

1100 37th Street • Evans, Colorado • 80620 Phone: (970) 475-1170 • info@evanscolorado.gov • www.evanscolorado.gov

July 1, 2025

Dear Evans Residents,

Weld County is known as the lowest property tax county in the state of Colorado and the City of Evans has by far the lowest City property tax in Weld County. Throughout this year, the Evans City Council has taken a close and deliberate look at the City's property tax structure in light of rising costs and increasing demands on our infrastructure and services. As part of this evaluation, we actively sought input from you—our community—through a public opinion poll conducted by Magellan Strategies, along with a series of town hall meetings.

The message we heard from our residents was clear and consistent: Do not raise my property taxes but vigorously improve street maintenance and improvements. I want to sincerely thank everyone, including former elected officials in Evans, who took the time to share their thoughts and advocate for what matters most. Your feedback has played a critical role in guiding our next steps.

The City Council remains firmly committed to making Evans *the* Community of Choice in Northern Colorado. Over the past few years, we've made substantial investments to modernize our infrastructure—from upgrading stormwater and sanitary sewer infrastructure to replacing heavy equipment in support public safety and year-round maintenance. We've built new neighborhood parks and revitalized existing playgrounds. We've also seen exciting new developments take shape—such as Liberty Draw and Evans Junction—which bring new opportunities and economic vitality to our city.

Equally important has been our focus on improving streets. From commutes to commerce, safe and well-maintained streets affect every Evans resident, every single day. In 2020, Evans voters approved a 1% street sales tax to fund roadway improvements. This funding has already allowed for significant projects, such as improvements to $23^{\rm rd}$ Avenue and $37^{\rm th}$ Street.

In 2025, Council made a strategic decision to broaden the reach and impact of these efforts. This year alone, we completed full overlays of 17th and 23rd Avenues between 32nd and 37th Streets, including the replacement of deteriorated concrete curbs and gutters—enhancing both

functionality and appearance—and soft spots in road base to prevent potholing. Next, we'll launch a full reconstruction of 42nd Street between 23rd and 35th Avenues—ensuring not just a smoother drive, but a stronger foundation beneath it.

We also recognize the urgent needs that arise unpredictably. This spring's heavy rains significantly damaged 49th Street, resulting in nearly \$250,000 in emergency repairs just to restore access. It's a stark reminder of just how vulnerable our roads are—and underscores the importance of sustained investment in our surface transportation network.

The 1% road tax is critical to the City's investments in roads and infrastructure. After thoughtful consideration and strong community feedback, the Evans City Council has made the decision to forego a ballot initiative that would increase property taxes and focus our efforts on continuing the existing 1% street sales tax to improve and maintain roads WITHOUT raising taxes. This decision reflects not just financial prudence, but the values and preferences of the community we serve.

Continuing the street sales tax provides a fair, effective, and widely supported path forward. Unlike a property tax increase, the street sales tax distributes the cost of street maintenance among all who use our streets—including visitors and shoppers—rather than placing the full burden solely on local property taxpayers.

Difficult policy conversations are part of responsible governance. The past several months have shown us the power of civic dialogue—where community input meets Council leadership to shape thoughtful solutions.

As your Mayor, I deeply appreciate your engagement and passion for the future of our city. Together, we are building more than streets; we are building a stronger, more connected Evans. Thank you for your continued trust and partnership.

Sincerely,

THE CITY OF EVANS, COLORADO

Mark Clark

Mayor, City of Evans