

City of
Greeley Colorado
2023 Legislative Agenda



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Greeley, a home rule city that is the county seat, the most populous municipality in Weld County and one of the most populous cities in Colorado. As the principal city of the Greeley, CO Metropolitan Statistical Area, Greeley is a major city within the Front Range Urban Corridor.

The Greeley City Council has adopted this Legislative Agenda ahead of the upcoming 2023 Colorado General Assembly session. The purpose of the City's agenda is to guide local legislators and city staff in supporting goals on a community level.

The legislative agenda is meant to serve as a broad set of policy statements that convey positions on legislative issues that affect our community and communicate the City's priorities.

Although it cannot be known what the upcoming session will bring, this agenda is structured to address subject areas of local concern and guide the City of Greeley in its legislative decision-making through the 2023 session.

This agenda is meant to serve as a high-level overview that represents the City's legislative views as a whole, never as individual ideals or positions. This agenda is meant to be used as a nimble instrument for guidance on legislative matters of interest to the City at the County, State and Federal level.

Should matters outlined in this agenda require attention, the City Manager's office will use its discretion to provide the city's position based on the guidance provided in this agenda. Should matters arise outside the scope of the agenda, the City Manager's office will bring the subject to City Council's attention for review, discussion, and positioning when time allows.

CITY COUNCIL

The City of Greeley operates with a Council-Manager form of government with the Council acting as the city's legislative body, adopting laws and policies and setting priorities to guide the City Council. Members are residents of Greeley who care deeply about their city and choose to serve their community as an elected official to maintain and improve Greeley's quality of life. There are a total of seven elected council members, including the Mayor.

The Council meets annually to evaluate the state of the city. Based on data, discussions with staff, and public input, the Council sets priorities which guide Greeley City government for the upcoming year



Mayor

John Gates

Term: 2021-2023

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Term: 2019-2023

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Ward IV

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At Large

Brett Payton | Mayor
Pro Tem

Term: 2021-2025

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At Large

Ed Clark

Term: 2019-2023

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CITY OF GREELEY CONTACT INFORMATION

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FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES



Congressman Ken Buck
5626 19th Street, Suite A
Greeley, CO 80631
(970) 352-5546



US Senator John Hickenlooper
801 8th Street, Suite 140A
Greeley, CO 80631
(970) 352-5546



US Senator Michael Bennet
1200 S College Ave, Suite 211
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(970) 224-2200



Congresswoman Yadira Caraveo

STATE REPRESENTATIVES



Representative Mary Young
200 E Colfax, Room 307
Denver, CO 80203
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Senator John Cooke
200 E Colfax, Room 346
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WELD COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



The five-member Board of County Commissioners is the statutory head of Weld County's government. Two commissioners are elected At-Large and three are elected from the district in which they reside.

The Board meets at 9:00 a.m. each Monday and Wednesday in the Commissioner's Assembly Room of the Administration Building, 1150 O Street, Greeley.

Karla Ford, Office Manager, Weld County Board of Commissioners can be reached at by email at kford@weldgov.com or by phone at (970) 336-7204.

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Kevin Ross
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Perry Buck
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The views held within this agenda are meant to protect the City's ability to home rule, further economic vitality and nurture the steady growth that is coming to the City of Greeley.

MUNICIPAL LOCAL CONTROL & HOME RULE

The City of Greeley believes that issues regarding community and local control should be addressed locally. State and Federal intrusion can undermine home rule and local control. The City of Greeley:

- Supports local control, allowing the City to address local issues without interference.
- Urges County, State and Federal officials and bodies to respect the roles and powers of municipalities.
- Supports legislation that respects local control, providing home rule municipalities with authority and flexibility.
- Opposes action that threatens or weakens home rule authority.
- Oppose state mandates on building codes, and zoning changes.

BEER & LIQUOR

As the local authority empowered to issue and renew liquor licenses and ensure that license rules and regulations are followed, the City supports growth in local licensing for all types of beer & liquor licensing.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The City of Greeley:

- Supports initiatives that foster state and community-based intervention, prevention and rehabilitation.

These initiatives must respect the role of local governments.

- Supports legislation that safeguards a municipalities' flexibility in any implementation of Federal and State programs.
- Supports county, state and federal funding of local public safety programs that promote co-responder models which partner law enforcement and mental health professionals.

ECONOMIC VITALITY

The City of Greeley urges the state to provide funds and staff for programs that promote economic vitality in Colorado by:

- Encouraging expansion of local economies.
- Supporting existing businesses and creating new jobs and regional partnerships.
- Closely coordinating with local governments.
- Ensuring that the state will not promote any economic development project against the desires of the communities most directly affected.
- Encouraging the federal government to support state and local government projects that promote economic development.
- Supporting incentive programs that promote local rehabilitation and revitalization.
- Supports legislation meant to enhance state-wide funding for small business support.

