

Your Complete Golden Guide: Election Day is November 7

Meet Golden's
2023 City Council
Candidates



City of
Golden



Voter Information

Mail Ballot Election Scheduled for Nov. 7

The last day to register to vote or change the address on a voter registration is now determined by the method voters choose to submit their registration.

If you want to receive a mail ballot, you need to be registered by Oct. 30, which is eight days before Election Day.

HERE ARE THE VARIOUS WAYS TO REGISTER:

- Online at GoVoteColorado.com
- By Mail - Colorado Voter Registration Form
www.sos.state.co.us/pubs/elections/vote/VoterRegFormEnglish.pdf
- Through a Voter Registration Agency
- At a Local Driver's License Examination facility

ANYTIME IN PERSON - INCLUDING ELECTION DAY

Go in person to any Voter Service Center or the Jefferson County Elections Division, 3500 Illinois St., Suite 1100, to register. You can also register on Election Day and receive your ballot. More information can be found at www.jeffco.us/elections.

To be eligible to register to vote in this election, you must be a U.S. citizen, at least 18 years old on or before Election Day, a resident of Colorado, and at your present address for 22 days prior to the election.

If your Jefferson County voter registration is current and you live within the city limits of Golden, further registration is not necessary. If you are not sure if you are registered at your current residence, visit www.govotecolorado.com.

All registered voters will be mailed a ballot from Jefferson County the week of October 16. Your ballot must be returned to Jefferson County, or placed in a ballot drop box, no later than 7 p.m. on Election Day, Tuesday, Nov. 7.



BALLOT DROP BOX AT CITY HALL

There is a ballot drop box right inside the front door of Golden's City Hall, 911 10th St. You can drop off your ballot until Election Day, Nov. 7 at 7 pm. The box is securely locked and Jefferson County Election Department employees pick up the ballots every day.

Before you bring your ballot, check to be sure you have it in your envelope (family members with the same last name often get theirs mixed up); sign the back of the envelope, and include all required information. Seal the envelope before dropping it in the box.

Your Introduction to the City Council Candidates

To help voters make educated decisions in the upcoming mail ballot election, the City of Golden publishes candidate profiles for each of the races. In this election, City of Golden voters will elect a Mayor, and Councilors for District One and District Two. If you are not sure in which district you reside, call the City Clerk's office at 303-384-8014.

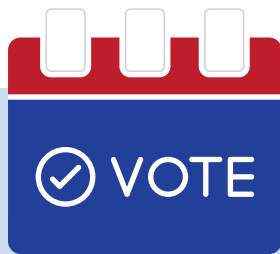
Each candidate was offered the opportunity to submit a profile and a photo for free publication by the City. Candidates were not provided with any set of guidelines (other than an approximate word count) and candidate profiles were not edited by the City for content, grammar or style. The candidates are in the same order as they will appear on the ballot.

We hope this encourages you to get to know your candidates, contact them with questions or concerns, and ultimately vote for whom you think will best represent you. For more information on the upcoming election, visit www.cityofgolden.net/Elections.

Meet Your City Council Candidates

The Leadership Golden Alumni Association (LGAA) is hosting a Candidates Forum in connection with this year's Golden election of City Councilors. The forum will take place on Tuesday, Oct. 17, from 6 to 8 p.m. in City Council Chambers, 911 10th St.

The forum will allow each candidate to respond to questions developed by LGAA membership and the public, along with opening and closing statements. For more information, contact Paul Haseman at phaseman@cityofgolden.net. The Candidates Forum will also be live-streamed and recorded, which you can find on the city website at www.cityofgolden.net/agendas. You can also view the recording of the League of Women Voters Candidate Forum at www.cityofgolden.net/agendas.



3 BALLOT MEASURES ON THE NOVEMBER 2023 BALLOT IN THE CITY OF GOLDEN

In addition to City Council elections, there are three referred measures on the ballot that City of Golden voters will decide on in November. The three measures include:

- **Ballot Issue 2K**, which pertains to a property tax increase to fund the capital needs and operational costs of the Golden Fire Department,
- **Ballot Issue 2L**, which pertains to retaining and expending revenues received by the lodging tax in 2022 to be used as originally approved by voters, and
- **Ballot Question 2M**, which pertains to describing City officials with generally applicable terms.

