

A look back at 2011 reveals a wide variety of accomplishments

Throughout 2011, Loveland's city government was busy conducting business and providing services to the residents of Loveland.

The following are some of the highlights of the City's accomplishments during the last year.

Sustainability is key

Facing a projected \$3 million annual revenue shortfall, the City embarked on developing a Financial Sustainability Strategy to balance the budget for the next decade. Approved by City Council in June, the 2012 budget begins the implementation of the strategy.

Looking good

Loveland's oldest existing home is nearly new again. Thanks to state grants, City

funds and a donation by the Loveland Historical Society, the Milner-Schwarz house received a complete foundation stabilization and exterior restoration. The house is located at the south end of Fairgrounds Park.

Year-long displays

Seven artists beautified Loveland's downtown streetscape with their

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More about the City's accomplishments for 2011 inside

"Business by the numbers" from your City government

Despite the challenges of 2011, it was "business as usual" for the City of Loveland. The numbers below offer an overview of some of the day-to-day activities of Loveland's local government.

67,000+ Loveland residents received City services in 2011!

(Numbers may include projected approximations for services through Dec. 31.)

4.28 billion	gallons of water were processed for citizens' use
703 million	kilowatt hours purchased by Loveland electric customers
\$173.6 million	in budgeted net revenue
\$8.1 million	estimated value of Loveland public art collection
6.6 million	kilowatt hours of renewable energy purchased
696,000	items checked out from the library
\$681,200	in grants to 32 local nonprofit agencies
417,000	City Update newsletters sent to the community
377,000	visits to the Chilson Recreation Center
340,000	visits to the library
280,000	athletic program attendance
154,752	calls to public safety dispatchers
120,000	rounds of golf played on City courses
100,000	landings/takeoffs at the airport
78,878	feet of stormwater pipes cleaned
55,000+	visitors to the Museum/Gallery exhibits, programs and special events
43,000	travelers using Fort Collins-Loveland Airport
31,982	911 calls made to Emergency Communications Center
25,900	weekly stops by trash collectors
14,210	building inspections performed
10,909	attendees at the library's story times
10,016	street lanes miles swept
8,035	paint gallons used for street striping
6,249	responses to calls by Fire & Rescue Department
3,379	Partnering with Power participants
2,859	fire hydrants maintained
1,853	code enforcement site inspections performed
1,837	building permits issued
1,640	students attending Rialto field trip or assembly
1,506	potholes filled
1,448	children in library summer reading program
1,393	street signs installed/replaced
382	pieces of public art in the collection
325	commercial flights at the Fort Collins-Loveland Airport
260	fire safety inspections at Loveland businesses
86	new public access computers at the library
43	artistically painted utility boxes in Loveland
27	years since the City sales tax rate has changed
26	new artworks added to the Art in Public Places Program
17.5	miles of Loveland recreation trail
0	fire-related fatalities
0	police fatalities or injuries



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HP redevelopment tops 2011 list of accomplishments

City Update's annual January issue highlights the more visible accomplishments of Loveland's city government for the previous year. The redevelopment of the former HP/Agilent Technologies campus was undoubtedly the #1 story in Loveland in 2011.

While most people think the process began in 2010, the Loveland City Council and staff have focused and worked on the project for a number of years. When the redevelopment begins in 2012, Loveland and the entire northern Colorado region will enjoy major economic benefits from the new businesses, jobs and support for existing businesses the tenant companies will provide.

In 2005, the downsizing of Agilent Technologies resulted in the loss of more than 4,500 technology jobs. Since 2008, City Council has placed the redevelopment of the property as a top economic development priority.

In 2009, working with Agilent's real estate broker, City staff and representatives from the Northern Colorado Economic Development Corporation worked with many potential manufacturing companies interested in leasing space. At that time, Agilent Technologies was focused strictly on selling the property, not leasing. City Council decided it was time to consider

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Christmas tree recycling offered

Free Christmas tree recycling is offered through Jan. 31 at Centennial Park, Kroh Park or the Loveland Recycling Center.

