Upcoming Council Meetings

City Council will meet on Monday, February 11, 2019. A Study Session will be held at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room.

City Offices will be closed on Monday, February 18, 2019 in observance of Presidents’ Day.

City Council will meet on Tuesday, February 19, 2019. A Study Session will be held at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room. The Regular Meeting will follow at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Informational Items

The following attachments are in response to City Council requests, as well as other informational items.

1. Englewood Herald article: Polis highlights state preschool program success at Englewood event
2. Englewood Herald article: Englewood and Littleton’s homeless share struggles, needs in metro survey
3. Calendar of Events
4. Tentative Study Session Topics
Colorado’s blue running shoe-clad governor came to Englewood’s preschool to tour the new building and take a victory lap for the state’s preschool program.

“Ask any first-grade teacher: There’s an enormous difference between kids for whom that’s their first full day of school and kids who had quality preschool and kindergarten,” Gov. Jared Polis told the crowd at a Jan. 31 event to highlight new data from the Colorado Department of Education.

The Colorado Preschool Program, created in 1988 by the state Legislature, poured $111 million into preschool and some full-day kindergarten in the 2017-18 school year, the department said in a news release. The program targets children who have risk factors associated with later challenges in school.

The odds of on-time graduation for students funded by CPP, compared to peers with similar risk factors who don’t participate in the program, are 23 percent higher, the release said. About half of students at Englewood's preschool, the Maddox Early Childhood Education Center, are funded through the program, according to Englewood Schools.

Polis played up his push for universal preschool during his 2018 campaign. At the Maddox event, he took a tour of the school, taking time to shake a young girl’s hand — the daughter of a teacher.

“Tell your mom the governor said thank you for being a teacher,” Polis said.

Maddox was recently rebuilt and opened in January with four playgrounds outdoors, two large playgrounds indoors and a focus on learning though play and exploration, according to the school district. The school at 700 W. Mansfield Ave. is one of the construction projects supported by a $97.5 million bond Englewood voters approved in 2016.
Englewood and Littleton's homeless share struggles, needs in metro survey

Point-in-Time count in Arapahoe County sees homeless sharing stories

ELLIS ARNOLD

Posted Monday, February 4, 2019 9:28 am

A dog growled from within the tarp-draped tent as Mike Sandgren slid down the snowy embankment toward it.

“Hello?” called Sandgren, a ministry leader at Englewood's Wellspring Church. “We've got some resources here — socks, toiletries …”

A young woman emerged from the tent. Sarah smiled at Sandgren and his fellow volunteers during the Point-in-Time survey on Jan. 28, an annual nationwide effort by the federal Department of Housing and Urban Development to count those experiencing homelessness.

In just a three-block walk along the South Platte River, tents, shopping carts, bicycles and strewn belongings mark the harsh places homeless individuals have staked out as refuge in Englewood.

One year ago, Englewood police carried out a cleanup on the river — where they counted 21 campsites with about 30 people living on its east bank, along with about 25 truckloads of trash, human waste, syringes and needles — and that's just in the few blocks north and south of the Dartmouth Avenue bridge.

But in the months since, the area's homeless continue to call the river as close to a home as they have.

Sarah, 20, held back her dog, Zeus, as she answered volunteers' questions. Her last permanent address was in Texas. She and her husband have been living for a week in the tent beside the river, below a little-used frontage road behind some industrial buildings.

“I have to keep CBD in me at all times because of my seizures,” Sarah said, referring to cannabidiol, oil that comes from marijuana. “It's a lot easier here than in Texas.”

She said acquaintances with whom she and her husband stayed stole from them, so they hit the streets. Their job search has seen fits and starts, hampered by stints in jail. She's not sure what the future holds, but said for the time being, the river will do.
“The cops haven't bothered us,” Sarah said. “It's beautiful here in the morning.”

Despite a forecasted low of 10 degrees overnight, Sarah turned down Sandgren's offer of a cold-weather shelter, saying she couldn't make it before nightfall. A propane burner in her tent would have to manage.

Sarah's story was one of many collected that night.

Those who sought shelter indoors were bused to Littleton's Ascension Lutheran Church, one of only a handful in the immediate area that houses the houseless on cold nights. Some visitors unrolled yoga mats and throw blankets on the basement floor while others lined up for pizza, veggies and rolls.

Among them was James, 32, a former fast-food manager whose parents kicked him out three years ago, worn out by his alcohol-fueled rages. Now, he spends many nights under a bridge.

