

What is a land acknowledgement?

A land acknowledgement is a formal statement that recognizes and respects Indigenous peoples as traditional stewards of this land and the enduring relationship that exists between Indigenous peoples and their traditional territories.

Land Acknowledgement

The City of Commerce City respectfully acknowledges the land on which we stand is the traditional territory of Indigenous peoples who have traversed, lived in and stewarded these lands since time immemorial. Those Indigenous Nations include the: Tsésthó'e (Cheyenne), hinono'eino' biito'owu' (Arapaho), Očhéthi Šakówin (Lakota), and Núu-ágha-tʼévvá-pʼé (Ute).

We honor and pay respect to their ancestors, elders, and present-day community members, and extend our gratitude to the Indigenous peoples for their ongoing care and stewardship of the land, water, and resources. We also recognize that Indigenous knowledge, oral histories, culture, and languages handed down through generations have shaped profound cultural and spiritual connections with Commerce City lands and ecosystems – connections that are sustained and celebrated to this day.

We also recognize the lasting impact of colonialism and continued injustices that have affected Indigenous communities throughout history and into the present.

May this acknowledgement serve as a reminder of our responsibility to be mindful and respectful of the land, its history, and the Indigenous communities who call Colorado home and to use it to guide our policies and decision-making for the people of Commerce City.