Please remove all ornaments, tinsel, lights, nails, screws, wire, tree stands and bags. Last year, more than 5,000 Christmas trees were chipped and recycled into usable mulch.



Last year reveals wide variety of accomplishments (continued from page 1)

sculpture, making the third year for The Art Advocacy Project one of the strongest examples of local talent. All artwork will remain on display for a period of one year.

New authority

After three years of study and discussion, the creation of the Loveland Fire Rescue Authority was approved. The new structure unites Loveland's urban and rural fire departments, resulting in financial efficiencies and stability that will enable improvements to fire staffing, equipment and response abilities.

Improved facility

Major improvements for aircraft and passengers were accomplished this year at the Fort Collins-Loveland Airport. The 8,500 ft. main runway was completely reconstructed and repaved, plus the terminal waiting area was doubled in size for passengers awaiting commercial jetliner flights. The improvements make the airport safer and more comfortable now, plus more attractive for possible future commercial service expansion.



New section

Walkers and bicyclists can now enjoy a new mile of the Loveland Recreation trail connecting the north end of Boyd Lake State Park to the north US 287 underpass just south of Wal-Mart. The 17.5 mile paved trail almost completely encircles the city.

All at once

The City's public information tools were all put to use repeatedly during the October snowstorm that caused power outages and downed tree limbs. Beginning before dawn after the storm hit, messages were output on the City's website, Facebook and Twitter sites, 1610 AM radio station, 962-2020 Phone Info Line and to the news media. Frequent updates continued during the next few days.

No galoshes needed

A recently-completed \$3 million fourth phase reconstruction of Loveland's downtown storm sewer system will dramatically reduce the amount and frequency of stormwater backup and overflow in the downtown area. The capacity of the old system was exceeded every year, causing frequent drainage and flooding problems. Some water lines and fire hydrants were replaced at the same time.

Dispatch upgrades

The long-awaited remodel and

expansion of the Loveland Communications Center—emergency 911 dispatch offices—were completed near year's end. Never upgraded since before the move into the Police and Courts Building in 2002, the old communications consoles were replaced plus two more added with state-of-the-art equipment to better handle current and future increases in emergency calls.



Downtown center

The Rialto Theater Center expansion will open in early 2012. The expansion will combine the current theater and lobby with the 3-story building under construction next door. The expansion prompted the name change to Rialto Theater Center. With a grand opening celebration planned for April, the new center will provide expanded community opportunities for meetings, charity events, receptions, a restaurant and more.

Interchange improved

The \$11.2 million major redesign of the interchange at I-25 and US 34 to address safety issues and improve traffic flow was completed in 2011. Improvements included the elimination of two loop ramps, installation of new off-ramps, improvement of on-ramps and installation of traffic signals.

Preparing for worst

Two dozen staffers from various City departments participated in a four-day flood disaster exercise at the Emergency Management Institute in Maryland. The exercise was one of seven disaster exercises conducted for City of Loveland employees this year to practice disaster plans and procedures.

Design has begun

Planning and design has begun for Mehaffey Park, a 60-acre community park planned for construction in 2012 to serve the west side of Loveland. Mehaffey Park is located west of Wilson Avenue, north of 22nd Street and south of 29th Street. The design team has received many suggestions from the public about what should be included in the large park.



Focused on efficiency

For both homes and businesses, Loveland Water & Power offered

End is near

The final phase is not yet completed, but the biggest portion of the Loveland Public Library's \$8 million expansion and renovation was the Phase 1 addition of the two-story, 27,000 sq. ft. to the 24-year-old building. Phase 2, the renovation of the north half of the existing building, was completed in November with the final phase due to open before Valentine's Day.

Highlights of what's already open are new separate dedicated areas for children and teens, more than twice as many public access computer workstations, a computer training classroom, quick-and-easy self-checkout stations and a dedicated local history and genealogy room. The new entrance area is now open, too.

Soon to be completed are the new adult section, the fireplace reading room, reference section and more. A week of special activities will celebrate the completion of the project. "A New Chapter: the Grand-Reopening of the Loveland Public Library" begins Feb. 18 with programs for all ages and interests.



several programs last year aimed at energy efficiency and water conservation, all bringing opportunities for cost savings for its customers. Programs included leak detection, energy audits, recycling rebates, home energy reports and audits, lawn watering suggestions and more.

