fire & Rescue, 962-2537 or visit the Fire & Rescue webpages at www.cityofloveland.org.

Christmas Tree Recycling

The Loveland Parks and Recreation Department is recycling Christmas trees at no charge at three drop-off locations. Signs will direct participants to appropriate drop-off areas at each location.

- Centennial Park—W. First and Taft (in the parking lot north of First St., west of Swift Field)
- Loveland Recycling Center—off 1st Street & Wilson Ave.
- Kroh Park—N. Hwy. 287 and 52nd St. (adjacent to Habitat for Humanity)

Trees can be dropped daily, sun-up 'til sun-down between Dec. 20 and Jan. 31. Please remove all ornaments, tinsel, lights, nails, screws, wire, tree stands and bags.

Christmas tree recycling provides mulch for trees and planter beds in City parks. Last year, more than 5,000 Christmas trees were chipped and recycled into 500+ cubic yards of mulch.

For additional information, call the Parks and Recreation, 962-2727.

Dalí – One Man – Four Exhibits

Salvador Dalí, best-known for his groundbreaking surrealist



work, is the subject of four exhibits at the Loveland Museum/Gallery.

Dalí Illustrates Dante's Divine Comedy—thru Jan. 31

Dalí created a series of 100 watercolor paintings, illustrating Dante's epic poem. The paintings were reproduced into 3,500 hand-carved wood blocks, on display in the Main Gallery.

Dalí's Vision— thru Jan. 31

Also in the Main Gallery is an exhibition of selected work featuring books and other illustrations in their original format, including *Alice in Wonderland*, *Paradise Lost* and *Don Quixote*.

Philippe Halsman Photographs of Salvador Dalí— thru Jan. 31

These famous photographs, produced

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Expand the Library—Enrich the Community

The Friends of the Loveland Library are presenting upcoming activities for the whole family, to benefit the library expansion campaign.

Movie: *Iron Giant* – rated PG

7 p.m., Wed., Jan. 6, Rialto Theater, 228 E. 4th St.

Tickets: \$10

A giant metal robot falls to earth, scaring the town's folk in Maine. After befriending a local boy, the unlikely duo ultimately saves the residents from their own fears and prejudices.

Side Show: Showcase of robotics projects from area schools in the lobby – 6:15 p.m.

A Night at the Library – Watch it come alive

6:30-10 p.m., Sat., Jan. 23, Loveland Public Library, 300 N. Adams St.

Tickets: \$20, children (ages 6-12)/adults

Enjoy a pizza dinner, then tour the library and watch it come alive! Activities include a photo session with Star Wars characters, Mr. Bone's Magic Act, a Hip Hop dance lesson and more.

Tickets available at the library circulation desk starting Dec. 5.

For more information on both events, call 962-2665.

Dalí – One Man – Four Exhibits (continued from page 3)

between 1948 and 1954, are some of the most iconic photos ever taken of the artist.

Twirling Dalí's Mustache– thru Jan. 31

On display in the Museum's Foote Gallery/Auditorium is a collection of regional artists' work in honor of Dalí and his contributions to visual culture. Many mediums will be employed by numerous artists as they merge their own unique styles with the art and theories of Dalí.

2010 Census - It's Easy, It's Safe, and It's Important (continued from page 2)

Census forms will arrive at every residence in mid-March of next year. Upon receiving the forms, residents should fill them out and mail them in by April 1. Each residence will receive only one form in the mail.

For more information visit www.cityofloveland.org and click on the Living in Loveland button, or go to the federal census website, www.2010.Census.gov.

City of Loveland Info Sources:

www.cityofloveland.org	Official City website
1610 AM radio	City's AM radio station
Channel 16 cable TV	City cable TV channel
Phone 962-2020	Info line/call center
Phone 911	Emergency police/fire
Emergency Notification	Phone calls, e-mails
Signup at www.LETA911.org	
Emergency Alert System (EAS)	Emergency messages on TV & radio
Other sources:	
www.larimer.org	Larimer County
Phone 211	Community Resource line

Saving energy just makes cents (continued from page 1)

Homes that are not well sealed can cost ten percent more for energy, annually.

In Colorado, where extreme summer and winter temperatures are common, good insulation is a must. Buildings in northern Colorado have a recommended R-49 insulation rating. If a home's insulation is not up to the R-49 standard, it's losing warm air in the winter and cool air in the summer. A well-insulated home is the first, best step to saving energy and money on heating and air conditioning.

Heating: A well-maintained heating system will always run more efficiently and save more energy than a neglected one. Replacing the furnace's filter is the first step to improving efficiency. Most filters need to be replaced at least every other month. During periods of heavy use, filters may need to be changed monthly—check the manufacturer's manual for recommendations.

An annual check-up by an HVAC professional is also a good way to keep the system running smoothly. Also, old furnaces use a lot more energy than new ones. If the furnace is 15 years old or older, consider replacing it with a new, energy-efficient model.

Lighting: Compact Fluorescent bulbs (CFLs) are now well-established in the

home lighting market, and for good reason. Incandescent bulbs generally last less than 1,000 hours while CFLs can last up to 10,000 hours (based on one year of use at three hours per day).

CFLs also use much less electricity—approximately 75 to 80 percent less than regular bulbs, which can help lower utility bills. CFLs are now available in a variety of shapes and sizes to fit any lamp or fixture inside or outside the house. They are ideal for use in vaulted ceilings and other hard-to-reach areas since they need to be changed so infrequently.

Light-emitting diodes (LEDs) are another up-and-coming lighting technology that provides very energy-efficient lighting. Currently, the most common use for LEDs in the residential market is holiday tree lighting. Soon, LEDs will be available for a variety of home lighting needs.

Washing & Drying: Appliances such as dishwashers and clothes washers use a considerable amount of electricity to run their cycles. To use them as efficiently as possible, only run full loads of laundry and dishes. Allowing dishes to air dry and using a clothes line or drying rack rather than the dryer, can have a real impact on energy use and cost-savings.

When it's time to buy new appliances, go with those that have the Energy Star® certification. Energy-Star approved appliances use electricity more efficiently than their non-approved competitors.

Turning them off: Even after hitting the OFF switch, many appliances such as TVs, computer monitors, printers, DVD players, stereos, microwaves and even some coffee pots, still draw power. Simply unplugging them prevents this 'phantom' power loss. Power strips are another good way to prevent phantom power loss.

In addition, helping every member of the family get in the routine of turning off lights, TVs, computers and appliances when not in use will also help save energy and money during the winter and year-round.

Subscribing: Take advantage of City energy-saving programs. The City has programs in place that are designed to help Loveland Water & Power customers get the best possible service at a very affordable cost, while being as energy efficient and environmentally sensitive as possible.

For more information on saving energy and money, go to www.cityofloveland.org or call Loveland Water & Power, 962-3000.

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.