

2022

City of Brighton Annual Report



Our Brighton

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A Message from the City Manager



I am honored to be entrusted with another year as your City Manager. 2022 was a tremendous leap forward for the City. Major projects that spent years in development are finally moving forward and our employees have a renewed energy and passion for their work. They have flourished in an environment of trust, collaboration, and

empowerment and the benefits to the community have been abundant.

There is palatable excitement across the organization to see where the City goes next and to be a part of that change. We do not know what new challenges may greet us in 2023, but so long as we keep moving forward together, I expect we will rise to the occasion and continue building a better Brighton.

Council Meetings

6 p.m.
First and third Tuesday of each month
500 S. 4th Avenue
Brighton, CO 80601

Council Study Sessions

6 p.m.
Second and fourth Tuesday of each month
500 S. 4th Avenue
Brighton, CO 80601

Meetings are also broadcast live on brightonco.gov or on Comcast channel 8 and 881 in the Brighton service area.



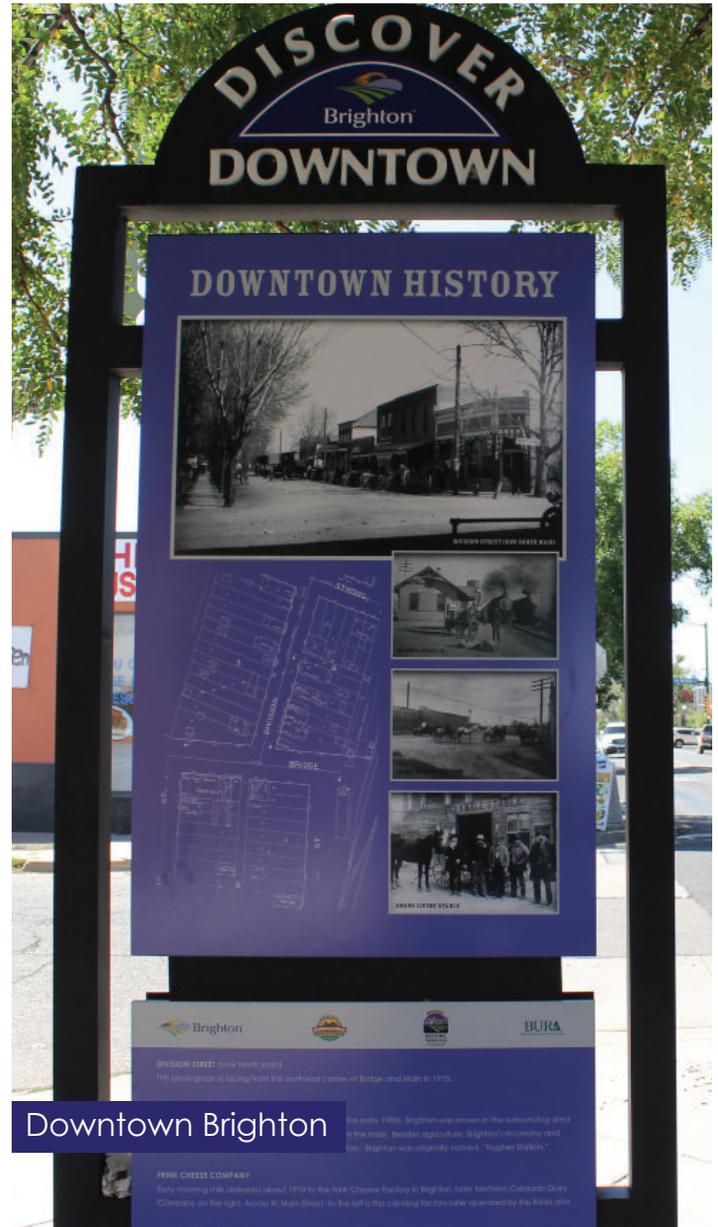
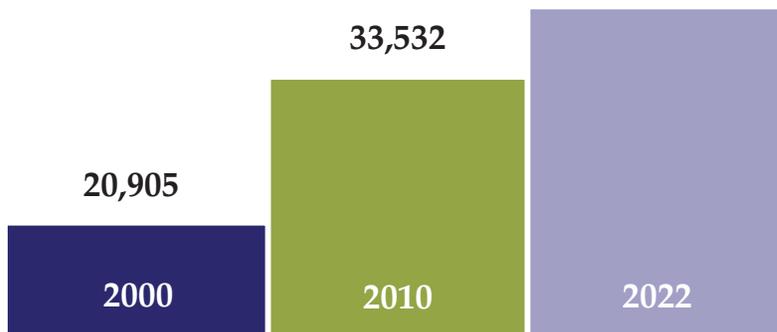
City staff and Mayor Mills on stage at the Brighton BBQ

A Community Connected

Brighton is a vibrant, close-knit community that deeply values its history and agricultural roots while embracing progress, innovation and sustainability. Just 20 miles away from downtown Denver and from the Denver International Airport, Brighton is ideally located at the crossroads of everything. This connection has helped drive robust population growth, seeing the community double from 21,000 to over 44,000 residents in just two decades.

Other draws include a strong, well-educated workforce, and an enticing mix of recreation, culture and entertainment including parkland, trails, a historic downtown, shopping and dining amenities. The City is also home to an array of beloved regional events including Brighton Summerfest, 4th of July, Egg Dash, Art in the Park, Brighton BBQ, Turkey Trot and Festival of Lights.

