

2022 COMMUNITY REPORT



a d a m s c o u n t y



Adams County *Elected Officials*

Letter from the *Commissioners*

The last two years have been filled with trials and tribulations, but have also been filled with images and stories of communities coming together. The Adams County Board of Commissioners is here to support and assist with long-term recovery efforts. To date, Adams County has provided more than \$18 million in rental assistance and helped 1,975 households stay in their homes. We also provided support to 18 COVID-19 vaccination clinics, serving more than 75,000 people.

A key priority for the board is improving the quality of life for our residents. We are finalizing Advancing Adams, a year-long planning process that includes a comprehensive plan; transportation plan; and updating the Parks, Open Space, and Trails Plan. Collectively, these plans focus on community and housing; economic development; outdoor recreation and gathering places; natural habitat preservation; better air quality; and increasing safety and accessibility in neighborhoods – updating streets, roads, and sidewalks. It has been shown, when communities have better access, feel safer, and have community gathering spaces such as parks and trails, it creates a bond between neighbors.

The county recently signed letters of intent with Denver Botanic Gardens and Denver Zoo to explore programming options at Riverdale

Regional Park. In addition, we are also increasing cultural arts offerings throughout the county. You'll begin to see the inclusion of more art exhibits and programming in the coming months and years. We encourage you to visit the beautiful Murals of Hope created along the trail system during the pandemic.

Part of improving quality of life for our residents includes focusing on all aspects of public health – from physical to mental. We are in the beginning stages of creating our own public health department based on the Social Determinants of Health model. This new model gives us an opportunity to focus on and prioritize the specific needs of all Adams County residents and businesses.

The county remains committed to working with the state for better air monitoring and more frequent reporting of pollutants and incidents. We want all areas of the county to have clean air and spaces for residents to enjoy.

As we move forward, we are committed to building a stronger and more inclusive Adams County. As you read through this report, we hope you learn a bit more about your community and what's taking place. We look forward to gathering with you at the upcoming Pride event in June, the Fair in August, and the Veterans Memorial opening later this year!



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Letter from the *Interim County Manager*

The last couple years have been a challenge for us all. Two years of living through a pandemic has taken a toll on our well-being in so many different ways. I believe we are on the road to recovery, but we have a lot of work to do to get there.

I have been Interim County Manager since Dec. 1, 2021. It has been an honor to step into this role and lead our incredible staff in continuing the amazing work we do across the county, including providing residents with the best service possible. It is my commitment to our residents to diligently work toward reestablishing stability in our community, and to become even stronger.

Coming from a working-class family has helped me understand the needs of our community and the hard work it takes to raise a family. I raised a daughter in the community and have been connected to the Denver region and Adams County for years.

A key focus for the county is long-term recovery. We recognize, that for many, the effects of the pandemic are still

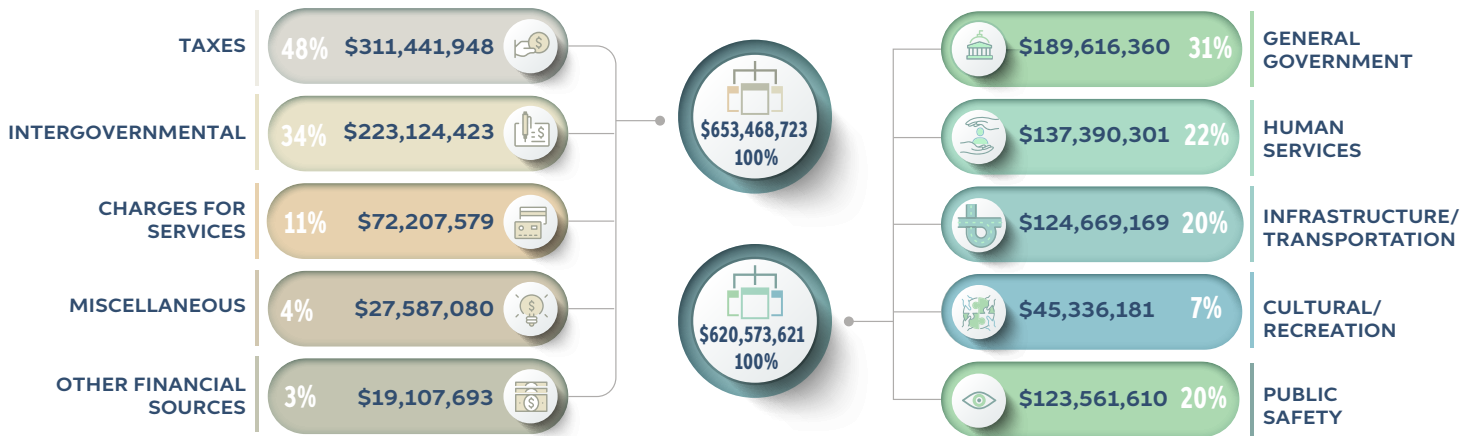
hitting close to home. During the height of the pandemic, many people lost their jobs, homes, and businesses. These things all take time to recover. We not only want to help our community recover, we want to ensure everyone has a better overall quality of life. When one person or family suffers, our entire community suffers. We are all in this together.

