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## From the Mayor:

In the roughly 3 years since I've been Mayor there aren't a lot of issues our Town residents disagree on. But there's one, that I hear about a from two sides.

**Resident A:** "Our Town has changed. I've lived here 30 years and traffic is out of control. Our town speed limits are too high and cars routinely go above the posted speeds. Why doesn't the Town write more tickets, have a zero tolerance for exceeding 25 mph, put in speed bumps, limit trucks and commercial vehicles to 15 mph, etc. ? There are kids on bicycles and motorized scooters, people walking their dogs, no sidewalks ... it's only a matter of time."

**Resident B:** "A Town with 25 mph speed limits is plenty safe. Please don't ever let Columbine Valley turn into a nanny Town, complete with a special vehicle taking pictures and sending out tickets by mail. 25 mph is barely faster than golf cart and bicycle speeds. The cops have the tools they need to deal with the rare case of someone really abusing traffic laws ... focus on the contractors and the cut-throughs ... but unless someone is flagrant and/or remarkably unsafe ... live and let live."

In my opinion both sides have some legitimacy. I can see how a car going 25-30 on one of those streets

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## MAYOR & BOARD OF TRUSTEES



Roy Palmer, Mayor  
(Term Expires April 2024)

Bill Dotson, Mayor Pro Tem  
Trustee (Public Safety)  
(Term Expires April 2026)

Kathy Boyle,  
Trustee (Community Affairs)  
(Term Expires April 2024)

Mike Giesen,  
Trustee (Finance)  
(Term Expires April 2024)

Ed Icenogle,  
Trustee (Public Works)  
(Term Expires April 2026)

Jim Tarpey,  
Trustee (Planning)  
(Term Expires April 2024)

Al Timothy,  
Trustee (Building)  
(Term Expires April 2026)

Mail Correspondence To:  
2 Middlefield Road  
Columbine Valley, CO 80123

Or Email To:  
[BoardofTrustees@columbinevalley.org](mailto:BoardofTrustees@columbinevalley.org)

## From the Mayor (cont.)

does seem fast. Especially if you have little kids and it's in front of your house. In October I borrowed the Town Speed gun and spent a total of six hours, at different times of the day and monitored speeds from my own car. The average speed on Club Lane and Fairway Lane was about 26 mph. I (jealously) clocked one golf cart at 23 mph. The fastest vehicle was 37. I also watched the stop signs. I'll bet almost half the cars don't quite get all the way stopped at the stop signs. All close, but strict ticket writing would rain down fire on many of us. The bigger problem in my opinion is people who just don't see the stop signs. Foliage and curves don't help.

So is 25 the right default speed limit? It's typical of what many other suburban/residential towns like Columbine have. If we lowered speed limits to 20 ... and wrote a ticket for every vehicle that was even one mph over the limit ... we'd be writing some tickets to golf cart drivers. If we put in 30 or 40 speed bumps, we could guarantee that no one ever could go more than 15-20, but snow plowing would be enormously difficult and the wear and tear on everyone's brakes and suspension would increase.

Bottom line ... the Trustees have asked our police department and Town staff to look at this issue and come back with a range of options for the Town; ranging from stricter enforcement, to lighted signs, to crosswalk painting and striping changes. If you're interested, we'll likely discuss these issues at our January Town meeting.

## BRONCOS STADIUM SALE

The Metropolitan Football Stadium District distributed approximately \$41 million dollars to 47 cities and counties generated from the sale of the Denver Broncos to the Walton-Penner group. Columbine Valley was pleased to receive just over \$4,500 which will be directed towards youth activities within the Town. The Trustees have not decided how the money will be spent but are committed to keeping with the spirit in which the money was intended.

The budget the Trustees will be approving in December includes \$3.8 million for a roads and infrastructure project slated to start in spring 2023.

# NEW TRAILS MASTERPLAN

In October 2022, both the Board of Trustees and the Planning Commission unanimously approved an addendum to the 2020 Master plan that focuses on a conceptual trails master plan for Columbine Valley. During the update for the 2020 Master Plan, feedback was received that many residents expressed a desire for more trails in Town and better connections to existing trails.