POPULATION



Downtown Brighton

BRIDGE STREET (now North Main)
The photographer is facing north from the southeast corner of Bridge and Main in 1910.

FRANK CHEESE COMPANY
Early morning view, December about 1910 for the Frank Cheese factory in Brighton, later Southern Colorado Dairy Company on the right. Access to Main Street to the left is the covering factory later operated by the Borden Co.

In the 1900s, Brighton was known in the surrounding area as the "Hub of the West." Besides agriculture, Brighton's economy and life, Brighton was originally named, "Hughes Station."



STRATEGIC, SUPPORTABLE INFRASTRUCTURE

Brighton, Colorado is committed to investing in existing and future transportation, water, wastewater, storm water and technology networks while planning for sustainable growth.



100 miles in roadway striping



132 miles of sewer pipe inspected



Over 1M traffic data points collected



556 M gallons of Wastewater and 2.2 B gallons of water treated

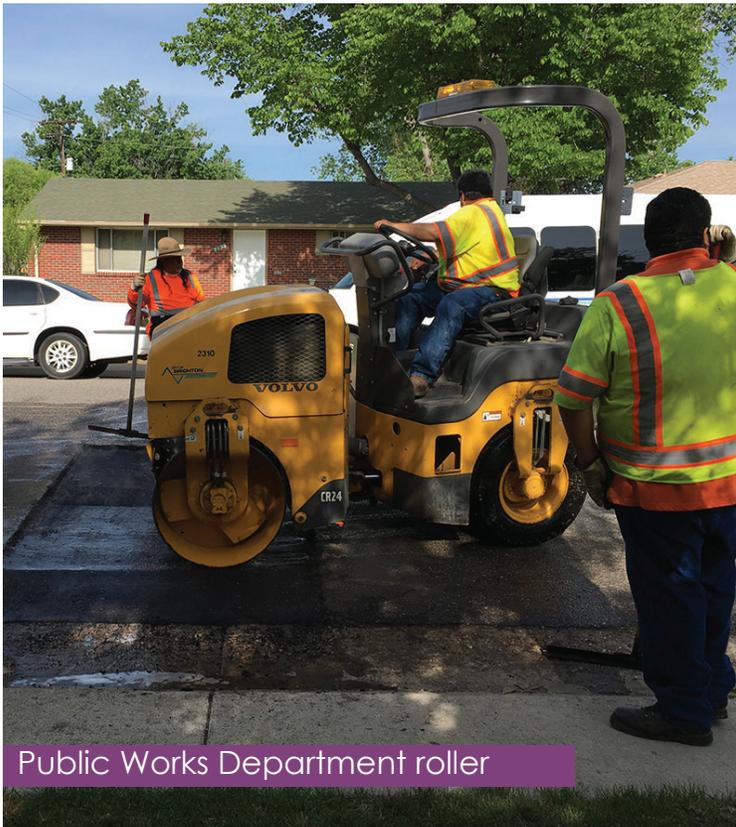


Elevated tank ribbon cutting

Brighton continued its 10-year Streets Preservation program in 2022 to ensure the City's street infrastructure is properly maintained and in good condition. This included the use of approximately **100,000 pounds** of crack seal materials, and the paving of **16 lane miles** of road.

Many other projects took place to keep Brighton's roads, sidewalks, and right of way in good condition for visitors and residents. This included completing over **14,000 square feet** of concrete replacement, constructing over **1,000 linear feet** of new sidewalks, and **2,600 linear feet** of a new trail on Tower Road. In addition, over **four miles** of new bike lanes were constructed, and **four guardrails** were replaced due to damage.

In 2022, the City also saw the completion of the **ADA and condition evaluation** of the City's curb ramp assets. The completion of this evaluation allows the City to properly plan to update and replace curb ramps to ensure compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act and that the ramps are usable by all residents and visitors.



Public Works Department roller

The Public Works department hosted two **Trash Bash events** over four days, which allowed residents to drop off large items in need of disposal, such as furniture, appliances, and branches. The department also offered pick-up services for the elderly and those with special needs. In 2022, these events disposed of over **3,600 cubic yards** of trash and rubbish for residents.

In November 2022, The City of Brighton celebrated the completion of the City's **new 2 million-gallon elevated tank** at Water Tower Park, which was completed two months ahead of schedule. The new tank adds support to the existing five water storage tanks. These tanks are used to store treated water from the water treatment plant prior to distribution to customers. They provide additional water for fire emergencies, storage for high demand, chlorine contact time per state regulations, and pressure for the distribution system.

The City also continued the 50/50 shared sidewalk program in 2022, sharing the cost with **18 homeowners** on replacement of their sidewalk to keep them in good, usable condition. This program occurs annually and splits half the cost of the resident's sidewalk repairs to keep them in condition required by City code.



North outfall construction



Water treatment plant site

Water Treatment Plant Project

The Water Treatment Plant project for the City of Brighton broke ground on July 26, 2022. This new plant will have a 20 million gallon daily capacity, twice that of the current Water Treatment Plant and a lifespan of 25 years. The new plant will increase the reliability and capacity to support current resident needs as well as population and development growth. The completion date of this project is anticipated to be December 31, 2025.

To learn more and view the project timeline, visit www.brightonco.gov/1803/Water-Treatment-Plant-Project.