You can find factual information and background on the referred measures at www.guidinggolden.com/2023-local-elections. If you're a registered voter, you'll receive a ballot information booklet, otherwise known as the "Blue Book," with ballot language and Pro/Con statements, in the mail this month.

CONTACT THE CANDIDATES

Below is the contact information for all the Golden City Council candidates. They are listed in the order they will appear on the ballot.

MAYOR

- **Heather Schneider** 303-974-0994
hjcolorado@yahoo.com
www.HeatherForGolden.com
- **Waquim Filsaime** 727-804-4965
wfilsaime@pendeavors.com
AGoldenNewEra.com
- **Charlie Sturdavant** 303-907-2295
charlessturdavant@gmail.com
- **Laura Weinberg** 303-241-9823
lweinberg@cityofgolden.net
lauraforgolden@gmail.com
- **Country Joe MacDonald** 303-279-3287
joemacdonald90@yahoo.com

DISTRICT 1

- **Matt Duncan** 720-515-4436
votemattduncan@gmail.com
- **Lisa Vitry** 303-358-0444
lavitry2@gmail.com
- **Jacob Luria** 720-550-1048
jdluria@gmail.com
- **Mary Weaver** 720-217-5294
weaver80401@gmail.com

DISTRICT 2

- **Patty Evans** 720-295-0090
evansforgolden@gmail.com
- **Ben Moline** 303-810-4231
benmoline@gmail.com
ben@benforgolden.com
www.benforgolden.com



MAYOR CANDIDATE

Heather Schneider

If you're somewhat new to Golden, chances are the only thing you'd know about Marv Kay is that his name graces the Colorado School of Mines Football Stadium. A Colorado Hall of Fame Mines football coach and the iconic Mayor of Golden, Marv led the transformation of our city into the vibrant place it is today. He was also my neighbor, my friend, my mentor, and one of the key reasons I'm running for Mayor.

Like Marv, I too bleed Golden. Born and bred, right here in this town, I am the daughter of generations of Golden firefighters, a graduate of Golden High School married to my high school sweetheart and raising my three children in this community. The people, the beauty, the character of this very special place defines my life. Golden is singularly unique. It is important. And it needs to be protected.

Lose our identity and we risk becoming another casualty of suburban sprawl.

Thankfully, we are blessed with natural barriers, nestled in a valley, and sheltered by the mountains. But we are not immune to the issues confronting our state and nation. Though we are a relatively safe haven, crime, homelessness, housing, drugs, congestion, are all concerns that impact us. If we don't approach these problems with common sense and balanced governance, they can easily deplete our resources and destroy our character—as they already have in many other communities. It is my pledge to focus on safeguarding Golden, by solving problems from the inside out, listening to our people, their concerns, their hopes, and dreams, and not trying to remedy the world's ills, or inviting issues that could quickly grow out of control.

We can think globally but must act locally. We have work to do. Right here. Like addressing the thousands of tubers that have turned Clear Creek into Disney's Typhoon Lagoon. Encouraging intelligent tourism that adds to our tax base instead of taxing our resources. Spending less on outside consultants and redeploying those hundreds of thousands of dollars on actually getting things done. Using ancillary funds in the city coffers to support essential city services instead of relying on knee jerk tax raises. Common sense solutions for the common good. We are not the first city to tackle these concerns. There are answers if we set priorities, act in a fiscally responsible manner, think creatively, and put everything through the lens of maintaining Golden's character.

Marv used to tell me, "Volunteerism is the price that you pay for the space that you occupy." Throughout my life in Golden, I've taken that to heart. Many of you know me from my work with The Golden Civic Foundation, The Downtown Development Authority, The Golden Schools Foundation and the many non-profits I've actively been a part of. I am Golden ready. And Golden experienced.

