



Don Cameron <cameron2021don@gmail.com>

Housing, Water, Speeds, Voting, Oh My! 😬

Don <cameronforgolden@gmail.com>
Reply-To: cameronforgolden@gmail.com
To: cameron2021don@gmail.com

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Dear Neighbors,

Last month I wrote only about growth. I know a lot of people read the highlights and some read the details, but it was admittedly data dense. So this month, just some lighter reading to consider.



Housing Needs Assessment Education on Thursday 10/27 at 5:00 PM - Be part of a fun (hopefully) evening of education and conversation around the housing needs assessment. The Golden United Housing Task Force, of which I am co-chair (hey, I wear a lot of different hats), will be sponsoring an education and discussion group around the recently released housing needs assessment. If you want to attend remotely, or in person, both options are available. [See this form for both in person and online registration options.](#)

Capital Ideas - The capital improvement plan (CIP) is a 10 year plan, funded yearly, that the city council discusses from September until the required passage in December. Budgeting happens at the department level, is hashed out in the city manager's office, and presented for discussion by the public and city council at various meetings. Big ticket items of note for 2023 include a new ladder truck (ours is near end of life), public restroom upgrades, Lena Gulch / West Colfax work, the usual highly-important asphalt and concrete replacements, pickle ball

courts (location TBD), and new multi-purpose fields at Ulysses Park. We are also looking at how to fund new police and city hall facilities, with some planning \$ in 2023 and huge expenditures in future years.

Twenty is Plenty - [Read my blog post](#) on why I have been pushing for a reduction of speeds in residential neighborhoods. It is very much at the intersection (pun!) of our capital plan as well as our bike and pedestrian master plan.

How the 1922 Colorado Compact impacts Golden - [A blog post](#)

VOTE - I only send one of these notes a month, so this is my only chance before ballots arrive after 17 October to suggest you vote this fall . The state re-mapped our congressional and statehouse districts, so we will have a new state rep (either Lynn Emrick or Brianna Titone in house district 27). On the senate side we have a new senator for district 22 (either Tim Walsh or Lisa Cutter). These are partisan races and I'm personally a registered Dem, as can be found on the voter rolls, so you can anticipate my vote. At the US Congress level Brittany Petterson is running to replace Ed Perlmutter, against Eric Aadland. While Golden has no municipal elections this year, there are ballot measures that affect us. The entire city council voted in favor of [supporting proposition 123](#), to hold back some TABOR refunds to build an affordable housing fund, but has not weighed in on any other ballot measures. Read all about them in the very helpful [Colorado Blue Book](#). **IN BOLD**, is what I would vote **YES**

- Amendment D New 23rd Judicial District Judges
- **Amendment E Extend Homestead Exemption to Gold Star Spouses**
- **Proposition FF Healthy School Meals for All**
- **Proposition GG Add Tax Information Table to Petitions and Ballots**
- Proposition 121 State Income Tax Rate Reduction
- **Proposition 122 Access to Natural Psychedelic Substances**
- **Proposition 123 Dedicate Revenue for Affordable Housing Programs**
- Proposition 124 Increase Allowable Liquor Store Locations
- Proposition 125 Allow Grocery and Convenience Stores to Sell
- **Proposition 126 Third-Party Delivery of Alcohol Beverages**

In 2023 there will be municipal elections for two district seats, currently held by Casey Brown and JJ Trout, and for mayor, currently held by Laura Weinberg. In general district 1 is south of 19th, and district 2 is north of 19th street. [Map](#) Councilor Trout told me she is actively recruiting people to run for her district seat to ensure there's strong campaign engagement and participation in the next election cycle. You need to be a resident of a given district to run for that seat. If you have questions about what it is like to be on the city council, reach out to me (contact information below) or your city councilor.



Starter Homes - When was the last starter home built in Golden, or a step-down home? My rough memory and opinion is that a group of patio homes for 55+ aged residents on the south side of Ulysses near Bell Middle School built in 2001. But for younger buyers? I can't think of any barring the townhouses near 4th and Heritage built even earlier. A twenty-plus year deficit of starter homes has not helped our affordability, and the average age of homeowners is increasing. [This is a national issue as was reported in NYT on 9/25.](#)

If you have input for city council, please use
councilcomments@cityofgolden.net.

Always feel free to reach me at my website, [set up a meeting](#). Or, let's run, walk or bike together if you'd like!

Peace,

Don

Feel free to forward this to friends or neighbors who may like to get more information. To join the list fill out the contact form at cameronforgolden.org

Want to know even more? Two other councilors have websites too, [JJTrout](#) and [Bill Fisher](#)

9/30/22, 10:30 AM

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