

ARAPAHOE COUNTY ACTION

Help make the GOP the party of trust, transparency and action!
May 12, 2023

Discussions that Build Communities and Save Lives

How do we protect our children? As it is graduation time, it's a good time to remember Kendrick Castillo, who was days from graduation when he gave his life to save his classmates from a school shooter. In honor of him, you could invite a neighbor to join you in watching [this panel discussion](#) with Kendrick's father and others talking about what actually works to protect children.

How do we protect our elections? You can also lead a neighborhood discussion of this mockup ("Mock County, Texas") of an [in-person, hand-counted, locally managed, paper ballot election](#), with videos so you can see how quickly and easily an election can be done. Counties can save A LOT of money this way – postage and electronics are the biggest costs of an election, to say nothing of the recounts and lawsuits spawned by a lack of transparency!

Upcoming Events

Meet Littleton School Board Candidate

Dr. Brian Macaulay, conservative candidate for LPS Board of Education
Monday, May 15, 5:30pm, Hopscotch Social House at Streets of Southglenn [RSVP here](#).

Lincoln Day Dinner

Keynote speaker: Thomas J Baker, author of The Fall of the FBI
Saturday, June 3, DoubleTree Hotel DTC
7801 E. Orchard Rd, Greenwood Village, CO 80111 Register [HERE](#)

Western Conservative Summit

Educating Americans on key issues facing the West and the nation
June 9-10, Colorado Convention Center, 700 14th Street, Denver
<https://centennial.ccu.edu/western-conservative-summit/>

Western Conservative Summit Youth Conference

Learn how to impact the culture in support of faith, family, and freedom
June 5-11, Colorado Christian University, 8787 W Alameda Ave, Lakewood
<https://centennial.ccu.edu/wcs-youth-conference/>

Gelato in June (see flyer below)

HEATHER GARDENS REPUBLICAN CLUB

Fundraiser for Candidates –

Aurora City Council, Aurora and Cherry Creek School District Boards of Education

Tuesday, June 27th, 1:00 - 2:30 Heather Gardens Clubhouse

2888 S. Heather Gardens Way Aurora 80014

Arapahoe County Current Issues

“When those who are governed do too little,
those who govern can – and often will – do too much.”
Ronald Reagan

The county is redistricting, after the controversial and delayed 2020 Census. Districts are supposed to be politically balanced, based on our county’s voter statistics. But Arapahoe voter statistics are if anything worse than the census! (They say we have a 117-year-old voter in Englewood; Wikipedia says the oldest person in the world is 116, in Spain.) With a questionable census, and worse voter statistics, how can we possibly know whether the districts are politically balanced? Here’s where to [look at the proposed maps and make comments](#).

Got opinions? Arapahoe County has vacancies on many committees. Grab a friend, grab a neighbor, join, and make your voice heard! ([More info here.](#))

- Fairgrounds and Park Advisory – what kind of fairgrounds do real people want?
- Board of Adjustment (zoning) – can they really build THAT...THERE?
- Board of Review (building codes) – do they have to have sprinklers if flooding damages more than fire?
- Centennial Airport Community Noise Roundtable – how quiet can jet noise get?
- Community Services Block Grant Advisory Committee – what is a community services block grant and why isn’t the page more informative?
- CSU Extension Advisory Committee (gardening, health, nutrition) – does anyone now trust the government to instruct us about good health?
- Cultural Council (funds arts/culture/science) – who chooses art for everybody else?
- Fair Planning – can we show off Arapahoe County without costing the county too much?
- Liquor Authority – how to protect the public from liquor’s bad effects?
- Planning Commission – where do you see the county in 20 years?
- Weed Advisory Board – which plants are undesirable?

[Encouragement](#) for those of us who live in a metro area – things are not good, but it doesn’t mean we’re doomed. Remember that news always tends toward a focus on the shocking.

State Legislation

This year's legislative session is finally over!

Take a deep breath, and realize WE THE PEOPLE ROARED, AND WON! If you ever despaired that all-blue Colorado is lost, your vote doesn't count, and there is nothing you can do, think again! Our representatives are supposed to fear us voting them out of office. But even when they don't, they still fear universal scorn, so a truly overwhelming outraged response works. Your passionate involvement in government is the most effective thing you can do.

HB23-1230, the "assault weapons" ban, earned a strong backlash in April, and was supposedly killed. But the zombie undead bill came back a couple weeks later, and had to be [re-killed](#).

Likewise, **SB23-213, about land use**, died when outraged citizens realized it could quintuple the number of people (and cars, and traffic) in neighborhoods, and local officials ([look how many](#)) realized the state was grabbing land decisions away from them. That made the bill unpopular all round, the word spread it was a Bad Thing, and it couldn't even sneak through the chaos of the final days of the session. It expired, to nobody's regret.

As we recover from this session, consider Attorney Tom Renz's summary of [how politics works](#) and what we can do about it. "We the people CAN take our country back but it is a tough fight. It requires that we find leaders that will be wise and willing to stand against corruption."