Sadly, Marv passed away this year. His love for this town, this little piece of heaven, this place we call Golden, never tarnished. With your support, I will make sure his Golden legacy shines on.

Yours in Golden,
Heather Hahn Schneider
www.HeatherForGolden.com

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MAYOR CANDIDATE

Waquim Filsaime



Waquim Malik Filsaime (born April 2nd) the Executive Chairman of Perseverance Endeavors, Inc - a national conglomerate holding company and the Interim CEO of Filsaime Flavors- a quick-service restaurant positioned for herbivores. The son of parents from Haiti and Pennsylvania, Filsaime was born and raised in St. Petersburg, Florida. He studied at Strayer University and Largo High School where he was a member of the National Honor Society. After serving as a District Manager of Denny's, he launched his very first restaurant – Filsaime Flavors.

In 2018 Filsaime was faced with three major decisions, he applied to numerous leadership positions throughout the nation and had opportunities in Los Angeles, CA; Thornton, CO and New York, NY. After investigating the pros and cons for each company, he decided to accept a role as the General Manger for Wing stop in Thornton, Colorado. After six months he climbed his way up the corporate ladder as a Franchise Training Manager tasked with developing all external and internal General Managers for the Franchise.

In 2020 Filsaime returned to his first company – Taco Bell, but with more intelligence and experience than ever before. This time, with a different franchise Filsaime started as a Market Training Manager and after four months of turning around red stores and achieving accelerated corporate audits he entered a new role as an ARLIT. He had the opportunity to be invited to the Taco Bell Franchise Management Advisory Council annual event at the honorable Broadmoor Hotel in Colorado Springs, Colorado where he got introduced to many corporate partners.

In 2021 Filsaime popularity started to skyrocket, he received an invitation to join a Denny's franchise that he couldn't turn down. Filsaime accepted the role to become the District Manager of a 6-store region in two territories, Idaho, and Utah. That year, he traveled to California and met with the owner and other leaders that inspired him to begin the start of his entrepreneurial aspirations.

At the age of 13 years old, Filsaime always dreamed of becoming a world leader with ambitions of establishing an exceptional environment for underdeveloped countries. In 2023, Filsaime became a board member with Advocacy of Initiative for Development (AID). AID is a 501(c) non-profit organization to support programs in line with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Liberia. The organization is in Special Consultative status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations (UN).

In 2024 Filsaime focuses on three strategic pillars to provide a sanctuary to the residents of Golden:

• Increased salaries for First Responders and Teachers • Compass Inclusion • Business Enrichment

How will we accomplish our strategic pillars? You can learn more by visiting AGoldenNewEra.com.



MAYOR CANDIDATE

Charlie Sturdavant

Let me introduce myself to those that do not know me. I am Charlie Sturdavant, founder and brewmaster of the award-winning Golden City Brewery (GCB), a successful business my wife and I started 30 years ago. We have lived half our lives in Golden and have two grown Goldenite children who now operate our brewery.

My past experience in Golden includes 8 years on the Parks and Recreation Board, 11 years as Cubmaster and Scoutmaster, 3 years as a volunteer track coach at Golden High School, and 30 years as an ambassador for the craft beer industry. During my time on the parks board, I was involved or instrumental in building the Community Center, the Whitewater/Kayak course, White Ash Mine Park, New London Mine Park, Kinney Run Trail, and Fossil Trace Golf Club, among others.

GCB hosts special events every year to raise money for the Christian Action Guild (our local food bank), the Golden Volunteer Fire Department, Golden Landmarks Association, Foothills Art Center, and the Lions Club.

I think we are privileged to live in Golden, a great city. There are many things for which to be thankful in this town. We have many outdoor activities such as hiking and bike trails, the Alpine Center, climbing on the palisades of North Table Mountain, a world-class golf course, a critically acclaimed recreation center, and fishing in Clear Creek. We also have a nationally known RV Park and a history park. We have special events that attract visitors and locals alike, such as Buffalo Bill Days, Golden Fine Arts Festival, and First Saturday Classic Car Cruise.

