



Dateline:

Paid for by the City of Loveland

# LOVELAND

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## 2006 was another good year

2007 has begun. Y2K is a distant memory.

2006 was another good year for Loveland. From adopting amendments to picking up cardboard, Loveland's city government achieved many accomplishments in 2006. Employment held steady, the City's revenues remained strong, and there were even more places to play, dine and shop.

Virtually all the services provided to Loveland residents and businesses continued without change. Any changes tended to be improvements and expansions. Loveland maintained its high quality of life.

Dateline offers a summary of what was new and different during 2006, in addition to the "day-to-day" services in the box below.

### Smooth interaction

A business ombudsman is now on board. Perhaps ombudsperson would be a more politically correct way of stating that a City staffer—currently a woman—serves as an advocate for local businesses to prevent, smooth out or solve problems with the City. Healthy businesses are healthy for Loveland.

### Now wireless

The Loveland Public Library now offers patrons an in-house wireless Internet connection. Patrons can now bring in their own laptops and other equipment and instantly access the Internet.

### Eastside water

Construction began for a 2 million gallon elevated water storage tank and supporting water transmission lines east of I-25. The tank will support the development demands of the east side of Loveland while improving overall system reliability.

### Popular changes

The City's two regular bus routes were changed to provide expanded service to the eastern portion of Loveland, eliminate poorly performing sections and increase the number of transfer locations. All of these modifications resulted in a 47 percent increase in ridership for a total of 112,000 rides given last year. This is the first time ridership exceeded the 100,000 mark in a single year.



### Safety team

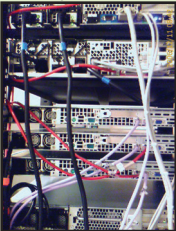
The fire department's Special Operations Rescue Team is fully operational. The team's additional rescue services serve a greater range of emergencies and provide a greater level of public safety.

### Incentives bring jobs

The expansion of the Enterprise Zone along Hwy. 402 will increase the likelihood of finding a buyer for the Agilent Property and perhaps bring new jobs. The Enterprise Zone designation provides incentives to private enterprise to expand or locate in that area.

### Been sweeping

The City's street sweepers cleaned major streets and highways within Loveland an average of 12 times during the year. Residential streets were swept an average of four times.



### Faster service

Information Technology upgraded network infrastructure to bring additional City facilities online and provide faster and less costly connectivity for facilities such as outlying fire stations and the new Loveland Sports Park.

### High numbers

Cultural Services participants and donors set new records in 2006. Attendance reached an all-time high at events including summer concerts, the Halloween festival and Children's Day, as did the number of individuals donating items to the museum's permanent collection.

### Helping hand

Needy residents throughout the community benefited from housing assistance and other help due to grants from the City to three-dozen local not-for-profit agencies.

### Room remodeled

The Loveland Public Library's children's story area was remodeled and beautifully decorated with murals thanks to funds donated by the Erion Foundation. The room is now called the Mrs. Runschmunkel's Reading Room in memory of Lynn Erion Ehlers and her imaginary childhood friend.

### Showtime simplicity

Enjoying events at the Rialto Theater has become even easier. 2006 marked improvements in handicap accessibility, new front doors and another ticket window. Online ticketing begins this month.

### 56 acres of fun

Construction of the Loveland Sports Park was completed in 2006. A grand opening was held in June. This 56-acre park includes multi-purpose fields for soccer, football and lacrosse, as well as a lighted, artificial turf championship field. There are also basketball courts, picnic areas and a fantastic new skate park.



### Broad look ahead

The first two major phases of the 10-year update to the Comprehensive Master Plan were concluded. A schedule was developed in partnership with a steering committee and includes budget ranges, timing, and partnerships that will be critical to implementing plan objectives.

### Call mapping

A new page on the City web site — [www.cityofloveland.org](http://www.cityofloveland.org) — enables citizens to enter an address to quickly determine how many police calls were received in that vicinity during the past year. This automated feature provides quick response to citizen inquiries and reduces office staff time.

### Fiction footwork

Finding fiction in the Loveland Public Library is easier on your eyes and feet. In April, the library got new carpet and fresh paint, and the adult fiction collection department was separated into four sections—general fiction, mysteries, science fiction/fantasy and westerns.

### 16 has more

Programming on City cable TV channel 16 was expanded in 2006 with NASA's space travel education program "Destination Tomorrow," the "Public Safety Hour" and a multipart "Loveland Area Artists" series. The expanded programming, plus ongoing City meetings and the longstanding "Loveland's Talking" are broadcast at virtually no additional City cost.

### Historic preservation

After some controversy, a successful resolution was reached to protect the Loveland Feed and Grain. This resolution allowed the owner to sell to a local investment interest. This project is now backed by strong community involvement to generate funding for its preservation and reuse.



### Accredited again

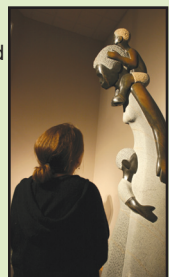
The Loveland Police Department was granted the coveted national accreditation for the fifth time. Every three years the agency undergoes a comprehensive on-site inspection by national assessors to determine if it is operating in adherence to established standards.

### Plant improvements

The City's Water Treatment Plant started construction on \$7.3 million in improvements to meet service demand and comply with EPA/State mandated water quality and treatment regulations. The 2006 efforts are part of an additional \$2.5 million in improvements planned during the upcoming five years.