Speak Up for Your County, City, Schools

Your biggest contribution is not your vote, but your involvement. You will have most effect if you start at your local level. Begin today, attending public meetings regularly – you will learn who the people are, whom to trust, and what motivates them. Don't get overwhelmed by the number of meetings – in many areas you could attend all the meetings up through the county level for an average time investment of just six hours a month! If you have nothing to say, listen – you'll almost certainly find something to say soon!

How to speak up

For most people it's a good idea to write out ahead of time what you want to say and practice it a time or two to make sure it fits in the time limit.

Most councils/boards give you 3 minutes to speak, which is arguably infringing on your right to free speech, but in practice if you can't say what you have to say in 3 minutes, people will tune you out. If enough people show up to speak they may cut the allowed time to 2 minutes, so be prepared with what you would cut out if necessary.

Many meetings hold public comment time early in the agenda, so you don't have to stay for the whole meeting, though if you do, then they know you're watching them! Most meetings are recorded; you could catch up on the rest of the meeting later by playing the video during your drivetime.

Some boards have been known to move the public comment time until after the most boring parts of the meeting; if so, hang in there and wait; the more they try to discourage you, the more you know you are making a difference!

Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners

9:30 am May 23, June 6 (2nd and 4th Tuesday of month)

East Hearing Room, Administration Building, 5334 S. Prince St. Littleton, 80120

<https://www.arapahogov.com/259/Board-of-County-Commissioners>

Sign up to speak at room entrance.

Incorporated Cities in Arapahoe County

Incorporated city	Upcoming city council/trustee meetings
Aurora	<p>Time: 6:30PM May 22, June 12 (every other Monday) Place: Aurora Municipal Center, 15151 E. Alameda Parkway Website: https://www.auroragov.org/city_hall/mayor_city_council/council_meetings Sign up to speak: Those attending in person may register to speak by completing the 'Public Comment on Agenda Item' online form prior to the meeting or by completing a speaker slip upon arrival at the Aurora Municipal Center (AMC) on the meeting date. https://www.auroragov.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=16242704&pageId=16506621</p>
Bow Mar	<p>Time: 7PM May 15, June 19 (3rd Monday of month) Place: Columbine Valley Town Hall, 2 Middlefield Road, Columbine Valley Website: https://townofbowmar.colorado.gov/boards-meetings/trustee-meetings Sign up to speak: Speakers must sign in with Clerk (comments must be limited to 3 minutes)</p>
Centennial	<p>Time: 7PM May 16, June 6 (1st and 3rd Tuesdays of month) Place: Council Chambers, 13133 E. Arapahoe Road, Centennial Website: https://www.centennialco.gov/Government/Mayor-Council/City-Council-Meetings Sign up to speak: The intake of public comments follows the time allowances during public hearings. Sign-up sheets are made available on the table at the back of the Council Chambers.</p>
Cherry Hills Village	<p>Time: 6:30P May 16, June 6 (1st and 3rd Tuesday of month) Place: Village Center, 2450 E Quincy Avenue Website: https://www.cherryhillsvillage.com/101/City-Council Sign up to speak: There is no need to sign up to attend in-person; if you would like to speak during audience participation there will be a sign-up sheet in the Council Chambers</p>
Columbine Valley	<p>Time: 6:30PM May 16, June 20 (3rd Tuesday of month) Place: Columbine Valley Town Hall, 2 Middlefield Road Website: https://columbinevalley.org/board-trustee-agendas-minutes/ Sign up to speak: The Board of Trustees welcomes comments from the public at the beginning of each regular meeting. Each speaker will be limited to three minutes. There will be speaker sign-up sheets on the table at the back of the Council Chambers.</p>
Deer Trail	<p>Time: 7PM June 13 (2nd Tuesday of month) Place: Town Hall, 555 Second Ave., Deer Trail Website: https://townofdeertrail.colorado.gov/government/town-board-of-trustees Sign up to speak: Probably can sign in to speak at the door; call 303-769-4464 for more information.</p>
Englewood	<p>Time: 6PM May 15, June 5 (1st and 3rd Mondays of month) Place: 2nd floor of Civic Center, 1000 Englewood Parkway, Englewood Website: https://www.engagewoodco.gov/government/city-council/meetings Sign up to speak: Please contact the City Clerk's office if you would like to sign up to speak at a Council meeting. The deadline to sign up to speak for Scheduled Public Comment is Wednesday by 5 p.m., prior to the meeting and you will be given 5 minutes to speak. All other speakers who do not meet the deadline will be</p>

