

ARAPAHOE COUNTY ACTION

Help make the GOP the party of trust, transparency and action!
May 26, 2023

I'm in the Party of Common Sense

Right now it is simple and easy to explain to friends, neighbors, and people in the line at the grocery store why they should vote Republican. People see inflation eating away their paychecks, neighborhoods becoming scary, and people dying suddenly. Even if people are too timid to speak freely, their questions are growing. And they can see those ruling Colorado are Democrat. Give these people hope! Show them how to stand against all this. Tell them you're with the party that understands:

- You have a right to choose your own eggs, cookstove, car or lightbulb.
- As long as outlaws have guns, we have to be able to defend ourselves.
- We accept people as God made them; we don't demand gender change.
- We care for all ages, from conception to natural death.
- You have the right to your own beliefs, and to express them.
- As bankers count our cash in front of us, so our ballots should be counted in front of us.
- Law applies regardless of who you're connected to.
- You own your body. Bureaucrats don't.
- You choose what's best for your kids. Creepy teachers don't.

Some will say the Republican Party hasn't stood up for these things in the past. Then you can say, "That's why I got involved, to stiffen the party's spine. Join me!"

Upcoming Events

Remembering the Fallen

Memorial Day ceremony at Fort Logan

Monday, May 29, 11-12

4400 W. Kenyon Ave, Denver

<https://www.va.gov/eastern-colorado-health-care/events/56764/>

Lincoln Day Dinner

Keynote speaker: Thomas J Baker, author of The Fall of the FBI

Saturday, June 3, DoubleTree Hotel DTC

7801 E. Orchard Rd, Greenwood Village, CO 80111 Register [HERE](#)

Western Conservative Summit

Educating Americans on key issues facing the West and the nation

June 9-10, Colorado Convention Center, 700 14th Street, Denver

<https://centennial.ccu.edu/western-conservative-summit/>

Western Conservative Summit Youth Conference

Learn how to impact the culture in support of faith, family, and freedom
June 5-11, Colorado Christian University, 8787 W Alameda Ave, Lakewood
<https://centennial.ccu.edu/wcs-youth-conference/>

Gelato in June

HEATHER GARDENS REPUBLICAN CLUB

Fundraiser for Candidates –

Aurora City Council, Aurora and Cherry Creek School District Boards of Education

Tuesday, June 27th, 1:00 - 2:30 Heather Gardens Clubhouse

2888 S. Heather Gardens Way Aurora 80014

Arapahoe County Current Issues

Make Elections Transparent Again

Englewood citizens unhappy with a council not listening to them are [recalling the council](#). Of course that brings up the question, if we can't trust our elections, how can we get better people on the council? Well, we could have really transparent elections – here's a discussion of the [“Glass Box” process](#) that was brought up at the council meeting. Yes, the process has been tried and proven; many aspects of it were in use at the GOP state assembly. In fact, if you go to the Clerk and Recorder's office in the main Arapahoe County building, in the hallway there is an exhibit of the glass boxes that used to be used for elections in Arapahoe County. (You know, back when elections were counted the same night and didn't result in weeks of lawsuits.)

Unsafe for Everyone

Citizens in Arapahoe County are speaking up at council meetings about the lowered public safety due to homeless encampments, a.k.a. “urban camping”. The emotional manipulation (“you just don't care about the homeless”) isn't working so well anymore because the current situation is clearly also harmful to the genuinely homeless. Questions to ask:

- If lack of housing is the problem, why are things worse now than they were when the housing bubble burst in 2008?
- Which problems are caused by lack of money or food?
- Which are caused by drug use?
- Which are caused by criminals posing as homeless?
- How are cities protecting urban campers from urban criminals?
- How can cities encourage walking/biking/public transportation until people feel safe outside their cars?
- How do you justify higher property taxes for facilities we can't use because they are not safe?

High Property Taxes? Taking Taxpayer Rights Is Not the Solution!

