

# 2024 Annual Report



## Investing in You

The Evans City Council and city staff are here for one reason - to serve you, the citizens. Every day we strive to do everything we can to make Evans the best place to live, work and play. From making sure our PD has everything they need to keep you and your family safe to providing a wide range of recreation activities and even just greeting you with a friendly smile when you stop in to pay your water bill, we are here for you and strive for the very best!



## Celebrating our Community!

While Evans might be small compared to some of our neighbors, we are a proud community dotted with folks from all walks of life and every background imaginable. We see our city's diversity as one of its greatest strengths and as we welcome new residents to the city, the richer our community becomes.



## Making Evans the Community of Choice

2024 was a big year for the City of Evans. A city council with a strong vision for the future set the strategic course for the city in focusing on economic development, community beautification and public safety. All year long, the city worked on projects large and small to achieve these goals, completing projects all over the city including the widening of 37th Street, a new city website, brand new DaVinci Park amenities, expanding options for making utility payments, and much more. Evans made major strides in 2024 and we are proud to highlight them here.

# Greetings from Mayor Clark



Dear citizens of Evans –

It is my honor to present to you the 2024 Year End Report for the City of Evans. This report highlights the progress our city has made over the past year, and I am honored to serve as your mayor during such a transformative time. Together, we have achieved remarkable milestones that strengthen our community and pave the way for a brighter future.

One of our most significant accomplishments over the past year was the advancement of infrastructure projects that enhance the quality of life for our residents, including the continued reconstruction of 37<sup>th</sup> Street. Public infrastructure provides an essential foundation for the growth and

development of our community, which supports important economic development initiatives. Along with public infrastructure, we also expanded our parks system with development of DaVinci Park and, through a public-private partnership with Chevron Energy, approved the reconstruction of the Ridge Park playground.

Economic development was also a key focus in 2024 that will provide new opportunities to our growing community. Progress is underway at the southwest corner of 31<sup>st</sup> Street and Hwy 85 with the construction of public improvements that will support a new commercial development anchored by McDonalds. In addition, other commercial opportunities are currently being planned along our major corridors that will continue to diversify our local economy.

Public safety remains a top priority, and, in October 2024, the City Council purchased 5.13-acres of land immediately south of the Evans Community Complex that will serve as the future home of the Evans Police Department. Development of the new Evans police station is currently in design, with groundbreaking expected in late summer 2025.

As we move forward, 2025 will bring further improvements to our community through additional infrastructure improvement projects, park reconstruction projects, and new growth in the commercial sector of our local economy. It is truly an exciting time to be part of Evans' story, and I look forward to working alongside all of you to transform Evans into the Community of Choice in Northern Colorado.

Sincerely,  
Mark Clark, Mayor of Evans, Colorado

## Mission Statement

We deliver sustainable, citizen-driven services for the health, safety and welfare of the community.

## Vision Statement

"The City of Evans is an economically diverse, self-sufficient community providing a clean, safe, family friendly environment with growth oriented infrastructure. We accomplish our vision with strategic policies and partnerships and long range plans necessary to maintain essential City infrastructure and services."



# Meet your City Council



Mark Clark  
Mayor



Tammy Pletka  
Mayor Pro  
Tem / Ward 2



Fred Neal  
Ward 1



Kyle Fehr  
Ward 1



Jeff Crabtree  
Ward 2



Ally Johnson  
Ward 3



Chris Delaney  
Ward 3

## City Council Values for the City of Evans

- Innovation
- Reward Performance
- Value Relationships
- Internal & External Service Excellence
- Integrity
- Honesty
- Caring
- Respect
- Fairness
- Citizenship
- Courage
- Responsibility
- Trustworthiness

## City Council Priorities for the City of Evans

- Evans is visually attractive, with clean neighborhoods, well maintained streets, parks, landscaping and public facilities. There are well written policies and attention to detail that encourages pride in neighborhoods.
- Evans is safe because we have well maintained streets, parks, public facilities and programs that address resident's concerns including Citizens Police Advisory Committee (CPAC), community policing, Neighborhood Watch, National Night Out (NNO), emergency preparedness.
- Evans is self-sufficient. We actively promote regional retail shopping opportunities located in Evans and we provide essential public services to our residents. We do this by ensuring our staff have capacity and resources and by promoting and leveraging beneficial and strategic partnerships.
- Evans is family friendly with a small town atmosphere where you feel at home. We provide a wide range of activities for all ages through our recreational amenities, and our residents take pride in our welcoming community.
- Evans has a diverse economy that has a mix of businesses (retail, industrial, office, and residential) to strengthen us during economic cycles. We have opportunities for shopping with retail locations throughout the City. We support the development of regional employment opportunities.
- Evans has a proactive and diverse capital infrastructure program supported by policies that promote long term planning for funding, growth, expansion, and maintenance.