Parking is the single most important issue to our citizens. The rules, permits and fees are complicated and confusing to everyone. The city has been removing parking from downtown, frustrating residents and visitors. Without parking, our businesses will suffer. Since the late '90's I have proposed that we build an outlying parking structure that is large enough to accommodate high traffic events, one that is open enough to make people feel safe. A shuttle could transport people downtown and back. I will continue to fight for this.

Golden's 2030 Vision Plan was developed by citizen input from throughout the community. The top priorities cited in this study were to retain Golden's small-town character, its historic nature, and have a fair and responsive government. City Hall has deviated from the 2030 mandate. I will work to give the Historic Preservation Board more authority to retain the small-town character that remains. We need to consider a 2040 Vision Plan.

I want to get more citizens involved in Golden's governmental process. I think City Hall does not respect them, being dismissive and condescending at times. This must change to make people less fearful of voicing their opinions.

I have heard it said that the nine most feared words in America are "I'm from the Government, and I'm here to help". I'll close in saying I'm from the people, and I'm here to help.

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MAYOR CANDIDATE

Laura Weinberg



I am honored to be your Mayor. My service to the city started over 12 years ago as an appointed board member, then an elected City Councilor, and now as Mayor. I have worked hard to serve all in our community, and, if re-elected, will continue the work to preserve and enhance Golden for the future.

In 2020, I entered my first term as Mayor and worked with the City Council to lead Golden through COVID 19. Golden is an incredible community of individuals, organizations, schools, and businesses and I am proud that we pulled together during those difficult times. City Council has also been making significant progress on critical issues, such as:

- Passing a lodging tax to address visitor impact and support our thriving community. We now use that revenue to manage the Clear Creek Corridor, fund new transit shuttle service, and provide grants to local nonprofits serving our community.
- Developing a Strategic Action Plan to create a roadmap for success built upon our shared 2030 Vision. Annually, Council identifies top priorities to align the work of city staff and volunteer boards in an open and transparent way so every community member can see what is being done above and beyond the delivery of core city services.
- Rewriting the decades-old zoning code to identify what future development should look like in each city neighborhood and commercial district.
- Completing a housing assessment to determine the types of housing needed to provide diverse options for a wide spectrum of residents, including first-time homebuyers and seniors who would like to remain in Golden.

City Council has more work to do to advance our sustainability goals, manage development, and address broad housing challenges including affordability and homelessness. Our city infrastructure is first-rate and I will continue to prioritize maintaining excellence while addressing quality of life issues such as summertime overcrowding, bike and pedestrian facilities, and parking and traffic congestion.

Many years ago, city leaders made significant investments that today make Golden an attractive tourist destination, a desirable place to live, and a thriving place for businesses. It is our turn now to invest in a Golden future for all. I know how to get things done to move Golden forward. I have the integrity you should expect from all elected officials and the leadership required for good governance and Council decision-making. I have respected relationships across our community, region, and state to help Golden win funding, tackle complex issues, and form successful partnerships to meet our community needs.

In my last election to be your Mayor, I am asking for your vote. We have big decisions in front of us, and I will continue working to respect Golden's history, strengthen its present, and ensure a vibrant future.

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MAYOR CANDIDATE

Country Joe MacDonald

Hi, I'm Country Joe MacDonald and I want to be your Mayor; It would be an honor to serve you!!!!

- I am running with the intent to do the will of the people as there appears to be a disconnect between the people and the politics of Golden-The residents come 1st!!!!!!!!!!!!
- The business owners are a very important and integral part of Golden as they provide jobs and entertainment/ We should work in their best interests and look at all sides before making decisions-I have talked to people that are not happy with some anti-business choices!!!!
- Many residents have to leave Golden on the weekend as it is so clustered with people from all over that add nothing and trash

out the place; I talked to a person that parked all day for \$8 dollars, brought his own food and booze; but left his trash-This has to change as we are being overrun from outside influence-We now need volunteers for 2 days clean-up per week!!!!!!