To further develop a conceptual trails master plan that incorporates the desires of the community, staff along with a formalized trails committee offered insight into how this plan could be achieved. This addendum to the master plan formulates an initial implementation strategy for the development of these trails and connections. Proposals for creating connections within Town limits were identified, discussed, and finalized in concept. These proposals include the Platte Canyon Road sidewalk, new trail connections throughout Town, and changes to the existing infrastructure as improvements are made to create a loop “trail” within the Town limits. When and if any of these conceptual projects were to move forward from the conceptual phase, the Board of Trustees will work hand in hand with Town Staff and any stakeholders (i.e. The Columbine Country Club), to ensure that everyone’s best interests are being considered.

# UPDATED BUILDING CODES

The Board of Trustees approved an ordinance on November 15 to update building and property maintenance codes. The purpose of the codes are to ensure the safety and usability of structures, and the maintenance and functionality of properties and housing within the town. The primary tool used by the building department in ensuring this is the application of building and property maintenance related codes adopted by the Board of Trustees. Implementation of the newly adopted versions of these codes will begin January 1, 2023. A copy of each of the codes is available for viewing at Town Hall.

The following building and property maintenance related codes were adopted:

- 2021 International Building Code
- 2021 International Residential Code
- 2021 International Mechanical Code
- 2021 International Plumbing Code
- 2021 International Fuel Gas Code
- 2021 International Energy Conservation Code
- 2021 International Fire Code
- 2021 International Property Maintenance Code
- 2021 National Electrical Code

# VIRTUAL COURT

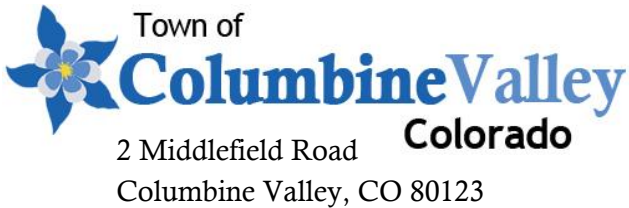
The Town transitioned from holding municipal court in the historic Littleton courthouse to a virtual court model in June of 2022. Judge McCarthy believed that holding court in town was an important change with the additional benefits of lower operating costs, increased venue reliability, and greater convenience that translates to better participation. Each month at least 75% of appearances now occur virtually, while the option to appear in person remains for anyone who would like to. To learn more about Columbine Valley’s municipal court contact Dana Struthers at [dstruthers@columbinevalley.org](mailto:dstruthers@columbinevalley.org).

## 2023 DIRECTORIES

The Town will be producing a printed version of the 2023 Directory that will be available for pick up at Town Hall in early January.

Residents can also opt in for the online directory to manage their own contact information by contacting Communications Coordinator Erin Acheson at [elacheson@columbinevalley.org](mailto:elacheson@columbinevalley.org). Those who opt in will also receive monthly direct-to-resident emails from the Town with news and event information.

Follow the Town on Nextdoor!



## DATES TO KNOW

- **Dec. 6:** Board of Trustees Meeting & Holiday Party, 6:30 p.m.
- **Dec. 26:** Town Hall Closed for Christmas
- **Jan. 2:** Town Hall Closed for New Year's Day
- **Jan. 16:** Town Hall Closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
- **Jan. 17:** Board of Trustees Meeting, 6:30 p.m.
- **Feb. 20:** Town Hall Closed for Presidents Day
- **Feb. 21:** Board of Trustees Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

## TOWN STAFF

J.D. McCrumb

Town Administrator

Bret Cottrell

Chief of Police

Dana Struthers

Support Services Manager

Bonnie Zapata-Diaz

Building Dept. Coordinator

Hobbess Hayden

Public Works Manager

Ben Dreessen

Public Works Associate

Erin Acheson

Communications Coordinator

Lee Schiller

Town Attorney

Sue Blair

Finance Director

Brent Kaslon

Town Planner

Jim Thelen

Chief Building Inspector

Troy Carmann

Town Engineer

Joanna Czarnecka

Senior Construction Manager