# Greetings from the City Manager



## About the City Manager

Cody Sims was appointed the City Manager of Evans on January 9, 2023. Prior to his appointment, Cody served as the Assistant City Manager for the City of Augusta, Kansas for eight years, and the Director of Engineering and Economic Development for the City of Wellington, Kansas for three years prior to that. Cody earned a master's degree in public administration from Wichita State University and earned the designation of Certified Public Manager from the University of Kansas. Cody is a credentialed manager through the International City/County Manager's Association and is also a member of the Colorado City/County Manager's Association.

Dear Evans Residents –

I am proud to share the progress and accomplishments our city has achieved together. Our efforts to transform Evans into the Community of Choice have been marked by resilience, growth, and a shared commitment to improving the quality of life for all members of our community. It is my pleasure to present to you the 2024 Year End Report that highlights the accomplishments of your local government.

2024 was a busy year for the City of Evans. Through strategic planning, thoughtful decision-making, leadership from our elected officials, and the hard work of our city staff, we have made significant strides in key areas such as infrastructure improvements, economic development, and community beautification. From enhancing our parks and public spaces to addressing critical infrastructure deficiencies and embracing community engagement, our focus has remained on building a stronger, more robust city.

We have faced challenges, but through collaboration and determination, we've found solutions that reflect the values and needs of our residents. Your input and participation have been invaluable in shaping the direction of our city, and I want to express my sincere gratitude for your continued support.

As we move forward in 2025, we have many exciting opportunities in front of us that will continue the evolution of Evans. Together, we will continue to make progress, tackle new challenges, and create a city where everyone feels proud to live, work, and play.

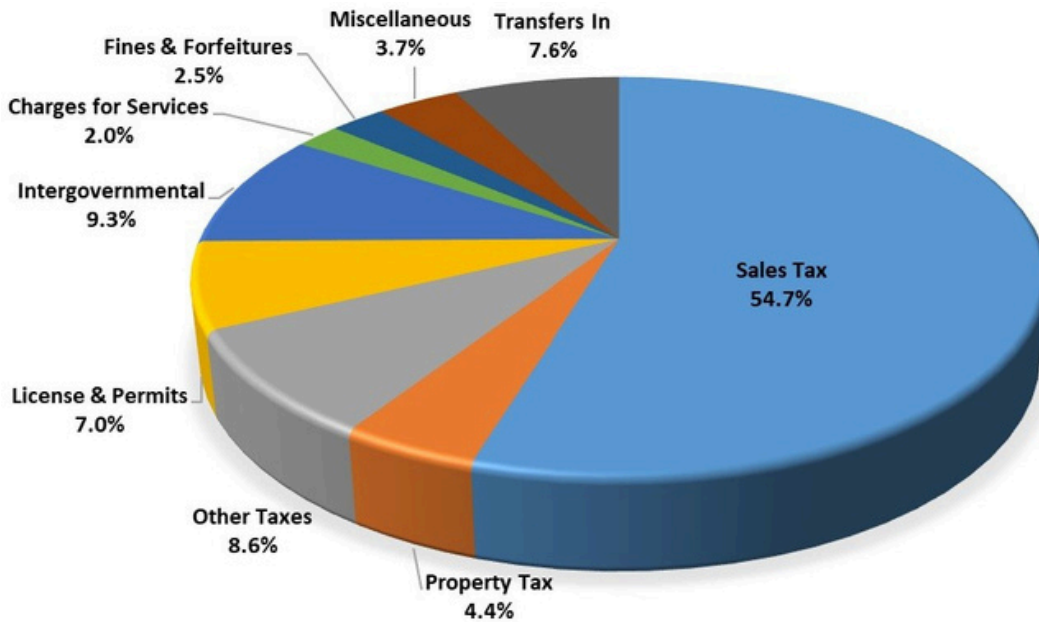
Thank you for being an essential part of our city's journey. I look forward to the opportunities that lie ahead as we build a bright and prosperous future together.

