



City Council Budget Workshop Working Session

Budget and Policy Committee

April 27, 2026

Denver City Council Commitment to Equity and Inclusion

Denver City Council is committed to advancing equity by ensuring that historically disadvantaged communities are prioritized in decision-making and are co-creators of decision outcomes. Our policies and actions must actively include those who have been marginalized due to race, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, class, disability, immigration status, and age. We prioritize listening to these communities, analyzing the impact of our decisions on each group, and considering how our actions will be perceived. Every decision we make must strive to advance racial and social equity and mobility while eliminating unintended consequences. By embedding equity into our policymaking, we build a more just, intentionally inclusive, and representative Denver for all.

Today's Assumptions/Expectations

- Today is for Council members to briefly present on a select few of their newly proposed budget policies and funding proposals.
- Council members will have 8 minutes each to present their policies.
- Members are explaining the proposal, not making a pitch.
- Members should follow up offline with questions.
- Council will not discuss the micro (district-specific) priorities or budget expansions.

City Council 2027 Budget Goals

Increase Community Safety - Invest in programs and methods that continue the city's reduction in violent crime. Prioritize overall crime prevention by addressing root causes. Engage directly with neighborhoods to build better bridges between community needs and safety concerns to implement evidence-informed public health strategies.

Empower Communities - Strengthen residents' ability to play a meaningful role in their own governance by listening to and learning from them. Ensure open access to information and opportunities to participate and co-create. Identify ways to support Denver's culture and diversity.

Address Denver's Housing Needs - Every resident deserves housing. Improve the affordability, availability, diversity, and stability of housing and shelter options. Meet the needs of those experiencing and vulnerable to homelessness and implement proven and innovative methods to mitigate involuntary displacement.

Support Workers and Businesses - Improve economic mobility and opportunity. Empower workers and ensure they are treated with dignity and respect, including by implementing fair and functional collective bargaining processes for the city's own workers. Promote and incubate businesses citywide. Focus on our small and local business sectors to start, stay, and grow in Denver. Support a strong network of community organizations.

City Council 2027 Budget Goals

Prioritize Climate Response - Treat climate change and drought as emergencies. Protect our communities and natural environment through collaborative action and investment. Address historical environmental injustices while aiming to prevent future harm and support access to water and power.

Improve Denver's Infrastructure - Create complete neighborhoods through safe multimodal transportation connections and neighborhood planning initiatives. Reduce deaths and serious injuries on Denver roadways. Invest in flood and stormwater mitigation, as well as bridge and road maintenance. Ensure collaborative communication from the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure.

Build Healthy Communities for All - Invest in the social determinants of health by increasing access to physical, mental, and addiction health care. Achieve a seamless continuum of services through expanded collaboration between providers and partners for our most vulnerable populations, including youth and older adults.

Restore Basic City Services - Improve delivery of essential city services and restore trust that taxpayer dollars are stewarded effectively.

Presentation Order

1. CM Flynn
2. CM Torres
3. CPPT Romero Campbell
4. CM Kashmann
5. CM Alvidrez
6. CM Lewis
7. CM Hinds
8. CM Gonzales-Gutierrez
9. CM Parady
10. CP Sandoval



Next Steps

- Budget Workshop – May 14, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm
- Letter to the Mayor – no later than May 22
- Micro district-specific priorities survey is live