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## Wheat Ridge Launches Online Public Hearing Platform in 2020

Posted by goldensara on December 16, 2019 in Jefferson County, Jefferson County Front, Wheat Ridge, Wheat Ridge Government | 77 Views | [Leave a response](#)



The City of Wheat Ridge has finalized plans to establish a new online public hearing website, created by People Speak, that will allow local residents to participate in public hearings anytime, anywhere.

The City of Wheat Ridge website will be powered by People Speak, the same Boulder-based firm that partnered with Lakewood to create their platform. People Speak (<https://peoplespeak.net/>) allows public hearing video presentations and supporting materials to be published online weeks in advance of a meeting. Residents can review the materials at their leisure, ask questions, and comment through the website from their desktop or mobile devices. The new platform is slated to be visible for public input in January 2020, and will be used for Planning Commission and City Council meetings starting in February.

"As people are increasingly busy with families and careers, we have found that fewer people are able to participate in person at City Council meetings and other public hearings," stated Patrick Goff, city manager of Wheat Ridge. "This new online platform will provide greater accessibility for our residents and increase opportunities for engaging in the decisions that impact the quality of life for those living and working in Wheat Ridge. The new online public hearing website will allow our City Council members to hear from more of our residents who may not be able to attend meetings in person."

The decision for Wheat Ridge to move to an online public hearing platform was influenced by a study conducted from 2017 to 2019 by the City of Lakewood that showed the dramatic impact of modernizing public hearings.

Key findings from the study include:

- The online presentation views have been 5-10 times the number of people watching the live hearings.
- On average, each agenda item gets twice as many comments online as in person.
- Public input can be provided online at all times of day and all days of the week, increasing accessibility.

### About the City of Wheat Ridge

The City of Wheat Ridge, located west of Denver with a population of 31,000 residents, is home to a mix of retail/commercial businesses and unique residential neighborhoods. Wheat Ridge is a vibrant community in a prime location, providing easy access to the Denver metro area and to recreation west into the mountains. The City was recently ranked Top Smallest City by the Economic Development Council of Colorado. Info about Wheat Ridge [ci.wheatridge.co.us](http://ci.wheatridge.co.us).

Posted in Jefferson County, Jefferson County Front, Wheat Ridge, Wheat Ridge Government | Tagged

### YOURHUB STAFF STORIES

**These Colorado kids had trouble getting to preschool, so teachers drove the classroom to them**

April 11, 2018  
Most kindergartners at Federal Heights Elementary School are minority students on free or reduced lunch. The Right On Learning Mobile Preschool aims to give them a head start.

**Hikers and history buffs rejoice: Historic Welch Ditch will reopen in 2020 as part of the Peaks to Plains Trail project**

April 5, 2018  
A former irrigation ditch that helped shape the Front Range will be preserved thanks to Jefferson County Open Space funding

**Golden could have 20,000 square feet of outdoor space ideal for concerts and events if a local church gets its wish**

April 5, 2018  
If Golden's planning commission approves the proposal, construction could start as early as this summer for outdoor, public plaza and parking garage in downtown Golden.

**Arvada apartment complex part of controversial "\$30 land deal" advances despite drawing ire from residents over height, architecture**

April 4, 2018  
After rejection in January, developer Trammell Crow came back with a modified proposal that passed on a 6-1 vote.

**Regis University aims to bridge the gap between public and veterans through "Stories From Wartime"**

March 29, 2018  
Program aims to ease troops' transition from war to home and address the disconnect between veterans and civilians.

**Jeffco emergency responders prepare for future county crises by combining forces to improve response times**

March 23, 2018  
Fire and police stations across Jefferson County come together to take steps this month that will improve customer-service and 911 call response times.

**1,200 animals are headed to Littleton's new SeaQuest interactive aquarium inside Southwest Plaza mall**

March 22, 2018  
Meet and greet hundreds of species, like otters and octopuses, at Littleton's new interactive aquarium.

**Local charities face off in a bracket-style, single-elimination fundraising tournament**

March 22, 2018  
For the March Madness lovers in Colorado who are looking for more, this month also plays host to a second and slightly different kind of tournament with brackets to fill – an exciting and competitive challenge that leaves all participants with a win.

**Play Ping-Pong, cornhole at Lakewood's revitalized Lasley Park as early as this summer**  
March 21, 2018

## About the Author



**goldensara**

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cyclist/mountain biker, skier and scuba diver.



**New playgrounds, gardens and an outdoor fitness area are just some of the additions headed to Lasley Park.**

**Dignity is first priority at this Colorado nonprofit. That's why they revamped their food pantry to let clients choose what they'll take home**

*March 21, 2018*

Thanks to the revamped food bank's new "client's choice" program, those in need will now be able to select their own groceries as opposed to receiving a prepacked food box.

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