Another busy year

Visitors to the Loveland Museum/Gallery were able to enjoy 15 art exhibits on display in 2011 in three exhibition areas. The museum's history collection received donations from 38 people and organizations.

More open land

The City acquired 140-acres of open space as part of its larger property purchase from Agilent Technologies in June. This open space provides a key link between Centennial Park, Jayhawker Ponds and Fairgrounds Park along the City's recreation trail. The property contains three ponds, upland and wetland habitats, and a historic farmstead area.



Maintaining services

As the economy improves, the City will be better able to maintain and perhaps expand its services to the community thanks to citizens' ballot approval of continuation of the TABOR exemption. Future funds received if sales taxes and other revenue sources return to normal can be retained to help maintain the quality and quantity of local government services enjoyed by Loveland residents.

Improved function

It's new technology with an unattractive name. The newly installed Waste Activated Sludge Thickening facility at the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant replaces the 40-year old system that was due for an update. The benefits of the new system include reduced energy costs, reduced sludge hauling, improved performance and improved odor control.

Website makeover

Last year the City's website, www.cityofloveland.org, got a total makeover. The new site is dramatically improved in its looks, operation and functionality. And the new version has new features to make browsing and locating information more user-friendly such as a calendar of events, links to City meeting agendas and minutes, and searching capability.

Safe riders

Two out of three child's car seats are not properly installed. In 2011, six

Loveland Fire & Rescue personnel became certified in the national Child Passenger Safety program to provide free car seat installation inspections for the community. During the past 10 months, fire personnel have inspected and correctly re-installed about 160 car seats.



Tax collections

Businesses that collect sales tax from their customers are responsible for forwarding those revenues to government agencies. Through audits and collections of delinquent accounts, Loveland's sales tax office recovered more than \$1 million in revenue that had not been forwarded to the City.

Caprice selected

Loveland officers are safer, more comfortable and more efficient in the 13 new Chevy Caprice police cars now on the road. After considerable vehicle analysis and comparison, the department selected the Caprice because it is specially designed for police use, making it the most technically advanced police vehicle in American history.

Follow us

More information of specific interest to residents of Loveland and beyond is available from about a dozen social media sites offered by various City offices. From weather emergencies to classes for tots, news is now available through Facebook, Twitter and YouTube networking sites.

Yes to both

The final phase of the Chilson Recreation/Senior Center was completed in 2011, on time and under budget. Did the renovation and expansion of the center draw new patrons or was the \$8 million project needed to service an already-growing patron base? The answer is both. Use of the rec center increased by more than 30 percent in 2011.

Basic assistance

Lower income Loveland households benefitted from \$681,200 in grants awarded by Loveland City Council for 46 programs and projects provided by local nonprofit agencies. The agencies helped Loveland residents with shelter, transportation, food, health services, and other basic needs. The City provided \$450,000 in Human Services Grant funds and another \$231,200 was provided in federal grant funds.

AIPP thriving, growing

The Art in Public Places Program participated in four major capital

projects this year: the Loveland Public Library and Chilson Recreation Center expansion projects, as well as the Highway 287 Underpass and Rialto Theater Center projects. All artist design teams worked closely with the Visual Arts Commission and City staff to create site-specific artwork, enriching Loveland's public spaces with a creative interpretation of the environment.



Keeping us moving

Thanks to the completion of the Traffic Operations Center renovation, traffic engineers and technicians are better able to use real time field information to adjust the timing of traffic signals to solve traffic problems as they arise. The computerized center obtains data about current roadway conditions from closed circuit traffic cameras, a fiber optic traffic signal network, weather instruments, variable message signs and more.

Now energized

A multi-year project to renovate Water & Power's East Substation was completed and a new transformer was energized there. A third transformer is scheduled for installation this spring. These improvements plus a power line from the Airport Substation were constructed to allow for redundancy and the ability to feed power from another source in the event of an outage.