### Stone shown

For the first time anywhere, an exhibit of stone sculpture by 17 master sculptors from the nation of Zimbabwe was shown at the Loveland Museum/Gallery. Dozens of pieces ranging in size from about 10 inches to 10 feet tall are presented for viewing in a 3-month exhibit that continues through Feb. 11, 2007.



### The winner is...

Loveland's bus system COLT was named Small Transit System of the Year by the Colorado Association of Transit Agencies. COLT earned the award for providing innovative and creative services to the community, being responsive to customers and community needs, and for effectively supplying safe and reliable service.

### Academy grads

The Loveland Police Department celebrated 12 consecutive years of hosting Citizen Police Academies by graduating 30 more students. The academy classes run nine weeks in duration, one night a week and cover a host of law enforcement topics including crime scene evidence collection, SWAT tactics, arrest control training, traffic enforcement and more.

### Flooding goodbye

The Dotsero Stormwater Improvement project was a huge success for the City of Loveland. This project reduced flooding on South Dotsero Avenue by replacing the old dysfunctional infrastructure with new inlets, outlets, piping and pond bank protection. The in-house design and construction teamwork resulted in thousands of dollars of savings.

### More video

The City made greater use of videos to provide information to the public. In addition to the Two Minutes Max videos that began last year, several other informational videos were either locally created or acquired and made available on the City's web site and/or cable TV channel 16.



### Safe buildings

The likelihood of fires in Loveland continues to decrease. Thanks to diligent work and the addition of a new fire inspector in 2006, the number of fire safety inspections at local businesses and buildings serving the public dramatically increased in 2006. A new self-inspection program for small, low-risk businesses has allowed greater attention to businesses with complicated issues.

### Easy alleys

In a single year, more than 20 percent of the City's gravel alleys were rebuilt with a soil stabilizer to improve stability, ride-ability, and to reduce future maintenance efforts. Two alleys in the downtown district were paved.

### Curbside cardboard

Recycling continues to grow in Loveland. Corrugated cardboard, paperboard and phone books have been added to the residential curbside recycling collection service. And TVs, cooking oil, clothes and shoes are now accepted at the City's Wilson Avenue recycling center.

### Ready if needed

The City's Emergency Operations Center has been redesigned for ease of operation and effective communications and technology use. Emergency planning continues its frequent revision and updating along with cooperation and coalition with other local, county and regional agencies.



### Jobs online

People looking for a job with the City can see what's available and apply without leaving their chair, thanks to a new automated online Human Resources jobs database. The ease and efficiency helps attract outstanding candidates from both near and far.

### Mr. Bestwrench

The City's Vehicle Maintenance shop continues to be ASE Blue Seal Certified, meaning there's an ASE certified mechanic for every service provided. The staff's top mechanic is certified in 54 technical areas. The shop maintains and repairs City vehicles and school district buses.



### Millions in improvements

Construction has begun on \$3.1 million in improvements and expansion of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. An additional \$9.4 million in improvements is planned for the next five years to help keep pace with anticipated growth and mandated regulations. Odor control project funding has also been approved.

### Stormwater ponds

Construction of two 30 acre-foot regional detention ponds with 60-inch diameter outlet pipe in southwest Loveland is nearing completion. Planting for wetland vegetation and trees will begin this spring.

### Staying cool

Public education programs by the Fire Prevention Bureau have reached more than 6,000 members of the community in 2006. Prevention works far better than hoses.

### Rialto Seats

Seats in the Rialto Theater were occupied 42,500 times—a new record—for shows and other events in 2006. And grant money was received toward the campaign, now under way to replace all those old and worn seats.

### Advancing Loveland

The Advancing Loveland partnership brings together business advocates from the City, state, county and other agencies. This partnership provides a forum for the City's Business Development partners to brainstorm, update peers on projects and identify opportunities for future efforts.

### Staying informed

The Public Information Office used several resources to keep the community informed about the goings-on of their City government. In addition to news releases and other forms of interaction with the media, information was regularly provided to residents via the City Update newsletter, Dateline: Loveland newspaper page, cable TV channel 16, 1610 AM radio and the City web site.

### Plans become reality

The \$25-million Lincoln Place project on the block of the former downtown Walgreens advanced to near completion in 2006. This project is expected to be a major catalyst in stimulating downtown redevelopment.

### Gardening program a success

In cooperation with the Loveland Chamber of Commerce and the Center for Business Development, a pilot Economic Gardening program was launched. This program targets small businesses to ensure they remain a viable source of investment and job growth in the community.



### More volunteers

Sixteen new volunteer firefighters graduated in November, increasing the firefighter volunteer staff to 60 members. In 2006, they also contributed in non-firefighting ways including emergency management and fire prevention. Volunteer recruitment efforts continue to be a fire department goal.

### Teens on board

Library service to teenagers was expanded with the establishment of a Teen Advisory Board that helps plan and organize new programs and a teen blog.

### Business Expo held

Loveland's first Business Resource Expo was held at city hall in November and hosted by the Loveland Chamber of Commerce. City departments and business development agencies had booths and were available to answer business owners' questions and concerns.

### Twice the wind

Loveland residents and businesses have more than doubled their commitment to renewable energy. Sign-ups for GreenSwitch wind-powered electrical energy have reached almost 2,000.