[TABOR](#) is a restriction on Colorado government, saying the government can't grow beyond population plus inflation. Naturally, the government hates TABOR, and pushes back with all kinds of schemes: “This isn't a tax, it's a fee.” “Cashing a check is a lot of trouble, wouldn't you like us to just hang on to it for you?” “When you taxpayers said ‘no’ to changing TABOR, we're pretty sure you meant ‘yes’.”

The latest scheme is, “Wow! Property taxes are up! Way up! So scary! Think of the poor people on fixed income! Oh, look, here’s some money in TABOR. Let’s just start applying that to your property taxes and call it even. Don’t worry, you still get some TABOR money back...for now.”

Our government is set up for efficient transfer of citizens’ pain to our representatives in government, but right now it’s as if nerves have been cut, so the representatives don’t feel the pain. The pain of increased property taxes is supposed to cause hard questions to the government about its size. Taking away that pain is like hiding the bathroom scale from a dieter, and applying TABOR money to property taxes is like buying a bigger wardrobe.

But you are not without resources. You can bring pain to your representatives just by making them sit through hours of public comment! Can you find any unnecessary [departments in Arapahoe County](#)? Or unnecessary [agencies in Colorado](#)? Show up at city and county meetings and give them some strongly-worded suggestions.

Speak Up for Your County, City, Schools

Your biggest contribution is not your vote, but your involvement. You will have most effect if you start at your local level. Begin today, attending public meetings regularly – you will learn who the people are, whom to trust, and what motivates them. Don’t get overwhelmed by the number of meetings – in many areas you could attend all the meetings up through the county level for an average time investment of just six hours a month! If you have nothing to say, listen – you’ll almost certainly find something to say soon!

How to speak up

Check the website for changes; the schedule below may not have the most recent updates.

For most people it’s a good idea to write out ahead of time what you want to say and practice it a time or two to make sure it fits in the time limit.

Most councils/boards give you 3 minutes to speak, which is arguably infringing on your right to free speech, but in practice if you can’t say what you have to say in 3 minutes, people will tune you out. If enough people show up to speak they may cut the allowed time to 2 minutes, so be prepared with what you would cut out if necessary.

Many meetings hold public comment time early in the agenda, so you don’t have to stay for the whole meeting, though if you do, then they know you’re watching them! Most meetings are recorded; you could catch up on the rest of the meeting later by playing the video during your drivetime.

Some boards have been known to move the public comment time until after the most boring parts of the meeting; if so, hang in there and wait; the more they try to discourage you, the more you know you are making a difference!

Arapahoe County Board of County Commissioners

9:30 am June 13, 27 (2nd and 4th Tuesday of month)

East Hearing Room, Administration Building, 5334 S. Prince St. Littleton, 80120

<https://www.arapahoe.gov/259/Board-of-County-Commissioners>

Sign up to speak at room entrance.

Incorporated Cities in Arapahoe County

Incorporated city	Upcoming city council/trustee meetings
Aurora	Time: 6:30PM June 5, 19 (every other Monday)