Water treatment plant groundbreaking



STRONG REGIONAL RELATIONSHIPS AND PARTNERSHIPS

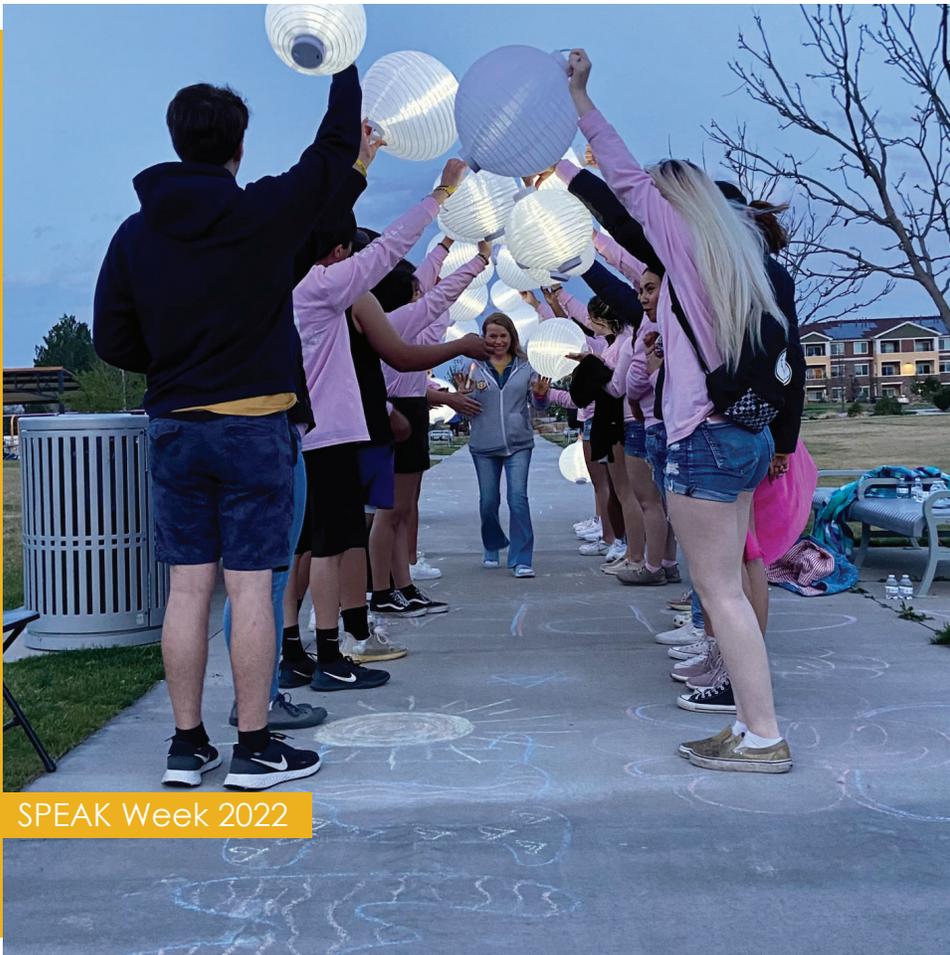
Brighton strives to develop strong relationships with our public and private partners.

In 2022, the City submitted **joint grant applications** for the RAISE and DRCOG - ADCO subregion, as well as for the CO7 Starter Service, State Highway 7 grant to assist in the development of regional infrastructure and ensure the ease of travel to the entire region's amenities for Brighton's residents.

Brighton employees connected with local schools by hosting the **11th Annual High School Beautification project**, which allowed high school students to assist in planting 30 new trees at Donelson Park. Additionally, the Finance department volunteered at Brighton High School with Junior Achievement, and the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Department gave two horticulture presentations at local schools.



Image Summit 2022



SPEAK Week 2022

In the Summer of 2022, Brighton held the 11th Annual SPEAK Week. SPEAK stand for Suicide Prevention Education Awareness Knowledge and is a youth-led and youth-driven program. The annual event consists of a week-long series of mental health education in schools, and culminates in the 5K Walk/Run.

In 2022, over 200 SPEAK walk tickets were sold, 10 schools participated in the weekly activities, and four community QPR trainings for suicide prevention were held with over 40 participants.

To learn more or to participate in the 2023 event, go to www.Speak5K.org.



FINANCIALLY RESPONSIBLE

The City of Brighton identifies, plans, and utilizes resources in a way that positively impacts the lives of those who call Brighton home today and those who will call Brighton home tomorrow.

2023 Key Capital Investments

In 2022, the City of Brighton presented the 2023-2024 budget, which at \$255M, funds the largest capital program in the history of the City. Spending is gradually expected to return to usual levels over the next few years as key one-time capital improvements entering construction in 2023 are completed. Highlights of this budget include beginning construction of the new Municipal Service Center, the widening of Bridge Street, Design of Sable Boulevard, improvements to support the future E-470 interchange, and construction of Cherry Meadows Park.

Long-Term Planning

City departments were invited this year to submit ideas to the **Innovation Fund** for items that if purchased now would limit long term expenses. Approval of these ideas allows the City to better manage the long term financial picture and ensure that we are able to maintain a balanced budget not only this year, but for the foreseeable future. In total, six department ideas were approved at a one-time investment of \$380K. These ideas are projected to yield **\$693K in savings** and contribute to long-term financial stability for the City and its residents.