Sincerely,

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

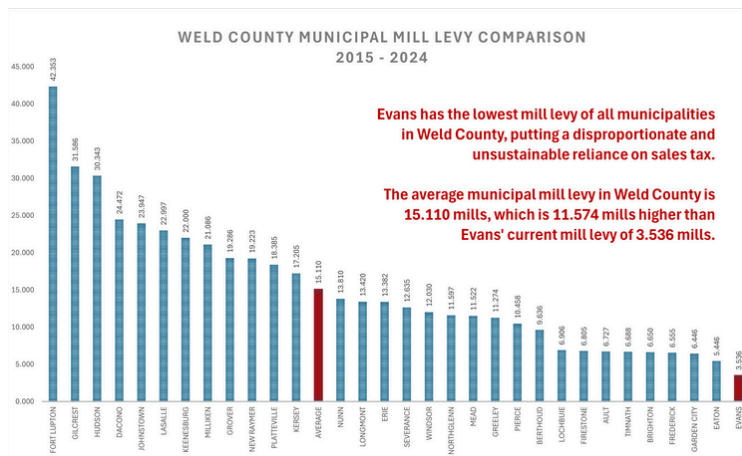


# Fiscal Summary



## Investing in You

The City of Evans is always searching for the best ways to provide top-notch service to our residents. We have expanded our recreation offerings, created a new online payment portal for utility payments and have invested in city staff - striving to attract and retain the best employees.



## New, Efficient Equipment



The Evans City Council approved investments in new equipment including a vac truck, street sweeper, loader and more to improve efficiency in city operations. A new sign shop was established and a full-time sign technician was hired to replace all the street signs in the city. This will improve public safety and save money.



## Making the Best Use of Limited Resources

The City of Evans derives more than half of its revenue from sales taxes, at close to 55%. Unlike many of our neighboring communities, Evans collects only a small fraction - under 4% - from property taxes. With a mill levy rate of just 3.536, about 1/3 of Greeley's, 1/4 of Windsor's, and nearly 1/10 of Milliken's, Evans faces unique challenges in the Northern Colorado region when formulating the annual city budget. Therefore, council prioritizes getting the most bang for the buck, seeks out the best bids for contracted services, and makes investments that will have the broadest impact. We strive to ensure every penny of tax revenue is wisely spent.

# Police and Public Safety



## Keeping our Community Safe

The number one job of government is to ensure its citizens are able to live their lives in a safe and secure environment. The men and women of the Evans Police Department, put their lives on the line every day to make sure we have a city free from danger where residents can enjoy their lives and conduct business.



## Engaged with our Residents

The Evans PD has worked incredibly hard at community outreach and engagement, working on a wide variety of fronts to build relationships with Evans residents, holding events such as Coffee with a Cop, the Teen Police Academy, Torch Run, Santa Cops, the Coats and Boots drive, the Halloween party and others. Furthermore, the PD hosts the bi-annual Drug Take Back and document shredding events. Last year, 853lbs of prescription drugs were collected. Over 1,000 kids came to the Halloween event to celebrate safety.

## Doing it All!

In 2024, the Evans PD responded to 27,469 calls for service and officer-generated incidents and took 2,683 reports. A total of 877 arrests were made and 2,085 summons were issued; 1,499 were moving violations and 257 were parking violations. 1,319 formal warnings were issued to motorists. There were 578 automobile accidents to which the PD responded in 2024, three accidents sadly resulted in fatalities and 48 had personal injuries associated. The Evans PD continues recruitment efforts, and in December, welcomed five graduates from the Aims Police Academy.



Judge Michael Stewart

## Fair and Impartial Justice

The Evans Municipal Court handled 3,502 cases in 2024. There were 15 trials scheduled and 245 warrants were cleared. A new text message notification system helped increase court attendance by 3%. The council approved the purchase of a new software application that will make the court operate more efficiently.



