



Denver City Council 2012 Budget Principles and Annual Goals

Denver City Council meets annually to establish principles by which budget decisions are evaluated and to determine their areas of priority for the following year.

In 2012, City Council is focused on providing for the fiscal stability of our core assets and services; maintaining our City's infrastructure; prioritizing our libraries and recreation centers; developing sound economic development strategies; and allocating appropriate resources to provide for the safety of our citizens.

*Denver City Council is:
Chris Nevitt,
Council President, District 7*

*Peggy Lehmann,
President Pro-Tem, District 4*

Susan Shepherd, District 1

Jeanne Faatz, District 2

Paul Lopez, District 3

*Mary Beth Susman,
District 5*

Charlie Brown, District 6

Albus Brooks, District 8

*Judy H. Montero,
District 9*

Jeanne Robb, District 10

*Christopher Herndon,
District 11*

Robin Kniech, At-Large

Debbie Ortega, At-Large

STRUCTURAL FINANCES & EFFICIENCY

- SECURE** stable revenue streams for core services such as parks, libraries, street maintenance, and solid waste disposal;
- EVALUATE** and implement as appropriate the Structural Financial Task Force proposals to fix the City's long-term structural budget deficit;
- PROMOTE** stringent audits of all city programs for efficiency and effectiveness;
- EXPLORE** shared services and partnerships with other entities, as appropriate, to deliver services to the greatest benefit for Denver citizens;

INFRASTRUCTURE AND SUSTAINABILITY

- CONTINUE** critical investments in bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure to emphasize walkability and multi-modal connectivity, particularly to schools, parks and libraries;
- PRIORITIZE** capital improvement and maintenance investments by need and impact;
- ENSURE** the equitable maintenance across the City of key assets such as parks, alleys, and streets;
- INVEST** strategically in key public infrastructure around transit stations to catalyze private development and capitalize on FasTracks build-out.

LIBRARIES, PARKS & RECREATION CENTERS

- MAXIMIZE** the value of recreation centers, parks, and libraries as a complement to school and other service delivery resources;
- MAINTAIN** library hours this year due to budget constraints, but aim to restore hours that have been reduced in past budgets to meet community need;
- PRIORITIZE** strategic resources to library and recreation facilities in high-risk areas.

SAFETY SERVICES & SOCIAL PROGRAMS

- STRATEGICALLY** realign police resources to deliver greatest impact to areas of greatest need;
- ENSURE** police department receives adequate staffing and tools;
- IMPROVE** response times and public trust in police department;
- CONTINUE** investments in prevention of youth crime and violence;
- BUILD** collaborative partnerships and funding mechanisms to ensure reliable human services delivery to Denver's most vulnerable citizens;
- EVALUATE** strategies of Denver's Road Home, with community input, before major policy changes are implemented.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- DEVELOP** a strategic plan to stimulate and expand retail business;
- EMPHASIZE** the revitalization of key small business corridors and locations;
- DEVELOP** a strategic plan to retain and grow light manufacturing in appropriate locations;
- COORDINATE** planning efforts with economic development efforts and ensure that both support high-quality development and appropriately balance costs of development against benefits;
- CREATE** a clear and focused strategy for DURA to ensure the maximum value of public investments in private development;
- ESTABLISH** Denver as a business-friendly city through rationalized and streamlined business development and permitting processes.