STRONG LOCAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Brighton is a prosperous community that attracts innovative businesses and industries that offer economic security to their employees. The community supports educational opportunities that ensure a qualified workforce for local industries.



Brighton continues to experience growth and welcomed many new businesses in 2022, including the **newly-constructed Natural Grocers** on 8th Avenue. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held in September and included a donation from Natural Grocers to Food Bank of the Rockies. The Brighton location is Natural Grocers' first new store to feature a CO2 refrigerant system, which is designed to save energy.

Along with this, permits were issued this year for many businesses that Brighton residents will soon enjoy, including Independent Rebuild Specialists, McDonald's, AutoZone, a Maverik fueling facility, and a new industrial warehouse at 76 Commerce Center.



SAFE, ACTIVE, ENGAGED COMMUNITY

Residents of Brighton enjoy peace of mind knowing they live in safe, secure, and inclusive neighborhoods and take advantage of the many active recreational opportunities available to them. We value our neighbors and work together for success.



7 special events permits processed



25 events at the Armory Performing Arts Center

Security Enhancements in Parks

In 2022, the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space department implemented **new security measures** to ensure the safety of City amenities. This included enhanced lighting in Carmichael Park, Veterans Park, Benedict Park, and the Adult Sports Complex.

More security enhancements will continue in 2023, including the **addition of cameras and park security guards**. These improvements will ensure residents can confidently and safely enjoy the City's parks and playgrounds.



Veterans Park Playground



Brighton Youth Commission at SPEAK week

Engaging Brighton's Youth

The City's youth programs encourage Brighton's youth to get involved with their community and gain job experience. Almost **70 youth** participated in Growing Grads Program through the Summer Job Launch, the Growing Grads Entrepreneur Boot Camp, and the City's internship program. Through the Growing Grads Internship Program, nine interns were placed in **six different divisions** and completed approximately **1,320 hours** of work and **six professional development courses**.

In 2022, Brighton Youth Commission updated their ordinance relating to membership, policy, and procedures, in addition, **11 youth recognized** by the Adams County Mayor's and Commissioners Youth Awards for overcoming adversity and creating positive change.



Budget booth at the City BBQ



IT/GIS booth at the City BBQ

Brighton City BBQ

In celebration of the City's 135th birthday, the annual City Barbecue was hosted in July 2022 at Carmichael Park. This event included many booths run by City departments where residents were able to learn about City programs and provide feedback on items such as the capital projects the City was considering funding in the upcoming year. The event also included live music, food, and activities such as children's face painting. Additionally, 11 youth entrepreneurs from the Growing Grads Young Entrepreneurship Program sold goods at this event and made over \$1,000. This annual event is a great way for residents to learn about the City, how they can get involved, and to provide feedback to city staff.



58,012 calls for service



7,036 case reports pulled



1,753 arrests made



3,641 citations issued

Police Equipment and Software

The Brighton Police Department (BPD) implemented new software and equipment to ensure a well-run department and a safer City for residents.

The body camera program that began in 2021 finished roll out ahead of the 2023 state-mandated deadline. This program provides **greater accountability and transparency** to residents.

BPD also began using the Nighthawk-Comprehensive digital data fusion and analytics tool to substantially reduce time spent analyzing data from multiple sources in criminal investigations. The use of this tool has saved the department significant time and provided for **more high quality investigations**.



Brighton Police vehicles



FACILITIES, AMENITIES, AND OPEN SPACE

The City of Brighton prioritizes and balances capital needs and wants of the City, secures and protects open space to ensure it will remain for future generations, and provides desirable amenities that reflect a diverse community.

Parks and Open Space Upgrades

The Parks, Recreation, and Open Space department completed several projects in 2022 to update or maintain our Parks, Recreation, and Open Space amenities. This included the completion of a new playground at **the Adult Sports Complex**, as well as the **Observatory Park Playground** receiving a new rubber surfacing.

At the Brighton Oasis Family Aquatic Park, the two water boilers were converted to one more energy efficient boiler, and both pools were patched with Flex Seal, allowing the park to stay operational for the entire season. Due to this, **Oasis operated at full capacity** for the 2022 season, including offering special events throughout that time.

Brighton was the only City in the Denver metropolitan area that was able to be **fully staffed with lifeguards** in 2022 due to innovative hiring and bonus programs. This allowed the City to continue to operate all pools without the need to reduce services provided to residents.



Brighton Oasis Family Aquatic Park



Observatory Park



Benedict Park



48 miles of trails



357 acres of parkland



743 acres of open space and 350 acres of protected farmland



Astro Turf installation at the Adult Sports Complex

Sports Field Astro Turf Installation

This year, the natural grass at some of the City's sports fields were replaced with artificial turf, providing several advantages for the City and its residents. The use of artificial turf allows for off-season practices, as the turf is not damaged by playing on it while wet. This also allows for less staff time spent checking field conditions. Additionally, this project saves the City 10.5 million gallons of water per season, helping to meet the City's sustainability goals and saving the City money on the cost of utilities.

