
City Manager's Message

Dear Evans Residents,

As your City Manager, I am dedicated to keeping you informed and engaged with the ongoing initiatives and developments within our community. Our City thrives because of the collective efforts and voices of its residents, and I believe that open communication is essential in fostering a strong relationship between the city government and the community we serve. In this message, I want to discuss an important aspect of our local governance: the important role of our advisory boards. These boards provide a vital platform for community involvement, ensuring that your perspectives are heard and incorporated into the decision-making processes. Let's explore how these boards contribute to the betterment of our city and how you can get involved.



The City Council is the legislative body of our local government, which means that, as a collective body, they are responsible for formulating and adopting local policy. However, an often overlooked yet critical component of the legislative process is the advisory boards composed of dedicated volunteers who serve as a vital link between the government and the citizens, filling a crucial role in the evolution of our community.

One of the key strengths of advisory boards is their ability to foster civic engagement. They encourage residents to actively participate in local governance, creating a sense of ownership and pride in our city. Community members participating in these boards contribute to a more transparent and accountable decision-making process. This collaboration helps identify challenges, explore innovative solutions, and build a stronger, more resilient city for all. Moreover, advisory boards are a critical resource for city staff and elected officials. They provide informed recommendations based on community input, ensuring that our programs and services at the City of Evans are effective and aligned with our long-term goals. Their work enhances our decision-making process and enriches our understanding of the complexities facing our community.

Until recently, the City of Evans had two advisory boards that study critical community issues: the Evans Planning Commission and the Water and Sewer Board. The Planning Commission collaborates with city staff from the Community Development Department, considers land use requests by property owners and developers, and makes recommendations to the City Council on various issues, such as amendments to the comprehensive development plan and rezoning requests, to name a couple. The Water and Sewer Board collaborates with city staff from the Public Works and Utilities Department. It makes policy recommendations to the City Council on matters such as water and sewer rates for utility billing, which impact the fiscal sustainability of the utility systems.

On August 5, 2024, the Evans City Council approved Resolution No. 12-2024, which created the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. Before the establishment of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, the City Council, over the past eighteen months, has been involved in reviewing several

projects that substantially impact the development of our park system. These projects have included park design proposals, construction plans, and signage concepts. In the near future, the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will evaluate our existing park rules. It will also help guide a recreation needs assessment to identify gaps in our recreational programming. Another exciting project the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board will be heavily involved in will be the development of a new park system master plan and a trails and open space master plan. These necessary long-range plans will establish park development policies that will shape how our park system and community develop in the future.

To learn more about the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board and how you can get involved, please visit our website or contact my office directly. I encourage those interested in serving on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board to fill out an application on our website to declare your interest. Your voice matters whether you are a long-time resident or new to our city. By participating on the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, you can help shape public policies that enhance our quality of life and promote economic growth.

The application deadline is August 30, 2024. Completed applications may be submitted via email to info@evanscolorado.gov or dropped off at the Evans Community Complex Customer Service windows Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. They may also be deposited in the utility drop box in front of the Evans Community Complex.

Together, we can continue to build a vibrant and thriving city that will transform Evans into the Community of Choice in Northern Colorado.

Most Sincerely,

Cody R. Sims, ICMA-CM, MPA, CPM

Evans City Manager