# Economic Development



## New Businesses

2024 saw Evans welcome several new businesses to town. ALLO and Vero both began installing their fiberoptic networks across the city, providing more consumer choice for this increasingly valuable service. Starbucks on 23rd Ave. opened its doors and ground was broken on a new Murphy's fueling station on 35<sup>th</sup> Avenue with a second beginning work in early 2025, as well as a new, multi-tenant commercial outfit on 37th Street. Also, a contract with McDonald's was signed to serve as an anchor at the Evans Junction site along the busy Highway 85 corridor. The city works closely with The Retail Coach to partner in business attraction efforts and our economic development team attends conferences to market the city for new retail opportunities.



## Improving and Forging Relationships

In addition to prospecting for new businesses in the city, it is equally important to continue fostering our relationships with our current businesses. In 2024, significant progress was made in growing relationships with businesses all across the city. Bi-weekly business snapshots and monthly business spotlights help local enterprises gain attention in the marketplace. A database of businesses was created so the city can more quickly and effectively respond to their needs.



## Economic Growth!

The Evans City Council has prioritized economic development as a key strategic initiative. With new businesses setting up shop in our City, we benefit from expanded job opportunities, increased retail options for residents and a boost in sales tax revenue which affords the City the ability to offer more and better services, improved roads and enhanced parks and recreation offerings. The City takes a two-pronged approach: working to attract new businesses and building relationships with current ones.



# Community Development



## More and More Development

The 795 building permits issued in 2024 outpaced the last two years – 491 in 2023 and 503 in 2022 – by a sizable margin. Permits for new builds – 110 residential and 32 commercial in 2024 – were greater than the previous two years combined.



## Building Inspections Brought In-House

To improve building inspection services, ensure alignment with city goals, save taxpayer dollars and be more responsive to residents and developers' needs, city council approved moving building inspection services in-house and the agreement with an outside building inspections firm was terminated in early 2025.



## New Land Use Code Expedites Growth

The City of Evans Community Development Department created a streamlined land use code to make development in the city easier. In 2024, 21 total land use applications were submitted for residential, commercial and industrial sites, including an O'Reilly Auto Parts, Circle K, Tuscan multi-family tract, the Evans 50 Industrial subdivision and the multi-tenant Songbird Commercial Centre. Additionally, 23 mobile food vendor applications were received by the city's planning department.

## Residential Growth!

The best way to procure long-term economic growth in Evans is to attract new residents. As the old saying goes, retail follows rooftops. In 2024, the city's building division processed a whopping 684 residential and 111 commercial building permits. Of those, 110 were for new residential construction and 32 for new commercial outfits. This generated over \$15 million in revenue for the city's general, enterprise and impact fund accounts, ensuring that development does pay its own way – the revenue generated from permitting is used to supplement existing infrastructure and park space to absorb the city's expanding population.



# Neighborhood Services



## Clean-Up Days

In 2024, the city hosted two, two-day clean-up events for residents. The events were very successful as residents had a means by which to dispose of furniture, yard debris, tires, household waste, general junk and more for free or at a greatly reduced cost.



## City Beautification

A priority for the city council is community beautification. To help achieve that goal, the city has invested in stepping up code enforcement efforts and streamlining the process for nuisance abatement. In 2024, the city found 1,339 cases of code violations, and closed 1,539, including rollover from 2023.



## Yards of the Month, Best Landscaped Businesses

Evans Neighborhood Services handles code enforcement in the city by responding to nuisance violations while being equally committed to recognizing and honoring Evans' best-looking yards and businesses. Last year, QuikTrip and ModBox Storage were recognized with the first ever Beautifully Landscaped Businesses honors and four residences were awarded as Yard of the Month winners.

## Programs for the whole community!

The Evans Neighborhood Party Trailer was reserved 46 times in 2024. This FREE service is great for graduation parties, family reunions, neighborhood get-togethers and much more. This trailer come complete with tables, chairs, trash cans, coolers, giant Jenga, cornhole boards, sidewalk chalk and more. Neighborhood Services also sponsored three volunteer cleanup events along the Platte River Trail, Highway 85 and State Farm Road. The Tree Assistance Program provided \$275 rebates to residents who purchased and planted approved trees on their property, helping beautify the community and provide natural habitats for animals.



