



City Council Communication

AGENDA DATE: March 2, 2026

LEGISTAR ITEM #: 26-268

PRESENTER: Jason R. Rogers
Office

DEPARTMENT: City Manager's

<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Noticed Council Business
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informational Presentation	<input type="checkbox"/> Consensus-Building Presentation

BACKGROUND/REQUEST

This communication is to present to City Council the proposed agenda for the Winter Planning Retreat that will be facilitated by Peak Facilitation, LLC. The proposed agenda outlines the three goals identified by the Winter Planning Committee: i) Strategic Plan Priorities; ii) Budget Priorities; iii) Improved Working Relationships and Communications. The Winter Planning Retreat is planned to be held Friday, March 13 and Saturday, March 14. Subject to approval of the agenda by the City Council, staff will prepare presentation materials on the Budget and Strategic Plan Priorities discussion.

Commerce City Council Retreat
March 13 and 14, 2026
Agenda - DRAFT
LOCATION

DAY 1 - FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2026

4:00 PM Welcome and Goals for the Day

4:15 - 4:45PM Emergenetics

4:45 - 5:45 PM Council Member Visions

Each member of Council will have up to 5 minutes to share their vision for the community they want Commerce City to be.

5:45 - 6:15 PM Reflection & Structured Discussion

- Members of Council will take a few minutes to quietly reflect on what they have heard from the rest of the group.
- Discussion Questions:
 - What common themes did we hear that suggest a convergence among Council?
 - What values underpin these themes?
 - What do those common themes suggest for the strategic priorities of the City?
 - What divergence themes or unique perspectives did we hear?
 - Which differences matter? Which coexist?
 - What values or visions are driving these different views? Can we find common ground on these or is ok to let these differences lie?
 - What outcomes do we collectively expect residents to experience by 2027.

6:15 - 6:45 PM BREAK - DINNER

6:45 - 7:15PM Vision → Budget Threading Discussion

- Expands clarity around how the “vision anchors” connect to major budget categories.
- Council members will have the opportunity to ask questions about vision elements or strategic priorities from the earlier conversation would fit into which budget categories.

7:15 - 7:40PM Budget Categories Orientation

- Staff will review the major categories in the City budget and aligns understanding
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7:40 - 8:00 PM Preparing for Tomorrow (Online Survey)

Prior to tomorrow morning, Council members will complete a brief online activity to identify the highest-priority budget items to them. Through an online survey, Council members will rank the major budget categories in order of priority to them. The facilitator will bring the results to the morning session.

Council Homework: rank budget categories + one tradeoff reflection

8:00 PM

ADJOURN

DAY 2: SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026

9:00 AM Welcome and Takeaways from Yesterday

9:15 AM Budget Priority Survey Results

Council will review the results from the ranking survey. The survey results are data to inform a discussion; they are not a final decision or direction to staff.

9:30-10:30 AM Budget Priority Survey Results – Potential Implications

- Staff will share preliminary thoughts on how the survey results could be reflected in a 2027 budget, as well as how they could show up in terms of strategic priorities and staff work.
- Council will have the opportunity to ask clarifying questions about how the survey results could be reflected in a future budget and work for the City.
- Based on the information from staff, Council will discuss their budget priorities and come to a final set of priorities to guide staff development of a preliminary budget.
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10:30 – 10:45 AM BREAK

10:45 – 11:15 AM — Budget → Strategy Threading (New Block)

Heather draws a map showing how vision anchors + budget priorities interact to shape strategic areas.

11:15 – 12:00PM Working Lunch: Framing Strategic Goals

Small groups identify desired outcomes and key focus areas

12:00-2:00 PM Strategic Priorities

Based on the morning discussion, Council will identify the key strategic goals they would like to see reflected in a refreshed strategic plan for the City.

2:00 PM BREAK

1:45 PM Emergenetics

Council will discuss the insights that their individual and group Emergenetics profiles provide regarding how they think and behave, as well as how they can optimize their work as a group.

2:15 PM Consolidating Draft Goals & Strategies

Review and refine goal language, strategies and budget priorities

2:40 - 2:50 PM Post Retreat Staff Direction

2:50 – 3:00 PM Review Retreat Outcomes & ADJOURN