- We have a problem with parking and could add shuttles at other parts of Golden to alleviate the cluster (Possibly at the high school)
- I don't believe the elderly should move out of Golden!!!!!!!! I am one of them!!!! Let's look at alternatives solutions to affordable housing!!!!
- I am a 35 year resident of Golden
- I am an 8 year veteran air force/army!!!!!!!! I LOVE GOLDEN!!!!!!

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DISTRICT ONE CANDIDATE

Matt Duncan



My name is Matt Duncan and I'm excited to be running for City Council District 1! Growing up in Colorado, Golden was a city that always had a small town charm and, to me, embodies the western spirit towards life. When my wife and I moved here almost 10 years ago, it was a place we could call home.

Our community was one of the major reasons I decided to run for Council. I want to continue encouraging the great tradition of active participation in government practiced by so many of our neighbors and help find ways to engage with those whose voice may have been lost over the years.

I feel strongly that we as a community make up the place in which we live. The choices we make using our vote and expressing our opinions ultimately shape our city policies and programs. I believe engaging with the city government and with our neighbors will foster a place where we respect one another despite varied opinions.

Golden has changed many times from the early days as a mining town to the thriving community we have today. Along that road came many tough decisions about how the growth was shaped. I believe Golden will continue to change and my goal is to facilitate change that is in the best interest of all participants. Making the best choices for the city comes from getting out and talking with people. Something I enjoyed most during the election petition process was hearing from many of my neighbors and listening to what issues were important to them. That active engagement is apparent at the Planning Commission and City Council meetings where big changes are in the works and our community speaks up. I plan to continue to foster that engagement and work to represent District 1 opinions.

We as a city are on the doorstep of making decisions about how we should continue to advance our financial goals. I believe with a plan for financial sustainability, we can continue to provide the city services that are fundamental to the community and reevaluate those that are less in demand. I believe making these decisions is going to be difficult and I feel my past two years serving on the Citizens Budget Advisory Committee (CBAC) for Golden has helped prepare me for this portion of the role on City Council.

Over the past 10 years we've lived in Golden, our family continues to make memories from walking the neighborhood with our dogs, exploring the trails and welcoming to the world our first child, a little boy. Golden is a place that makes us all feel like we are part of a community.

I look forward to meeting you along the way to this coming election and working with you toward the prosperous future for the City of Golden!

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DISTRICT ONE CANDIDATE

Lisa Vitry

I have lived in Golden for 21 years. I am a board-certified Medical Laboratory Technologist with 30 years of healthcare experience. As a healthcare professional, ethics and integrity are principles that guide my decisions every day. I worked for Centura Health for 15 years in clinical and IT corporate leadership, where I gained valuable experience working in diverse teams, challenging situations, and enjoyed producing rewarding results.

I am a member of the Golden Citizen's Budget Advisory Committee, and I am a graduate of Leadership Golden.

Stewardship of the land is important to me. I am co-leader for the Shelton Elementary School Community Garden sponsored by Denver Urban Gardens, and I have cultivated my backyard to be a native, sustainable landscape recognized by the National Wildlife Federation as a Certified Wildlife Habitat.

My dog, Mocha, and I are registered volunteers for both Animal Therapy and Animal Assisted Crisis Response teams. We provide support to improve the physical, social, and emotional lives of elementary school students and staff, seniors, people in crisis, first responders, and national disaster relief teams. We were the Animal Therapy team at the Marshall Fire Resource Center for the 4 months it was open. We worked with the residents who lost their homes, businesses, and pets in the Marshall Fire, and provided support to the hundreds of volunteers and state and federal teams who came to their aid.

I am running for City Council because my years of healthcare leadership experience, community engagement, experience with native habitat, and my training and experience working as an Animal Therapy and Animal Crisis Response team will provide ethical, collaborative, compassionate, and inclusive leadership on City Council.

I support our Police and Fire Departments. Financial and community support for these departments should be on top of mind for City Council. I believe we need to be stewards of the land and preserve our open space. I support more housing options and social support for our senior community.