# Public Works – Operations



## Keeping the Water Running

In 2024, the water division team repaired six breaks to the city's watermains and responded to three sinkhole events across the city. The new vac truck, vastly superior to the trailer used in the past, allowed the city to greatly expand maintenance work to the city's water supply.



## Preserving Roads

In 2024, the city's streets division began a long-term project to cut down road shoulders to remove sediment build up that causes water to pool, rather than drain properly, from roadways. This will go a long way towards preserving pavement, resulting in significant cost savings.



## Wastewater Plant and Staff Excelling

The Evans Wastewater Treatment Plant came online in 2018 and, while expansion plans are in the works, the plant is currently operating at a highly-efficient level. In 2024, the plant removed 98.8% of biochemical oxygen demand and 97.8% of suspended solids. 1,962.2 dry tons of biosolids were removed from the plant and land applied for beneficial use. 23.2 miles of sanitary sewer main were hydrocleaned and 4.19 miles of sanitary sewer main were CCTV inspected. Plant technicians continue to achieve advanced certifications to ensure the best possible plant performance.

## Operations Keeps our City Working!

The Evans operations division plays a critical role in the city by assuring that our large-scale public infrastructure is well-maintained and operating effectively. The new sign shop produced 103 stop signs, 113 speed limit signs, 53 warning signs, 146 parking signs, 32 ditch signs, and 162 signs for The Ridge neighborhood. Installing these signs began late in 2024 and will continue until every sign in the city has been replaced to meet USDOT regulations for retroreflectivity. The streets division also undertook work to remove and replace sign posts that were out of MUTCD compliance.



# Public Works – Engineering



## 1% Road Tax Provides Upgrades to Road Network

The road to a better Evans begins with, well, our roads. In 2024, the city used the revenue derived from the 1% road tax to help complete roadway improvements all across the city. Asphalt patching, crack sealing, concrete replacement and surface treatment projects improve and preserve our neighborhood and collector roadways, prolonging their lifespan and improving usage for all forms of transit. In 2024, new EVO Radar Sensors were installed to improve traffic flow and reduce wait times at intersections.



## Second Phase of 37th St. Widening Project Completed

The second phase of the 37th St. widening project was completed in early fall. This phase of the project expanded the city's principal east-west thoroughfare to four lanes in both directions. This project is part of the Weld County Freedom Parkway venture which, when completed, will greatly alleviate traffic on Highway 34 and provide a significant boost to commercial development in the region.



## More than Just Road Work

In addition to a great deal of roadwork planned, designed, and completed in 2024, the city's engineering division worked on multiple other projects of considerable significance. Waterline and stormwater projects, particularly on the eastern side of the city, are currently in the design phase. The Evans Ditch Trail Project will serve the dual purpose of providing a walking trail for residents and allow staff better access for ditch maintenance. Design work was completed and components were ordered for a traffic signal at the busy 23rd Ave./32nd St. intersection, providing a significant boost for public safety.



# Parks



## No Such Thing as Enough Park Space

While the city is proud of our current park offerings, in 2024, the city council approved plans to move forward with new playground equipment at Ridge Park, create new park space in Hunter's Reserve and develop the Arrowhead Open Space. These improvements are possible due in part to generous community donations, Colorado Lottery proceeds, and impact fees collected from development.



## DaVinci Park Opens!

In August, the city was so grateful to be joined by so many of our neighbors for food, fun and game at the grand opening ceremony for DaVinci Park. This latest edition to the Evans parks system features a one-of-a-kind pump track as well as walking trail, picnic shelter, open lawn and decorative foliage!



## Keeping our Park Spaces Pristine

Taking care of our public parks is a year-round endeavor. In 2024, 14.3 miles of trail were maintained for public use, almost 3,000 acres were mowed, over 2,000 trees were cared for and 600 more were given out to students at Dos Rios Elementary as part of the city's annual Arbor Day celebration with Evans Parks Superintendent Efren Rodriguez, providing an overview of how to plant and properly care for the tree saplings. The Riverside Park Pavilion was renovated and refreshed. In the winter, parks staff helped with snow removal.