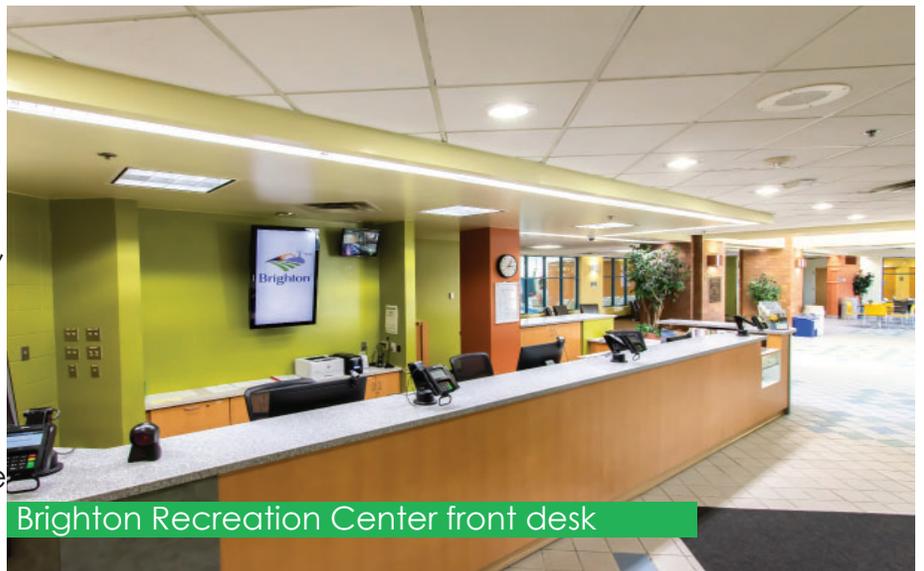
The Parks, Recreation, and Open Space department will continue to replace other fields with artificial turf in 2023.

City of Brighton Recreation Services

This year, the Brighton Recreation Center saw a steady increase in attendance as COVID-19 restrictions were lifted. In 2022, the addition of more fitness classes led to a **12% increase in participation**. The number of personal training packages sold **doubled over 2021**, and an additional **167 participants** were enrolled in youth sports. Childcare hours offered in 2022 were extended, and for the first time since 2019, the Recreation Center was able to operate their **Funshine Day Camp**.

The Recreation Center was also able to host events, including the **inaugural Adult Summer Softball League** competing on the new AstroTurf fields, the **2nd Annual Sand Volleyball League**, and Brighton was one of the host sites for the Triple Crown Sparkler softball tournament.

To learn more about the programs offered by the recreation center, please visit www.brightonco.gov/Recreation.



Brighton Recreation Center front desk



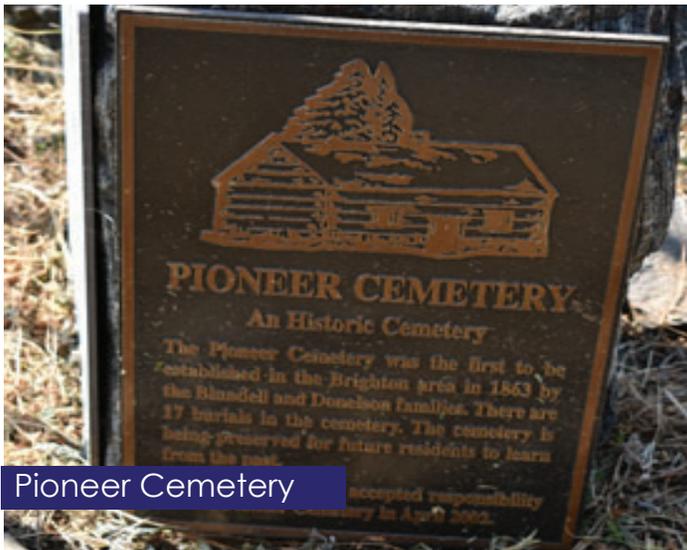
RECOGNIZABLE AND WELL-PLANNED COMMUNITY

Brighton's unique history and culture provides the foundation for a well-planned and authentic community identity. We add economic value by incorporating our distinct identity into our plans for the future.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

The City of Brighton uses GIS software to manage data and make maps and dashboards to display and analyze the data. This year, the City's GIS team was consolidated to the Information Technology (IT) department for better collaboration across departments and increased transparency for residents. This led to the rebuilding of GIS support for the Planning division, which now provides up-to-date maps with more robust data developed. These up-to-date maps provide easy to read data to assist the City in making decisions and seeing trends in the City's development and growth.

To learn more and to view Brighton's GIS Maps, visit www.brightonco.gov/GIS.



Brighton's History

The Brighton City Museum was established in 2016 by the Brighton Historic Preservation Commission. In 2022, the museum opened a new exhibit, **"Splendid Valley and Brighton: Story of a Place"** that contains new artifacts from the area along the South Platte River and includes children's interactive and touchable artifacts.

This year, the Museum doubled its visitation from 2021 to **600 total visitors in 2022** and has a robust volunteer program in place, logging over **800 total volunteer hours** throughout the year.

To learn more about the Brighton City Museum, visit www.brightonco.gov/Museum.

Brighton also designated **Pioneer Cemetery** as a local historic place. The cemetery was deeded to the City of Brighton in 2022 and with burials taking place from 1863 to 1935, it holds some of Brighton's first settlers. While it is not currently open to the public, the City continues to maintain and update the site as needed.





SUSTAINABILITY

Brighton values good stewardship of resources and promotes a healthy and sustainable environment.