ENERGY RESILIENCE, RELIABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY

Understanding that energy issues extend beyond electricity, encompassing the community's use of natural gas and petroleum, the City:

- Supports legislation that promotes energy affordability for residents, governments, businesses and educational institutions.
- Supports efforts that promote safety in generation, transmission and distribution of energy.
- Supports measures that maximize a municipality's ability to ensure sustainable and reliable long-term energy resources.
- Supports incentives that promote energy efficiency, conservation, and grid flexibility.
- Opposes state preemption of municipalities in setting and implementing long-term energy goals that maximize renewable resources, resilience and reliability.

ENVIRONMENT

In addressing state-wide environmental concerns, the City of Greeley:

- Supports practices to assure public health, safety, and environmental protection.
- Supports measures taken to protect domestic water sources.
- Opposes state preemption of local land use and watershed regulations.
- Opposes state preemption of municipality's authority to adopt environmental ordinances.

FINANCE

Fiscal planning, debt management and investment policies are vital to the City's financial health.

Therefore, the City:

- Supports the maintaining and expanding the City's authority to establish alternative funding mechanisms.
- Opposes legislation that would prevent the City's authority to increase its revenue base.

HOUSING

Housing availability and affordability is among the areas of high importance for the City. Therefore, the City:

- Supports legislation clarifying that municipalities have the authority to require affordable housing in newly developed areas.
- Supports additional funding that assists municipalities in meeting the housing needs of low-income families.
- Supports measures to simplify and streamline Health & Human Services application processes.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL COLLABORATION

The City of Greeley believes that its citizens are best served when regular dialogue occurs between local, County, State and Federal governments. The city supports collaborative intergovernmental solutions to shared problems through dialogue.

MARIJUANA

The legalized use and sale of marijuana at the State level is an issue that continues to create local impacts that remain a concern for the City of Greeley. As the issues and impacts related to the statewide legalization of marijuana evolve, the City continues to:

- Support maximum local control for regulation and licensing of facilities, product manufacturing, testing and retail operations.
- Support the local option to prohibit cultivation facilities, testing facilities, and retail stores.
- Support increasing penalties to those who supply marijuana to underage individuals.
- Oppose any legislation which lowers the age for access to marijuana.

MUNICIPAL COURT OPERATIONS

The City of Greeley supports the authority of home rule municipalities to provide, conduct and control municipal court operations.

As such, the City of Greeley:

- Opposes onerous limitations on the ability of municipalities to enforce its own municipal court regulations.
- Opposes any unfunded mandates imposed on municipal court operations.

PUBLIC SAFETY

The City of Greeley recognizes the critical importance of maintaining public safety. This includes providing a safe and secure

community for all lives and property within residents.

As such, the City of Greeley:

- Supports protections afforded to victims of crime.
- Supports a reduction of operational restrictions on the use of camera enforcement.
- Opposes legislation that may potentially compromise the safety of first responders.
- Supports maximizing the liability protection afforded to local governments for prisoners self-inflicted wounds while in custody
- Opposes legislation which undermines local control of public safety and enforcement.
- Supports leveraging county, state and federal resources in the areas of information, coordination, and training in the interests of emergency management preparedness, response and recovery.
- Supports maximizing county, state and federal financial support of local emergency management services.

STATE & FEDERAL MANDATES

Programs and regulations mandated by the county, state and federal governments often stretch a municipality's resources. These impacts indirectly and directly compromise the ability of local governments to fulfill its primary responsibilities, needs and priorities.

Therefore, the City:

- Supports legislative measures that requires reimbursement to local governments for costs associated with mandates imposed by county, state and federal governments.
- Opposes unfunded mandates on local governments.

TRANSPORTATION

The City of Greeley promotes transportation infrastructure that supports increased safety and efficiency of the movement of people, goods and services.

Therefore, the City:

- Supports methods to fund local transportation needs.
- Supports additional funding options and availability for current and future transportation modes.
- Opposes legislation that strips responsibility for roads from the state and places the responsibility on municipalities without adequate annual funding for ongoing maintenance.

WATER RESOURCES

The ongoing protection of senior water rights and the prior appropriations system of administration of water in Colorado is a historical priority for the City of Greeley.

Therefore, the City:

- Supports policies that protect Colorado water resources.
- Supports appropriate water conservation efforts and

sustainable water resources management practices.

- Supports Water Use Efficiency and Conservation Programs and the potential for legislative mandates or limitations
- Supports drought response and water wise landscape resources.
- Supports efforts to enhance public's knowledge of water-related issues.
- Supports appropriate coordination of municipal water use with other uses such as agriculture, energy development, and open space.
- Supports funding which assists municipalities to protect water quality with construction and water system improvements.
- Supports wildfire recovery and its funding.