“I seclude myself,” James said. “I get so embarrassed by what I’m do when I’m drunk, then I drink to numb the pain. If I get a place, then I could drink to celebrate.”

Nearby was Amber, 28 years old and six months pregnant, goofing around with beau Terry while they dug through goodie bags from the church.

She came from Indiana, “honestly, for the marijuana,” she said, adding that she uses it to self-treat PTSD after a violent rape. She's also staying clear of a warrant for cutting a boyfriend back home with a knife. She was defending herself, she said. “I don't like it when men put their hands on me.”

She hopes her baby, a girl she'll name Aaliyah, won't see her like this.

“I don't want her to go through what I've gone through,” Amber said. If she could have anything, she said, she'd have a two-bedroom house, her warrant lifted, unlimited food and “a king-size bed to snuggle my baby.”

More, like Sarah, say medical challenges weigh heavy in their lives. Ross Mertens, 58, has been homeless on and off since he was 13 and ran away from home due to family issues, he said.

“I had a lot of stable years — I was married 12 years, making good money,” said Mertens, a former restaurant worker. But now, with emphysema, diabetes and arthritis, he's unable to work and can only walk a few blocks at a time, said Mertens, who labored to get around the church room.

He gets by riding long RTD routes to catch a few hours of sleep when he's not in emergency weather shelter, and Social Security income keeps him afloat as he waits on housing assistance.

A former Columbine High School student, Mertens grew up just a few miles away. He said he wishes people knew the pain of feeling invisible — he once woke up behind a bench along a jogging trail to find someone had thrown bags of trash on top of him.

“That's when I started drinking again,” Mertens said. “If I'm so insignificant, why not start drinking?”

He misses cooking and said he'd love to work, if he were able.
The data gathered by the survey won’t be available for months, said Ben Nichols, Arapahoe County’s housing specialist, but Nichols’ team is already familiar with what’s lacking in the area: affordable housing. A day shelter. Personal storage, computer access and showers.

“These aren’t murderers and rapists,” Nichols said. “Just people on bad times.”

**STATS ON HOMELESSNESS**

Each January, volunteers from churches, human-services departments, nonprofits and law enforcement fan out into communities across the Denver metro area, and areas around the nation, to conduct the Point-in-Time survey of their region’s homeless population.

The results from this year’s survey won’t be available for a few months, but here’s a breakdown of 2018’s numbers:

- The PIT survey by the Metro Denver Homeless Initiative counted 5,317 homeless people on Jan. 29, 2018, in the seven-county metro area.
- That’s a slight uptick from 5,116 people on Jan. 30, 2017, but because of limitations in the one-night survey, trends are difficult to identify.
- The area includes Denver, Arapahoe, Jefferson, Adams, Douglas, Broomfield and Boulder counties. About 65 percent stayed in Denver, 11 percent each in Boulder and Jefferson counties, 9 percent in Adams County and 4 percent — or 198 individuals — in Arapahoe County.
- The total included 566 veterans.
- Of the survey’s total, 384 people said they were fleeing domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault or stalking.
- Of the total, 1,515 said they had a substance use or abuse issue, 61 had HIV or AIDS and 1,415 self-reported a mental health issue.
- About 27 percent of all homeless individuals stayed in transitional housing, while about 48 percent were in emergency shelter and 0.4 percent were in supportive housing for mental illness, also called “safe havens.” About 25 percent, or 1,308 people, were unsheltered.
- The count did not include people sleeping on couches at friends’ or families’ homes. Those in hotels or motels paid for by a government or charitable organization counted as sheltered homeless.

Sources: 2018 Metro Denver Homeless Initiative Point-In-Time survey (available at [www.mdhi.org/pit](http://www.mdhi.org/pit)), U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
TENTATIVE
STUDY SESSIONS TOPICS
FOR ENGLEWOOD CITY COUNCIL

Feb 11  Study Session
Storm Water Analysis and Alternatives Feasibility Study Update
City Center Update
EEF RFP Audit Vendor Selection

Feb 19  Study Session
2020 Budget Preview
Redistricting Discussion

Feb 19  Regular Meeting

Feb 25  Study Session
Police Building Update
Year end financial report
Zomo and BOB lease renewal
Procurement
Revised Council Policy Manual

March 4  Study Session
COY Decision
Communications - Special Events

March 4  Regular Meeting

March 11  Study Session
Business Licensing
Handbook for Boards, Commissions and Committees

