



BR26-0970 Xcel Energy Franchise
BR26-0973 Energy Partnership Agreement
BR26-0974 DEN Operating Agreement

Governance Committee

June 30, 2026

Council & Community Priorities Update

What We Heard

What's New

Engage City Council and the community in the process

- Xcel Energy initiated a city-wide community engagement process, including RNO presentations, stakeholder group convenings, and a City Council listening tour
- City launched a working group with two appointed City Council members and broad community representation (e.g., labor, environmental justice, housing, affordability)

Leverage the Energy Partnership Agreement to advance the City's energy goals:

1. Affordability
2. Reliability
3. Sustainability

- Alignment of Energy Partnership Agreement with City's energy goals
- Inclusion of City and Xcel Energy energy transition goals

Advance community priorities:

1. Shareholder contributions
2. Energy assistance support
3. Pilots
4. Substation design
5. Reporting and transparency

- Negotiating for inclusion or strengthening of community priorities in the Energy Partnership Agreement

Energy Partnership Agreement Improvements

(Formerly the Energy & Infrastructure Agreement)

Negotiated Items (Bold → notable advancements since August 2025)	Standard	Boulder	Denver
Strengthened recognition of and commitment to the City's energy goals	✗	✓	✓
Formal collaboration between City and Xcel Energy via a partnership committee	✗	✓	✓
Added transparent reporting processes to City Council, City leadership, advisory committees, and the public	✗	✗	✓
Expanded community advisory group roles and oversight; amended membership	✗	✗	✓
Data sharing and access to utility system power flow models	✗	✓*	—
Added a minimum 1% of substation project budgets for neighborhood-compatible design improvements (e.g., fence/wall/façade, landscaping, murals, or similar)	✗	✗	✓
Added upfront Xcel shareholder donation of \$2.5 million to energy assistance + increased annual shareholder contribution to \$125K per year	✗	✗	✓
Added Energy Assistance Navigators (Xcel responsibility) to support access to bill payment assistance and income-qualified programs for Denverites	✗	✗	✓
Added a detailed list of funded and community-informed pilot projects	✗	✓	✓
Established processes to develop, fund, implement, evaluate, and report on pilots	✗	✗	✓

Franchise Agreement Wins

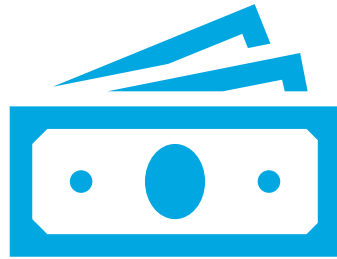
(August 2025 version had no concerns from Council/community to address)

Negotiated Items	Standard	Boulder	Denver
Municipal right to own, operate, and manage utility services	✓	✓	✓
Right to adopt laws and exercise governmental authority over Xcel Energy	✓	✓	✓
Xcel Energy agrees to comply with all applicable municipal laws	✗	✗	✓
Control over utility facility location: restriction to public ways and places	✗	✗	✓
Utility equipment relocation benefits: municipal public works projects	✓	✓	✓
Airport: relocation benefits	✗	✗	✓
Transit agency: relocation benefits	✗	✗	✓
Water and wastewater utilities: relocation benefits	✗	✗	✓
Flood districts: relocation benefits	✗	✗	✓
Improvement districts: relocation benefits	✗	✗	✓
Underground electric distribution lines (1% of electric gross revenues)	✓	✓	✓

Benefits of the Franchise



Strong standing, oversight, and negotiating power at the PUC



Reduced costs and expedited infrastructure and other City projects



Additional utility investments and pilot project opportunities



\$34 million/year dedicated to City General Fund

Next Steps



Today's Action Items

BR26-0970 Xcel Energy Franchise

- **Ordinance submitting to a vote of the qualified and registered electors of the City and County of Denver at a special municipal election to be held in conjunction with the general election of November 3, 2026, a proposed public franchise agreement with the Public Service Company of Colorado, DBA Xcel Energy, for a term through December 31, 2046.**

BR26-0973 Energy Partnership Agreement

- **Ordinance approving the Denver Energy Partnership Agreement with the Public Service Company of Colorado, DBA Xcel Energy, for a term through December 31, 2046, to progress commitments to sustainable, reliable, and affordable energy and joint energy leadership in Denver**

BR26-0974 DEN Operating Agreement

- **Ordinance approving a proposed Operating Agreement with Public Service Company of Colorado, an Xcel Energy company (Xcel Energy) for utility services at Denver International Airport, in Council District 11.**



Questions and Discussion