Economic focus

To more efficiently support and encourage Loveland's economic vitality, city resources and staff were reorganized

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to create a specialized Department of Economic Development. The department focuses on helping sustain current businesses and encouraging new business development, with special attention to creative-sector/art-oriented firms and marketing Loveland as a destination for visitors.

Airport traffic

About 40,000 passengers traveled from the Fort Collins-Loveland Airport to go to Las Vegas and the Phoenix area last year on modern 160-seat jetliners. The airport continues to experience increased traffic in the air. And on its grounds, a few thousand visitors had a look at B-17, B-24 and P-51 WWII military aircraft, military hardware and 1940s era vehicles during a July weekend.



Transforming Loveland

Homage to our City's rich cultural heritage was paid this summer as eleven Loveland artists transformed everyday outdoor transformer utility cabinets into individual works of art. This year's Historic Loveland theme brought raging waters, battling bighorn, cherry pies and the Burlington-

Northern Railroad from the artists' imaginations to public presentation.

Future recreation

The City became an active partner in a major recreational project in the Heron Lakes area between Loveland and Berthoud. With three lakes together larger than Lake Loveland, Heron Lakes will provide multiple recreational uses such as boating, fishing, hunting, hiking/running, mountain biking, horseback riding, wildlife watching, picnicking, and group-use events.



No heavy plans

Improvements have been made to the building permit and development review processes. Now, plans can be submitted in electronic format, saving time and money for applicants and the City. New processes have improved review turnaround times by about 30 percent.

Clinic cutting costs

After being open for eight months, the City's employee health clinic, Healthstat has proven successful in terms of both participation and cost. The clinic was established to assist in the reduction of healthcare costs. Healthstat serves City employees and their dependents on the City's medical plan by offering healthcare aimed at early detection of

potential risks and health promotion and wellness.

Safety gathering

Helping the community prevent accidents and injury was the focus of the Emergency Preparedness and Family Safety Expo this summer. Area emergency responders provided information on emergency preparedness, bike helmets, kids' car seats, fire prevention and more.

Drugs disposed

More than 640 pounds of unwanted or outdated medications won't be misused or improperly discarded thanks to another successful Drug Take Back Day at the Loveland police building. Officers set up a drive-thru drop-off area in the parking lot.



Human limbs undamaged

In October, a heavy, wet snowstorm brought down thousands of tree limbs, which brought down power lines and caused widespread electrical outages. For several days after the storm, City crews logged thousands of hours, working in some cases around the clock in darkness and cold temperatures with power lines, snowplows, large trucks, heavy equipment, chainsaws and more, and all without any serious injuries.

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purchasing the property.

In the summer of 2010, City Councilors toured the property with representatives from Agilent. By late November, the City Council's interest in acquiring the property became even stronger.

In December, 2010 a Space Act Agreement was signed between NASA and the Colorado Association for Manufacturing and Technology.

A feature of the agreement is the development of a manufacturing and innovation "park" to host companies in the aerospace and clean energy sectors. The City submitted the Agilent campus as the premiere site for the project and last June it was officially announced.

During the summer, the City of Loveland purchased the 300-

acre property from Agilent for \$5.5 million. The property was purchased with the intent to sell 170-acres of the campus with its five buildings encompassing 811,000 sq. ft. for business development. The City of Loveland would retain the undeveloped 130 acres adjacent to the Big Thompson River and City recreation trail as open space, plus retain 144 shares of water rights. Cumberland & Western Resources (C&W) from Bowling Green, Ky., was selected in October and signed a contract to purchase the 170-acre property.

C&W's shared vision with the City is to bring high quality technology jobs back to the campus as soon as mid-2012. As December drew to a close, the purchase by C&W was finalized. The City can look forward

to the start of redevelopment of the property, now known as the Rocky Mountain Center for Innovation and Technology.

Assessment helps residents save

Loveland Water & Power has again joined forces with the Larimer County Youth Conservation Corps (LCYCC) to help low-income Loveland residents access energy and water-saving tools and equipment plus education on saving energy in the home.

To request a free (to qualifying residents) Energy-Efficiency Assessment, call LCYCC at 498-6081.