	<p>Place: Aurora Municipal Center, 15151 E. Alameda Parkway</p> <p>Website: https://www.auroragov.org/city_hall/mayor_city_council/council_meetings</p> <p>Sign up to speak: Those attending in person may register to speak by completing the 'Public Comment on Agenda Item' online form prior to the meeting or by completing a speaker slip upon arrival at the Aurora Municipal Center (AMC) on the meeting date.</p> <p>https://www.auroragov.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=16242704&pageId=16506621</p>
Bow Mar	<p>Time: 7PM June 19 (3rd Monday of month)</p> <p>Place: Columbine Valley Town Hall, 2 Middlefield Road, Columbine Valley</p> <p>Website: https://townofbowmar.colorado.gov/boards-meetings/trustee-meetings</p> <p>Sign up to speak: Speakers must sign in with Clerk (comments must be limited to 3 minutes)</p>
Centennial	<p>Time: 7PM June 6, 20 (1st and 3rd Tuesdays of month)</p> <p>Place: Council Chambers, 13133 E. Arapahoe Road, Centennial</p> <p>Website: https://www.centennialco.gov/Government/Mayor-Council/City-Council-Meetings</p> <p>Sign up to speak: The intake of public comments follows the time allowances during public hearings. Sign-up sheets are made available on the table at the back of the Council Chambers.</p>
Cherry Hills Village	<p>Time: 6:30PM June 6, 20 (1st and 3rd Tuesday of month)</p> <p>Place: Village Center, 2450 E Quincy Avenue</p> <p>Website: https://www.cherryhillsvillage.com/101/City-Council</p> <p>Sign up to speak: There is no need to sign up to attend in-person; if you would like to speak during audience participation there will be a sign-up sheet in the Council Chambers</p>
Columbine Valley	<p>Time: 6:30PM June 20 (3rd Tuesday of month)</p> <p>Place: Columbine Valley Town Hall, 2 Middlefield Road</p> <p>Website: https://columbinevalley.org/board-trustee-agendas-minutes/</p> <p>Sign up to speak: The Board of Trustees welcomes comments from the public at the beginning of each regular meeting. Each speaker will be limited to three minutes. There will be speaker sign-up sheets on the table at the back of the Council Chambers.</p>
Deer Trail	<p>Time: 7PM June 13 (2nd Tuesday of month)</p> <p>Place: Town Hall, 555 Second Ave., Deer Trail</p> <p>Website: https://townofdeertrail.colorado.gov/government/town-board-of-trustees</p> <p>Sign up to speak: Probably can sign in to speak at the door; call 303-769-4464 for more information.</p>
Englewood	<p>Time: 6PM June 5, 20 (usually 1st and 3rd Mondays of month)</p> <p>Place: 2nd floor of Civic Center, 1000 Englewood Parkway, Englewood</p> <p>Website: https://www.engagewoodco.gov/government/city-council/meetings</p> <p>Sign up to speak: Please contact the City Clerk's office if you would like to sign up to speak at a Council meeting. The deadline to sign up to speak for Scheduled Public Comment is Wednesday by 5 p.m., prior to the meeting and you will be given 5 minutes to speak. All other speakers who do not meet the deadline will be added to Unscheduled Public Comment and will be given 3 minutes to speak.</p>
Foxfield	<p>Time: 6:30PM June , 151 (1st and 3rd Thursday of month)</p> <p>Place: Fire Station (probably Fire Station No. 42 located on Parker Road just south of Fremont Avenue)</p> <p>Website: https://townoffoxfield.colorado.gov/</p>

	Sign up to speak: All meetings, except executive sessions, are open to the public. Occasional special meetings are held as needed. The Board relies upon the input of residents for many of the decisions they make. Public comment is encouraged and should be limited to 4 minutes per speaker
Glendale	Time: 7PM June 6 (1 st Tuesday of month) Place: 950 S. Birch St. Glendale Website: https://www.glendale.co.us/102/City-Council Sign up to speak: Probably can sign in to speak at the door; call 303-639-4708 for more information.
Greenwood Village	Time: 6pm June 5 (1 st Monday of month, 3 rd Monday of month is study session) Place: City Hall, 6060 South Quebec Street, Greenwood Village Website: https://greenwoodvillage.com/1082/Mayor-City-Council Sign up to speak: Probably can sign in to speak at the door; call 303-773-0252 for more information.
Littleton	Time: 6:30 PM, June 6, 20 (1 st and 3 rd Tuesday of month) Place: Littleton Center, 2255 W Berry Ave, 80120 Website: https://www.littletonco.gov/Government/Meetings/Upcoming-Mtgs Sign up to speak: Sign in to speak at the door
Sheridan	Time: 7PM June 12, 26 (2 nd and 4 th Mondays of month) Place: Probably 4101 S Federal Boulevard Sheridan (try calling 303-762-2200 to ask why this is not easy to find on the website!) Website: http://ci.sheridan.co.us/75/City-Council-Mayor Sign up to speak: All meetings are open to the public; probably you can sign up there to speak.

