

Commerce City Council Retreat
March 21-22, 2025
LOCATION?

Friday, March 21

- 5:30 PM **DINNER**
- 6:00 PM **Welcome, Introductions, and Agenda Review**
- 6:05 PM **City Budget / Financial Overview**
- Staff presentation
 - Mayor/Council questions
- 7:05 PM **BREAK: *Break activity:*** How would you spend \$100 on budget enhancements? (Can CIP be a bucket?)
- 7:20PM **Debrief Budget Enhancement Exercise**
- 7:30 PM **Capital Improvement Process (CIP) Overview**
- Staff presentation on approach
 - Mayor/Council questions
- 8:45 PM **CIP Prioritization Exercise**
- 9:00 PM **Debrief CIP Prioritization Exercise**
- 9:15 PM **Next Steps for CIP Discussion with Council**
- 9:30 PM **ADJOURN**

Saturday, March 22

- 7:30 AM ***Breakfast available in the meeting room.***
- 8:00 AM **Welcome and Big Takeaways from Last Night**
- 8:15 AM **Creating a Great Community - Step 1: What Is Good Now?**
- ***Individual work:*** The Mayor and members of Council will write on sticky notes elements of Commerce City as it exists today that are good.
 - ***Group discussion:*** Each person will share one idea, and others will indicate if they also had that idea or not. After a brief discussion, the idea will be placed on the wall under the heading "What Is Good Now." The group will take turns sharing individual elements until all ideas have been discussed and placed on the wall.

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- 9:00 AM** **Creating a Great Community – Step 2: What Can Be Better?**
- **Individual work:** The Mayor and members of Council will write on sticky notes things they think could be improved in Commerce City.
 - **Group discussion:** Each person will share one idea, and others will indicate if they also had that idea or not. After a brief discussion, the idea will be placed on the wall under the heading “What Can Be Better.” The group will take turns sharing individual elements until all ideas have been discussed and placed on the wall.
- 10:00 AM** **BREAK**
- 10:15 AM** **Creating a Great Community – Step 3: How Do We Create Change?**
- The Mayor and members of Council will discuss the steps that are needed to create the changes they have identified, acknowledging that different changes may require different steps. Considerations will include definition of terms, the City’s level of influence, Council action, staff action, use of consultants, community engagement, what could wrong, what we can afford, etc. As the discussion progresses, the pathway(s) to change will be written on sticky notes to indicate the steps needed to get from What Is Good Now to What Can Be Better.
- 11:45 AM** **BREAK - Working Lunch**
- 12:00 PM** **Revisiting Budget Enhancements**
- Building on the morning’s discussion, the Mayor and members of Council will repeat the Budget Enhancement Exercise from the previous evening.
 - The group will debrief the results of the Budget Enhancement Exercise, including a comparison of the morning’s results with the results of the previous evening.
 - What changed?
 - What influenced everyone’s choices?
 - What is staff’s takeaway message for the budget?
- 12:45 PM** **Next Steps**
- Budget planning
 - CIP planning
 - Ongoing work with the facilitator
- 1:00 PM** **ADJOURN**