We need to make decisions on City Council that honor our past and preserve the culture and character of Golden. These decisions need to create and support a community where our families, pets, and businesses can thrive in the present, and embrace thoughtful change that will affect our future.

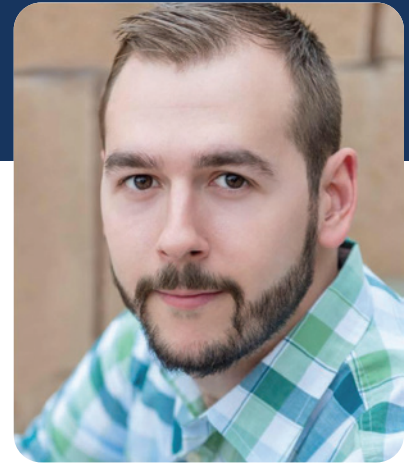
I believe everyone should have the opportunity to be heard and be treated with respect and kindness. I am committed to representing your voice and providing you the opportunity to be part of the City Council decision making process.

I look forward to representing the residents and businesses in District 1 on Golden City Council. Thank you for your support.

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DISTRICT ONE CANDIDATE

Jacob Luria



Hello, Golden City residents! My name is Jacob Luria, and I am excited to be running for the District 1 seat on the Golden City Council. With a passion for our vibrant community and a commitment to positive change, I am eager to serve as your representative. Together, we can build a stronger, more connected Golden, focused on lowering property taxes, tackling property theft, empowering businesses and residents, and championing a transparent government.

I understand the financial challenges that many of our families and businesses face. As your council member, I am dedicated to reducing and eliminating tax burdens, by advocating for responsible budgeting and encouraging private investment in Golden. Strong communities are built on engaged residents and thriving businesses. I believe that when we empower our neighbors and local entrepreneurs, we will create a more resilient and prosperous Golden. I will encourage active civic participation because your voice matters, and I am here to amplify it. I will always advocate for a transparent government that understands its role is to serve the residents not the other way around. Governments should only exist to protect the natural rights of the people, not to control them.

The right to private property is paramount to a free society and so is protecting it. With ever increasing property crime, residents must be empowered to protect their families and their property. Because they know how to protect themselves the best, not the government. I will always stand up for the right to protect yourself and bear arms. I support the formations of town and neighborhood watches to deter crime, private security to protect homes and businesses and prosecution of those who commit these crimes by the law.

For too long those in the federal government have sucked up all the oxygen in the room. It's time to shift our focus from the partisan noise of Washington D.C. back home; to building up our communities by being better neighbors, friends and family members. Together, we will create an environment of hope and possibility for our future generations.

I would be honored to represent you, the incredible people of District 1. Let's work together to revitalize our community, strengthen our bonds, and create a city we are all proud to call home. On November 7th, vote Jacob Luria for City Council District 1.



DISTRICT ONE CANDIDATE

Mary Weaver

Objective

To share my many years of wisdom and to bring diversity to the council

Work History

Accountant for small medical facility.

Accountant for prior fifty years

Served on Golden City Council Ward 1, 2006 -2009

University of Southern Colorado, BS/BA-Accounting 1976

US Navy SKSN/Storekeeper 1963 – 1965

Volunteer

Served on numerous boards for alcohol/substance abuse treatment centers.

Mentor women going through life crisis

Help people maintain the dignity while forging through life difficulties

Currently teaching sewing class to bring a diversified community together

Personal

I have three children and a granddaughter.

Hobbies

Garden, sew, walk, refinishing furniture, Sudoku, study scripture

My greatest desire is to be remembered for doing what is right when nobody is watching.

My life will be well live if I make a difference in at least one person's life.

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DISTRICT TWO CANDIDATE

Patty Evans



I am proud to be running for election to Golden City Council to be a voice for the residents of District 2. Our community is undergoing changes - from the successes and challenges of increased tourism, to shifting economic and financial priorities, to the pressures of growth and development. We need to proactively chart our path forward and guide the future of the community, not just let the future happen to us.