School Districts in Arapahoe County

If your district still has meetings, you'd better go now or you won't get another chance till the next school year!

School district	Board meetings upcoming
Adams-Arapahoe School District (Aurora Public Schools)	Time: 6PM June 6, 20 (1 st and 3 rd Tuesdays of month) Place: APS Professional Learning and Conference Center, 15771 E. 1st Ave. Website: https://boe.aurorak12.org/ Sign up to speak: Public comment opportunities will be held at the second monthly meeting only. Individuals wishing to address the Board of Education for public comment are required to sign up in person before the scheduled Board meeting.
Byers 32j	Time: 6:55PM June 29 (usually 3 rd Thursday of month) Place: Lecture Hall at Byers School District, 444 E. Front Street, Byers Website: https://www.byers32j.k12.co.us/page/board-of-education Sign up to speak: Audience participation is limited to in person only and following the established board policies. Try calling the district at 303.822.5292 for more details.
Cherry Creek School District	Time: 7PM June 12 (2 nd Monday of month) Place: Different school every month; June is West Middle School, 5151 S Holly St. Website: https://www.cherrycreekschools.org/domain/82 Sign up to speak: Cherry Creek policy is "Anyone who would like to address the Board

	<p>at either a regular or special meeting (on the identified topic(s) for the special meeting) must sign-up electronically for public comment by providing their full name, street address, telephone number, email address, and the topic by no later than noon on the day of a regular Board meeting and by noon the day before a special Board meeting, using the sign-up link found on the Board of Education section of the District website.” Start your involvement by increasing board transparency, because the sign-up link is well-hidden; try calling the Cherry Creek schools main line at 303-773-1184 and ask where is the sign-up link the policy refers to!</p>
Deer Trail 26j	<p>Time: 7PM June 12 (2nd Monday of month) Place: Dorothy Pisel Meeting Room 128 South Second Avenue, Deer Trail Website: https://www.dt26j.com/en-US/school-board-74a7995f Sign up to speak: Can't find instructions on website; try calling (303) 769-4421 or just showing up to meeting.</p>
Englewood School District	<p>Time: 6pm, June 6 (1st Tuesday of month) Place: ECE Boardroom - 3838 S. Huron St, Englewood, CO 80113 Website: https://www.englewoodschoools.net/our-district/board-of-education Sign up to speak: To speak to the Board during public comment, fill out a “Public Request to Comment” form, available at all Board meetings or via email. Give the completed form to the Secretary to the Board of Education before the meeting starts.</p>
Littleton School District	<p>Time: 6:30pm June 8, 22 (2nd and 4th Thursday of month) Place: LPS Education Services Center, 5776 S. Crocker Street, Littleton, CO 80120 Website: https://go.boarddocs.com/co/lpsco/Board.nsf/Public Sign up to speak: At the website below from 4PM the day before the meeting to 4PM the day of the meeting, or fill out a card at the meeting. https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfcPqHXBstRSbyYaZmPkForlN_MrIET_GFUNNCnE9aiV5pE_w/closedform</p>
Sheridan School District	<p>Time: Probably 5:45pm June 13 (2nd Tuesday of the month) Place: Probably 4150 South Hazel Court, Englewood, CO 80110, try calling for more information at (720) 833-6991 Website: https://www.ssd2.org/BoardofEducation.aspx Sign up to speak: No later than 24 hours prior to the board meeting, please email Polly Plancarte (pplancarte@ssd2.org) your request for “Audience with Board”. Include in the email your name, phone number (your phone number will not be revealed), and a brief description of the topic. The board would also like to know if you are a staff member, parent, student, community member or business owner.</p>