	added to Unscheduled Public Comment and will be given 3 minutes to speak.
Foxfield	Time: 6:30PM May 18, June 1 (1 st and 3 rd Thursday of month) Place: Fire Station (probably Fire Station No. 42 located on Parker Road just south of Fremont Avenue) Website: https://townoffoxfield.colorado.gov/ Sign up to speak: All meetings, except executive sessions, are open to the public. Occasional special meetings are held as needed. The Board relies upon the input of residents for many of the decisions they make. Public comment is encouraged and should be limited to 4 minutes per speaker
Glendale	Time: 7PM June 6 (1 st Tuesday of month) Place: 950 S. Birch St. Glendale Website: https://www.glendale.co.us/102/City-Council Sign up to speak: Probably can sign in to speak at the door; call 303-639-4708 for more information.
Greenwood Village	Time: 6pm June 5 (1 st Monday of month, 3 rd Monday of month is study session) Place: City Hall, 6060 South Quebec Street, Greenwood Village Website: https://greenwoodvillage.com/1082/Mayor-City-Council Sign up to speak: Probably can sign in to speak at the door; call 303-773-0252 for more information.
Littleton	Time: 6:30 PM, May 16, June 6 (1 st and 3 rd Tuesday of month) Place: Littleton Center, 2255 W Berry Ave, 80120 Website: https://www.littletonco.gov/Government/Meetings/Upcoming-Mtgs Sign up to speak: Sign in to speak at the door
Sheridan	Time: 7PM May 22, June 12 (2 nd and 4 th Mondays of month) Place: Probably 4101 S Federal Boulevard Sheridan (try calling 303-762-2200 to ask why this is not easy to find on the website!) Website: http://ci.sheridan.co.us/75/City-Council-Mayor Sign up to speak: All meetings are open to the public; probably you can sign up there to speak.

School Districts in Arapahoe County

School district	Board meetings upcoming
Adams-Arapahoe School District (Aurora Public Schools)	Time: 6PM May 16, June 6 (1 st and 3 rd Tuesdays of month) Place: APS Professional Learning and Conference Center, 15771 E. 1st Ave. Website: https://boe.aurorak12.org/ Sign up to speak: Public comment opportunities will be held at the second monthly meeting only. Individuals wishing to address the Board of Education for public comment are required to sign up in person before the scheduled Board meeting.
Byers 32j	Time: 6:55PM June 29 (usually 3 rd Thursday of month) Place: Lecture Hall at Byers School District, 444 E. Front Street, Byers Website: https://www.byers32j.k12.co.us/page/board-of-education Sign up to speak: Audience participation is limited to in person only and following the established board policies. Try calling the district at 303.822.5292 for more details.
Cherry Creek School District	Time: 7PM June 12 (2 nd Monday of month) Place: Different school every month; June is West Middle School, 5151 S Holly St. Website: https://www.cherrycreekschools.org/domain/82 Sign up to speak: Cherry Creek policy is "Anyone who would like to address the Board

	<p>at either a regular or special meeting (on the identified topic(s) for the special meeting) must sign-up electronically for public comment by providing their full name, street address, telephone number, email address, and the topic by no later than noon on the day of a regular Board meeting and by noon the day before a special Board meeting, using the sign-up link found on the Board of Education section of the District website.” Start your involvement by increasing board transparency, because the sign-up link is well-hidden; try calling the Cherry Creek schools main line at 303-773-1184 and ask where is the sign-up link the policy refers to!</p>
Deer Trail 26j	<p>Time: 7PM June 12 (2nd Monday of month) Place: Dorothy Pisel Meeting Room 128 South Second Avenue, Deer Trail Website: https://www.dt26j.com/en-US/school-board-74a7995f Sign up to speak: Can’t find instructions on website; try calling (303) 769-4421 or just showing up to meeting.</p>
Englewood School District	<p>Time: 6pm, June 6 (1st Tuesday of month) Place: ECE Boardroom - 3838 S. Huron St, Englewood, CO 80113 Website: https://www.englewoodschools.net/our-district/board-of-education Sign up to speak: To speak to the Board during public comment, fill out a “Public Request to Comment” form, available at all Board meetings or via email. Give the completed form to the Secretary to the Board of Education before the meeting starts.</p>
Littleton School District	<p>Time: 6:30pm May 25, June 8 (2nd and 4th Thursday of month) Place: LPS Education Services Center, 5776 S. Crocker Street, Littleton, CO 80120 Website: https://go.boarddocs.com/co/lpsco/Board.nsf/Public Sign up to speak: At the website below from 4PM the day before the meeting to 4PM the day of the meeting, or fill out a card at the meeting. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfcPqHXBstRSbyYaZmPkForlN_MrIETGFUNNCnE9aiV5pE_w/closedform</p>
Sheridan School District	<p>Time: Probably 5:45pm June 13 (2nd Tuesday of the month) Place: Probably 4150 South Hazel Court, Englewood, CO 80110, try calling for more information at (720) 833-6991 Website: https://www.ssd2.org/BoardofEducation.aspx Sign up to speak: No later than 24 hours prior to the board meeting, please email Polly Plancarte (pplancarte@ssd2.org) your request for “Audience with Board”. Include in the email your name, phone number (your phone number will not be revealed), and a brief description of the topic. The board would also like to know if you are a staff member, parent, student, community member or business owner.</p>



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