Our long-term recovery plan includes supporting local businesses, nonprofits, special districts, and organizations assisting with COVID-19 recovery efforts in the community. That may be through providing vaccination clinics, housing and food assistance, personal hygiene kits and blankets for those experiencing homelessness, or countless other ways. The funding is provided by the American Rescue Plan Act.

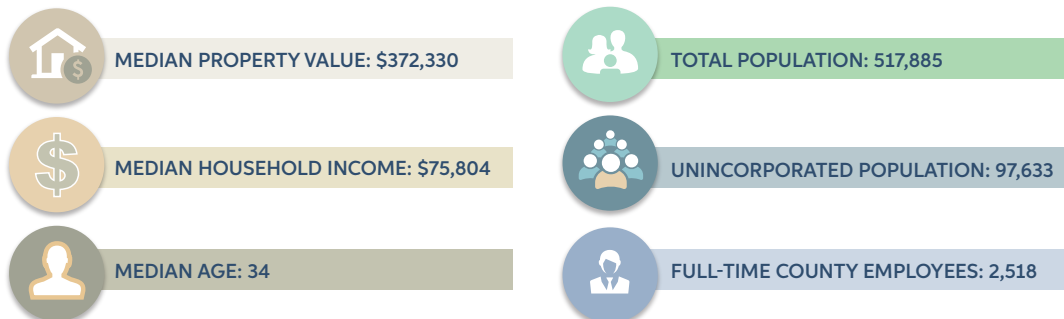
We are allocating financial and other resources to these organizations in a fair and equitable manner in hopes we can recover from the pandemic stronger than ever. We know it will take time, but we are committed to helping those who need it most in our community, while continuing to build on our thriving economy.

We are Adams!
-Alisha Reis

Your Tax Dollars at Work



Adams At-A-Glance





Prioritizing Affordable Housing



The Board of County Commissioners continues to make affordable housing a top priority. In January 2022, Adams County and Maiker Housing Partners celebrated the grand opening of The Caraway (pictured) at 7401 Broadway, 40,000 square feet of office space that was converted into 116 affordable housing units. The county is also teaming up with Brighton Housing Authority on the Adams Point Redevelopment Project to develop 160 units at Bridge St. and 19th Ave. in Brighton.



Adams County Veterans Memorial

Adams County broke ground to begin construction on a new Veterans Memorial on the shore of Mann-Nyholt Lake at Riverdale Regional Park on Sept. 8, 2021. When finished in 2022, the memorial will be a life-sized model of the USS Colorado battleship, with the bow jutting into the lake and the current trail passing through the site. The Veterans Memorial is the latest addition to the expansion of Riverdale Regional Park, which now includes the Adams County Fairgrounds, Waymire Dome, and the recently opened Riverdale Animal Shelter, with more amenities planned for the future.



Advancing Adams



Advancing Adams is the process of crafting the Comprehensive Plan; creating the Transportation Master Plan; and updating the Parks, Open Space, and Trails Plan. This integrated process of undertaking three plans at once allows for a coordinated future with streamlined implementation for the county. The approach will lead to a safer, resilient, more equitable, and more prosperous county by creating a legacy planning effort for future generations.



Trash Basket System

An innovative trash basket system was installed at Washington St. Pond next to Clear Creek Trail. This system will collect and efficiently remove trash washed away by rain or snowmelt. This pilot project is a one-of-a-kind system that will help protect the environment, save time for county workers, and reduce drainage maintenance costs. The community's help is still needed to control trash. Please secure and cover dumpsters and pick up trash along the street when possible.



Budget & Finance

Received \$100.4 million in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding.

\$100.4
MILLION

Colorado Air and Space Port (CASP)

CASP had 109,000 aircraft takeoffs and landings in 2021.

109,000
OPERATIONS

Community & Economic Development

116 affordable housing units were converted from an obsolete office building to form The Caraway Apartments.

116
HOUSING UNITS

Community Safety & Well-Being

2,045 instances of graffiti were cleaned.

2,045
INSTANCES

Facilities & Fleet Management

Finalized design of 13 projects in 2021 all to be under construction and completed in 2022.

13
PROJECTS

138,364
CALLS

Human Services

Responded to 138,364 calls from residents needing support with food, housing, medical assistance, and workforce development.

40
GRANTS

Parks, Open Space & Cultural Arts

Awarded 40 Open Space Sales Tax grant awards in 2021, totaling \$20 million in funds.

>\$10
MILLION

Public Works

The Public Works Capital Improvement Program delivered more than \$10 million in design and construction of public improvements.

3,255
ADOPTIONS

Riverdale Animal Shelter

3,255 animals were adopted and 2,781 animals were returned home.





Denver Botanic Gardens and Denver Zoo Signed Letters of Intent (LOI)



Adams County signed a non-binding LOI with Denver Botanic Gardens (DBG) on Oct. 22, 2021, to establish a formal partnership to develop an expansion of DBG management and programming in Adams County. Adams County also signed a non-binding LOI with Denver Zoo on March 8, 2022, to establish a formal collaboration to develop concepts and programming at Riverdale Regional Park.