March 18  Regular Meeting

March 25  Study Session
Emergency Management

April 1   Regular Meeting

April 8   Study Session
Parks and Recreation Bond Proposal

April 15  Regular Meeting

April 22  Study Session
Trash Hauling

April 29  5th Monday
May 6    Regular Meeting
May 13   Citizen of the Year Celebration (tentative)
May 20   Regular Meeting
May 27   Memorial Day
May 28   Study Session

FUTURE STUDY SESSION TOPICS

Board & Commission Presentations
Home Rule Charter Amendment Discussion
Home Rule Charter Review
Metroplex – flight plan update
Elected Representatives – legislative evening
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mon., Feb. 11</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>City Council Study Session, Community Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tues. Feb. 12</td>
<td>8:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Mayor Manager Meeting</td>
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<td>2:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Police Pension Board, Public Works Conf-Room</td>
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<td>NERP Pension Board, Public Works Conf-Room</td>
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<td>5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Water/Sewer Board Meeting, Community Development Conference Room</td>
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<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Keep Englewood Beautiful, City Council Conf-Room</td>
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<td>Public Library Board, Englewood Public Library, Altenbach Room</td>
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<td>Wed., Feb. 13</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Board of Adjustment and Appeals, Council Chambers</td>
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<td>Thur. Feb. 14</td>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Firefighters’ Pension Board, Public Works Conf-Room</td>
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<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>Transportation Advisory Committee, City Council Conference Room</td>
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<td>Tues., Feb. 19</td>
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<td>Mayor Manager Meeting</td>
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<td>6:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Historic Preservation Commission, Community Development Conference Room</td>
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<td>Planning and Zoning Commission, City Council Conference Room/Council Chambers</td>
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<td>Mon., Feb. 25</td>
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<td>Tues., Feb. 26</td>
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<td>Wed., Feb. 27</td>
<td>4:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Englewood Housing Authority</td>
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<td>Mon., Mar. 4</td>
<td>6:00 p.m.</td>
<td>City Council Study Session, Community Room</td>
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<td>City Council Regular Meeting</td>
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<td>Tues., Mar. 5</td>
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<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
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Wed., Mar. 6  11:00 a.m.  Liquor and Marijuana Licensing Authority

Wed. Mar. 6  5:45 p.m.  Cultural Arts Commission, Englewood Public Library, Perrin Room

Mon., Mar. 11  6:00 p.m.  City Council Study Session, Community Room

Tues., March 12  9:00 a.m.  Mayor Manager Meeting

5:00 p.m.  Water/Sewer Board Meeting, Community Development Conference Room

7:00 p.m.  Public Library Board, Englewood Public Library, Altenbach Room

Wed., Mar. 13  7:00 p.m.  Board of Adjustment and Appeals; Council Chambers

Thur. Mar.14  5:30 p.m.  Parks and Recreation Commission, Community Development Conference Room

Mon., Mar. 18  6:00 p.m.  City Council Study Session, Community Room

7:00 p.m.  City Council Regular Meeting

Tues., Mar. 19  8:30 a.m.  Mayor Manager Meeting

7:00 p.m.  Planning and Zoning Commission, City Council Conference Room/Council Chambers

Wed., Mar. 20  5:30 p.m.  Code Enforcement Advisory Committee, City Council Conf-Room

6:30 p.m.  Historic Preservation Commission, Community Development Conference Room

Mon., Mar. 25  6:00 p.m.  City Council Study Session, Community Room

Tues., Mar. 26  9:00 a.m.  Mayor Manager Meeting

5:15 p.m.  Budget Advisory Committee, City Council Conf-Room

Mon., Apr. 1  6:00 p.m.  City Council Study Session, Community Room

7:00 p.m.  City Council Regular Meeting

Tues., Apr. 2  9:00 a.m.  Mayor Manager Meeting

7:00 p.m.  Planning and Zoning Commission, City Council Conference Room/Council Chambers

Wed., Apr. 3  11:00 a.m.  Liquor and Marijuana Licensing Authority

Wed. Apr. 3  4:00 p.m.  Englewood Housing Authority

5:45 p.m.  Cultural Arts Commission, Englewood Public Library, Perrin Room

Mon., Apr. 8  6:00 p.m.  City Council Study Session, Community Room

Tues., Apr. 9  9:00 a.m.  Mayor Manager Meeting

5:00 p.m.  Water/Sewer Board Meeting, Community Development