## Evans is loaded with Park Space



### PARKS, RECREATION, & FACILITIES Evans Parks Amenities Include:

- 4 public restroom facilities located at parks.
  - 13 playground sets
  - 1 off-leash dog park
  - 1 frisbee golf course
  - 5 outdoor pickleball courts
- 1 outdoor sports complex with 4 ball fields and 1 soccer field
  - 4 basketball courts
  - 1 basketball half court
  - 2 sand volleyball courts
    - 1 T-ball field
- 16 pavilions are available, five of which are rentable.
  - 1 cemetery





# Recreation



## Senior Center

A new recreation supervisor position came aboard in 2024 to help expand the city's senior services and better cater to Evans' mature residents. A total of 9,270 donations were received and 4,508 meals were served at our always well-attended senior lunches. There were 42 registrations for senior day trip events.



## Healthy Activities for ALL Ages!

The Evans Recreation Center offers fitness equipment and a wide array of classes for people of all ability levels. Classes in weights, cardio, active adult, Zumba and more available!



## Youth Sports

Studies have shown that young people involved in athletics are far more likely to succeed in school and stay out of trouble. Evans Recreation is proud to provide low-cost opportunities for kids to play sports, regardless of skill or ability level. In 2024, the city welcomed 1,178 youth sports team registrations for ages ranging from 5 to 14, who competed against neighboring communities across a total of 112 teams in disciplines including flag football, soccer, volleyball, basketball, softball and baseball. 1,694 vending items – which serve to supplement costs and therefore lower the participation costs – were sold.

## Fun events bring the community together!

Heritage Day was once again a big hit with 32 parade entries that celebrated Evans diversity and proud cultural heritage. 51 craft, merchandise and non-profit vendors set up shop and eight food and beverage vendors kept folks fed, hydrated and happy. The concluding fireworks show launched 1,300 shells to provide an ideal close to Evans' annual celebration! The city also hosts the Easter Eggstravaganza, with 8,000 candy-filled eggs found in 2024, and the annual Golf Tournament had dozens hitting the links. 11,500 pieces of candy were distributed across 19 station hosts at the Trick or Treat Trail and, come Christmastime, the city's brand new Holiday Glow & Explore event had Santa hosting story time for the youngsters.

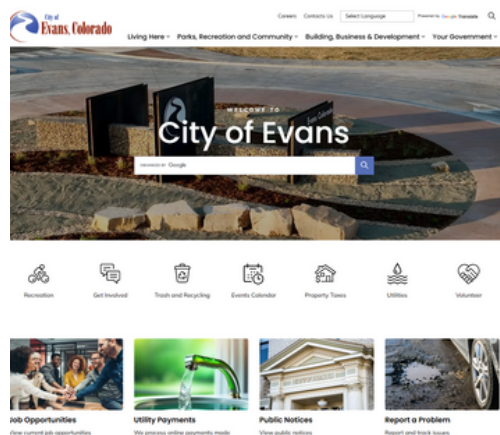


# City of Evans



## New and Improved City Website

In 2024, the City's Information Technology department prospected and ultimately selected a new host company for the city's website. Launched in early 2025, the new website is easier to use, more secure, and fully compliant with all current federal and state ADA and WCAG digital accessibility requirements. The city clerk's office also invested in new agenda management software, transitioning from PrimeGov to the superior eScribe application for use by the city council and the boards and commissions. This upgrade allows for improved efficiency, transparency and opportunities for more public participation. The clerk's office, which also manages the Evans Cemetery, began the process of adding two additional columbaria.



## Hiring the Best and Taking Care of our Team

Like any organization, our people are our biggest asset. In 2024, the city's HR department completed a review of all city positions to align city staff with council goals and objectives, ensuring that our employees have the support and equipment necessary to do their jobs in the most effective and efficient manner possible. The city's risk management team far exceeded Colorado standards, qualifying for reduced loss control insurance credits for the years ahead.

## Providing top notch customer service

In 2024, the City's Customer Service Unit launched the new utility payment system with greatly expanded options including using Venmo, PayPal, pay-by-phone, and expanded online bill payment options.

## IT Keeps your Data Secure

The city's IT department devoted significant time to ensure all sensitive data is safe from digital threats. Deploying Threatlocker Endpoint Security, the city's digital infrastructure is secure as can be.

New GIS mapping work assists every city department and division in operating more efficiently, saving time and money with these improvements.