Dawn Aerospace MOU

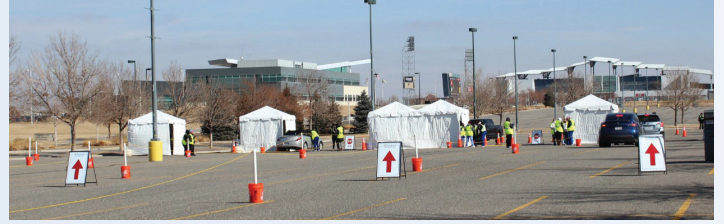
Dawn Aerospace (Dawn) and CASP signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on June 15, 2021, which lays out a series of future interactions that are mutually expected to occur between the two entities but are not legally binding. Future actions include Dawn establishing a presence at CASP, working with CASP to create a relationship with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), and, eventually, conducting test flights and spaceplane launches.



Tool Shed Program

The Adams County Community Safety & Well-Being (CSWB) Department created a new program in April 2021 for residents in unincorporated Adams County called the Tool Shed program, allowing for residents to beautify their yards and neighborhoods. The program, which is

still ongoing today, offers two options for residents—yard cleanup and neighborhood cleanup.



COVID-19 2021 Recap



Large-Scale Vaccination Site at Dick's Sporting Goods Park

- With direction from Governor Jared Polis, Adams County opened a large-scale vaccination clinic at Dick's Sporting Goods Park in Commerce City in March 2021 to administer 5,000 to 6,000 vaccinations daily.



Emergency Rental Assistance Program

- Adams County – in partnership with Maiker Housing Partners, Brighton Housing Authority, and Commerce City Housing Authority – launched the Adams County Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA) Program in April 2021. The ERA Program helped eligible renters with past due rent, utilities, and future rent payments. Adams County received \$14.2 million in total from the U.S. Department of the Treasury for this program.



Small Business Relief Program

- With the passing of Senate Bill 20B-001 in January 2021, which established a Small Business Relief Program valued at \$37 million, Adams County applied for, administered, and distributed a portion of these funds to the Adams County business community.



ARPA Grant Program

Adams County launched the COVID-19 Grant Program, funded by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), in November 2021, to help with response and recovery efforts in the community. \$100.4 million was received in ARPA funding. Half of the funds were received in 2021, and other half were received in 2022.





Public Art

Incorporating art into our public spaces has incredible benefits — for individuals, communities, and local economies. Art creates connection and dialogue, inspires curiosity and contemplation, and brings beauty and wonder into our daily lives. Public art contributes to a community’s identity, creating a shared sense of pride and belonging. It also positively impacts local businesses, creating destinations for residents and visitors and revitalizing business districts and local economies. Murals for Hope was a project conceived during the darkest days of the pandemic as a way to provide hope to our community through art projects along our regional trail system and at Riverdale Regional Park. Separately, in 2021, the Board approved funding for art projects in the community by setting aside 2% of every eligible capital improvement project over \$250,000 to be spent on art.



Public Health Transition

In October 2021, the Adams County Board of Commissioners made the decision to end the partnership with Tri-County Health Department, create a new health department based on the Social Determinants of Health model, and focus on the specific needs of the nearly 520,000 residents and businesses in Adams County. A Public Health Transition Director has been hired, and we are in the process of creating the new Adams County Health Department.





CodeRED

CodeRED is an emergency notification service allowing public safety officials to alert residents and businesses regarding emergency situations by telephone, cell phone, text message, email, and social media. Sign up at adcogov.org/codered or scan the QR code.

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ADCOGOV.ORG

Access Adams Online to take care of many services from the comfort of your own home. Visit adcogov.org for specific office information.

- Apply for Assistance
- E-Permit Center (apply for permits online)
- Get a Ballot
- Look Up Property Information/Zoning
- Pay My Taxes
- Perform Public Records Search
- Renew Vehicle Registration
- Schedule a Building Inspection
- OpenGov
- Pay My Stormwater Utility Fee

EXPLORE ADAMS COUNTY

adcogov.org
adamscountycovid19.org
adamscountyfair.com
coloradoairandspaceport.com
epermits.adcogov.org
riverdaleanimalshelter.org
riverdaleregionalpark.org

STAY CONNECTED:

4430 S. Adams County Pkwy., Brighton, CO 80601

/AdamsCountyGov @AdamsCountyGov

Local Agencies /AdamsCountyCo

Adcogov.org

FOSTER CARE 5k
HELP A CHILD TAKE FLIGHT

Join us for the Adams County Foster Care 5K in support of the Adams County Foster Care Program. Run, jog, or walk with us on Saturday, May 7.

Learn more and register at:
adcogov.org/fostercare5k

JUNE 18

TODRICK WITH SPECIAL GUEST **VINCINT**

GET TICKETS

AUG. 3-7, 2022

ADAMS COUNTY FAIR

#FaireverFun

adamscountyfair.com