289 solar permits issued



390 trees distributed to residents

Protecting Brighton's Future

A new sustainability coordinator position was created this year to facilitate the **update and management of the City's sustainability plan**, to include items from resiliency to water conservation, to quality of life for Brighton residents. The plan is being developed with the assistance of the City's first multi-departmental Sustainability Team, created in 2022. The team worked this year to identify priorities and programs that will be included in the Sustainability Plan, and continue to work on strategies for achieving sustainability targets and to manage their departmental sustainability projects.

The plan is currently in progress, and after community input is gathered, a final plan is anticipated to be released in quarter four of 2023.

In 2022, we asked Brighton residents to show their support to conserve water, energy and other natural resources by joining the **Wyland National Mayor's Challenge for Water Conservation** for the month of April. For the challenge, City of Brighton Mayor Gregory Mills joined mayors across the country in asking residents to make a long-term commitment to reduce pollution and manage water resources more wisely.

The City currently has a **water conservation plan** in place and is working to conserve water in the form of replacing natural grass sports fields with artificial astro turf. Many additional resources for residents regarding water conservation and efficiency can be found here: www.brightonco.gov/308/Water-Conservation-and-Efficiency.



Charging station at Eagle View Adult Center

Alternative Fuel Vehicles

The City has begun piloting alternative fuel vehicles in its fleet. In 2022, a hybrid gas and electric bucket truck was purchased that will reduce gas used while idling as the truck is in use. As these vehicles continue to be used and we gather use data, the City is committed to evaluating the utility gained from these vehicles and adding additional alternative fuel vehicles.

In addition to these vehicles, three new electric vehicle charging stations were installed by the City at the Brighton Recreation Center, Eagle View Adult Center, and Platte Valley Medical Center with a plan to continue to install charging stations in future years.



INNOVATIVE, DATA-DRIVEN, RESULTS-FOCUSED GOVERNMENT

Brighton is a nationally-recognized smart City that combines resident engagement with data-driven inquiry and problem solving. Brighton efficiently executes adopted plans and integrates best practices from wherever they may originate in the world.

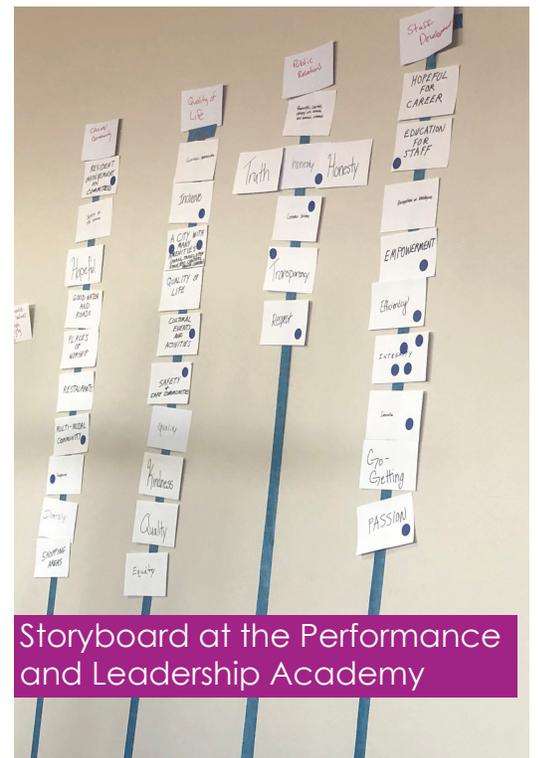
Performance and Leadership Academy

In 2022, the City launched the **Performance and Leadership Academy**, a five week course designed to teach employees how to build strong teams, utilize LEAN continuous process improvement skills, learn to deliver exceptional customer services, and develop techniques for leading from any seat.

The program allows attendees to graduate after completing an innovation project within one year of the training using at least two tools from the course. In 2022, training was completed for **two cohorts** of city employees, and produced **six graduates** who implemented innovations saving time and resources across the City.

Completed innovations include a new system of providing victim advocates with City purchase cards, procurement training, and a qualifications checklist to purchase necessary items for victims without the delay of needing to reach the victim services manager. This provided **shorter waiting times** for victims and a **clear process** for employees to follow. Other innovations include onboarding checklists for new employees, a QR code for vendors to more easily contact city employees without wasted time, and utilizing existing resources in the Brighton Police Department to reduce the amount of travel necessary for the property evidence custodian when working with the public.

This past year the program was only open to City employees, but in 2023 it is open to outside governments and non-profit agencies. To learn more or to apply to attend, visit www.brightonco.gov/2882/Performance-Leadership-Academy.



Storyboard at the Performance and Leadership Academy



Over \$100,00 in annual savings



Completed training for 33 employees



Trained employees from 13 city departments



2022 State of the City



408 open records requests completed



Filed 56 documents with the County Clerk and Recorder

Digital Budget Book

Beginning in 2023, the City of Brighton switched to a **digital budget book** format to make the budget experience more transparent and accessible to our residents, and to ensure ADA compliance. To view the 2023 adopted budget book, visit <https://city-brighton-co-budget-book.cleargov.com/7811/introduction/contact-information>.

The City of Brighton is also moving to a two-year budget process for 2023 & 2024. Two-year budgets help the City to focus on long-term strategy and positioning of resources. The two-year cycle complements the City's Strategic Plan which also sets goals on a two-year basis. The new process also incorporates **greater public engagement** with input being gathered at both Brighton Summerfest and the City BBQ.