I grew up in Colorado and have fond memories of coming to Golden with my family when I was young, participating in a physics competition at Mines in high school, and competing in speech and debate tournaments at Golden High. When my husband and I made Golden our home 15 years ago, I knew what a great community we were joining.

I've been involved in the community since we first moved here. I've volunteered at Mitchell Elementary, participated in city meetings and open houses to make Golden better, and served 9 years on the Planning Commission.

On Planning Commission, I successfully pushed for greater transparency and public process to be written into the new zoning code. There's more work to be done to ensure that new buildings meet the long term vision of the city, including updated sustainable energy requirements, affordable and attainable housing options, and new buildings fitting into the character of the surrounding neighborhood. If elected to council I will continue advocating for transparency, progress, and public process. The buildings that get built today will be there for 100 years, and we need to make sure we get them right.

As a resident of the 12th Street Historic District, my neighbors and I are acutely aware of the increased tourism to downtown and the creek. The booming commercial downtown, successful small businesses, and wonderful local arts organizations create a thriving local community. At the same time, there are pressures on our downtown and creek corridor from increased visitors. Parking, traffic, mobility, and safety issues must be addressed. No options should be off the table when considering how best to make our downtown and creek corridor safe, convenient, and welcoming to Golden residents.

During the years I served on the Planning Commission, I maintained a reputation of civility and respect among the rest of the commissioners even when we disagreed on the substance. But I've never been afraid to be a dissenting vote or voice when it was needed. As a member of the City Council, I will continue to treat everyone respectfully, to hear everyone out, and to carefully consider all points of view, and I will continue to stand up for what's right even if I'm alone in doing so.

Change is inevitable, but we can and should be proactive in anticipating and preparing for the impacts they have on our community. As your District 2 representative, I commit to transparency, listening to the concerns of our residents, and working to find common ground.

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DISTRICT TWO CANDIDATE

Ben Moline

Good day fellow Golden residents. My name is Ben Moline and I am running for the District 2 City Council seat, representing the northern half of Golden. I am originally from Iowa and have a degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Iowa. I have been a resident of Golden for 15 years after randomly discovering the town during a bike ride. I work at Molson Coors as the Director of Water Resources and Environmental Policy. My career at the brewery has largely been focused on Clear Creek's water quality and water rights use as well as developing policies aimed at achieving environmental goals on energy and water use. In addition to being a professional engineer, I was also a volunteer firefighter in Golden for 14 years, achieving the rank of Captain until recently retiring.

Through my career and volunteerism, I have gotten to know this city and its citizens well. Beyond Golden, I have been part of several organizations focused on water quality within the Clear Creek basin and an adaptive ski instructor.

My priorities for council will be to return the focus back to core city responsibilities including:

- Funding, organization, and operations of emergency services
- Public Works & Infrastructure funding and modernization
- Traffic Management, focused on better movement through town
- Public Spaces and connectivity across all of Golden
- Fostering robust businesses throughout town, including an evaluation of workforce housing
- Community Involvement – public events and local opportunities
- Finalizing and Implementing the Clear Creek Corridor project, including new city facilities

There are countless reasons people want to make Golden home, and as a member of council, I would focus on maintaining the positive attributes of Golden while working to address the negative. Those would include better traffic coordination, downtown creek use, business development, and community events.

Another important component of council is making sure all voices are heard and acknowledged. As a member of the LGBTQ community, I am well aware of how certain voices can be limited or ignored. The role of council, and my focus, will be to listen to residents and address issues or ideas as they come forward. Not every concern can have a solution, but every concern can be heard. The diversity of Golden is what makes it great, including all levels of education, careers, hobbies, ages, and backgrounds. Golden is a community where everyone can participate.

I ask for your support in electing me to the City Council. I will be focused on policies to move Golden forward and maintain the small-town feel we enjoy, supporting our businesses, and keeping recreational activities abundant while acknowledging that the budgets fluctuate, but core services must be maintained.

Feel free to reach out to me at ben@benforgolden.com or visit www.benforgolden.com.

Thank you for your support and consideration.

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Photo by Rich Grant



City of
Golden

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