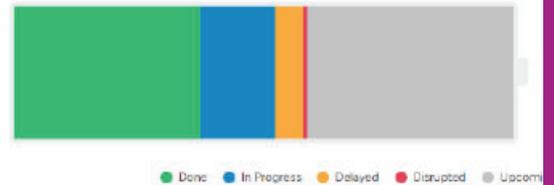
Using Technology

In 2022, Brighton implemented new technology to increase efficiencies and ease of access of information by the City's residents.

The City began using Monday.com to manage projects across the City. This software allows for cross-departmental collaboration with the ability to assign tasks to various people across the city and see live updates and comments. This software also allows for increased efficiencies in reporting progress on plans and projects across the City, such as the strategic plan and capital projects. This allows for easier updates to City Council and residents.

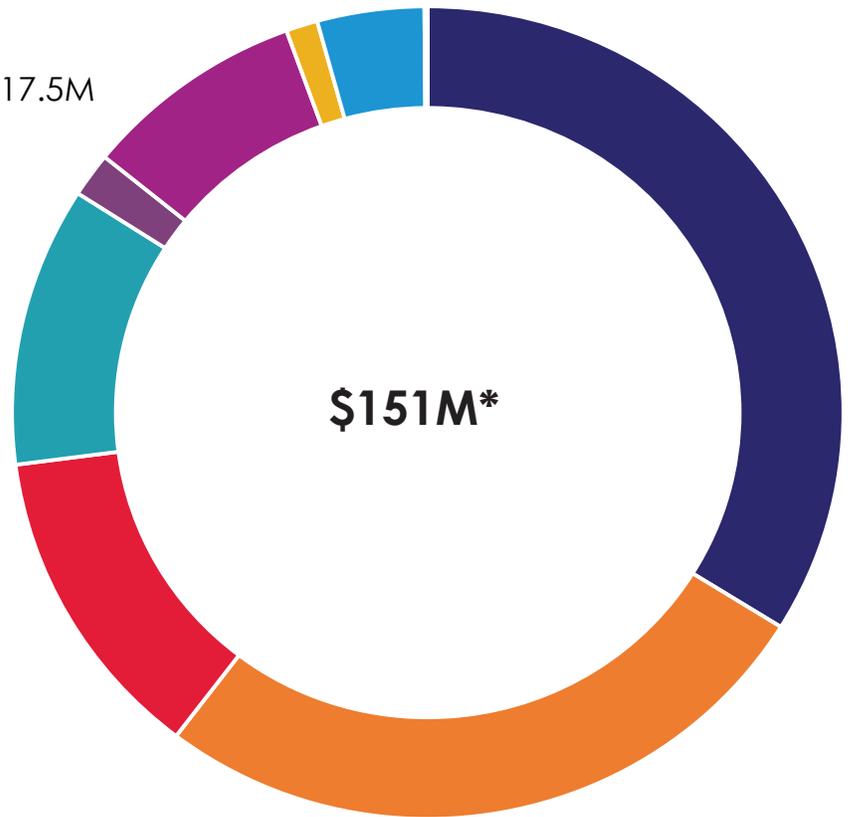
In addition to this, the City implemented GovOS sales tax and licensing system that will allow businesses to submit business applications and file sales tax online once launched in 2023. This removes barriers for business owners in working with the City and ensuring they are up to date and properly filing sales tax with the City.

Strategic Plan Progress



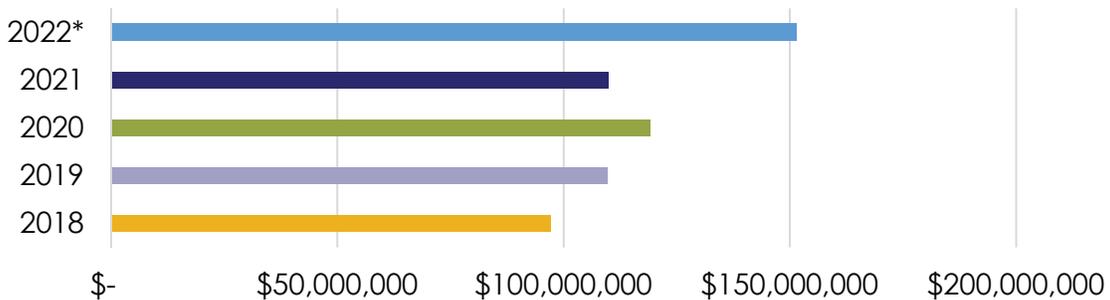
	Vision Area
	<p>Strategic, Supportable Infrastructure Brighton, Colorado is committed to investing in existing and future transportation, water networks while planning for sustainable growth.</p>
	<p>Strong Local Employment Opportunities Brighton is a prosperous community that attracts innovative businesses and industrial employees. The community supports educational opportunities that ensure a qualified workforce.</p>
	<p>Safe, Active, Engaged Community Residents of Brighton enjoy peace of mind knowing they live in safe, secure, and inclusive communities with many active recreational opportunities available to them. We value our neighbors.</p>
	<p>Financially Responsible The City of Brighton identifies, plans, and utilizes resources in a way that positively impacts the community today and those who will call it home tomorrow.</p>
	<p>Facilities, Amenities, and Open Space The City of Brighton prioritizes and balances the capital needs and wants of the City, ensuring that our facilities, amenities, and open spaces remain desirable, accessible, and reflective of our community's values.</p>

- Taxes, \$53.1M
- Charges for Service, \$41.6M
- Transfers In, \$13.6M
- Grants and Intergovernmental, \$17.5M
- Licenses and Permits, \$1.9M
- Investment Earnings, (\$709K)
- PIF & Impact Fees, \$19.8M
- Miscellaneous, \$6.5M
- Fines & Forfeitures, \$197K



*2022 revenue numbers are unaudited. Final audited numbers will be available in the 2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) this spring.

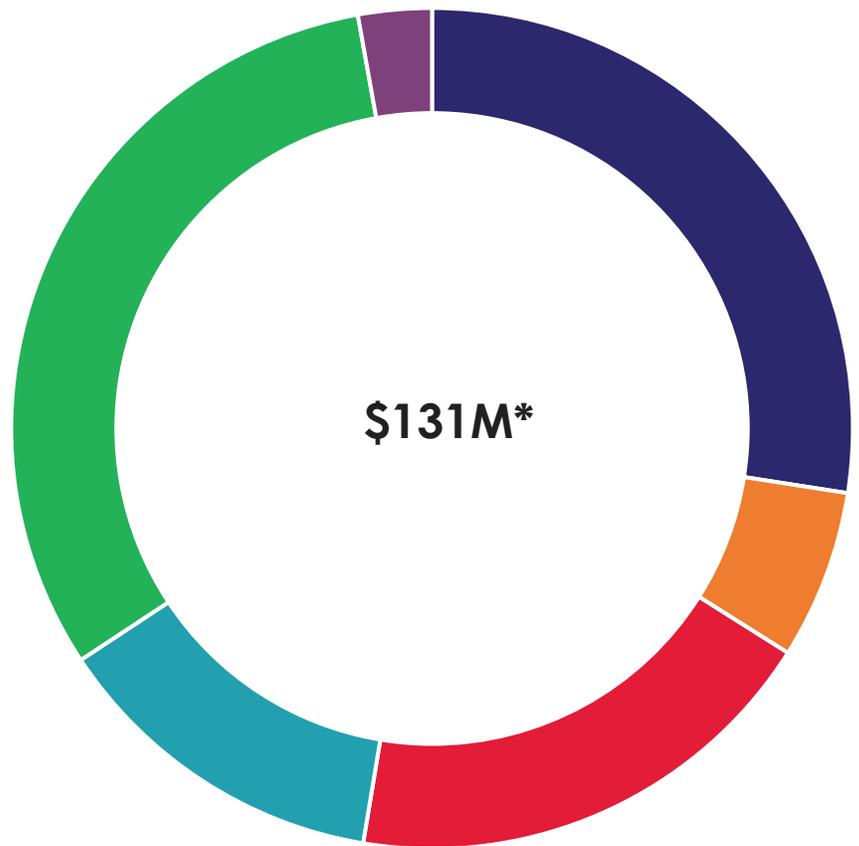
Annual Revenues



REVENUES

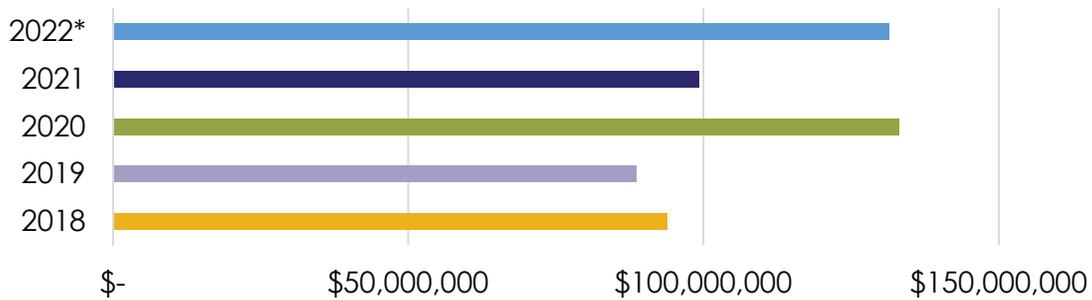
- Revenues increased in 2022 over 2021 due primarily to the first round of borrowing related to the Water Treatment Plant construction project.
- The primary source of revenues for the City of Brighton is sales tax. It is used to fund general operations and capital projects and maintenance such as streets, parks, and sidewalks.
- Charges for service include fees for utility services, recreation services, and community development services.
- Grants and Intergovernmental are monies awarded to the City by the federal government, State of Colorado, Adams County, and others for work on specific projects and programs.

- Personnel Services, \$36.1M
- Capital Outlay, \$41.3M
- Purchased Services, \$8.5M
- Operating Expenditures, \$24.5M
- Interfund Transfers Out, \$17.2M
- Debt Service, \$3.7M



*2022 expenditure numbers are unaudited. Final audited numbers will be available in the 2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR) this spring.

Annual Expenditures



EXPENDITURES

- Capital outlay accounted for the greatest share of expenditure in 2022 as many key capital projects moved forward, including the groundbreaking for the water treatment plant, and continuing design of the Municipal Service Center.
- Personnel Services is the next-highest expenditure in 2022 and includes salaries and benefits for the City's full-time employees, part-time employees, and seasonal employees.
- Operating expenditures reflect day-to-day operating expenses such as utilities, supplies, and equipment. Operating expenditures are also where the City's grant programs were tracked.
- Purchased services are third-party contracts for work that the City does not have the staff or expertise to conduct in house, such as specialized legal services or engineering review.



Brighton City BBQ



BrightonSM

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