

to rotate through the topics in which they were most interested. Following the roundtables, the facilitators presented a debrief of the captured input from each table.

The Town of Monument explains the launch and progress so far at <https://www.townofmonument.org/395/Comprehensive-Plan---Monument-2040>.

To view specific project informa-

tion and the presentation from the Community Conversation, please visit <https://www.monument2040.com/>. Residents are encouraged to provide input via the online survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/FNF8FPC>.

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Monument Town Council, March 3 and 17

Monument Town Council tackles planning, water issues, and community events

By Chris Jeub

The Monument Town Council met twice in March to engage in plan-

ning, business development, and water infrastructure, and to continue its search for a permanent town

manager. Here's a combined recap of the key decisions made in both meetings.

Comprehensive Plan seeks community input

A presentation from the Lakota Group, a community planning and urban design firm based in Chicago, outlined the vision for the upcoming Monument 2040 Comprehensive Plan. Andy Cross, the presenter, emphasized the plan's commitment to being "community-led and community-driven," highlighting the importance of incorporating resident feedback to shape the town's future development. The plan outlines a three-phase process: building a foundation of planning knowledge, testing ideas, and developing a framework of strategies to achieve a unified vision, all while being guided by the community.

The Lakota Group emphasized a central goal to allow people to express opinions and influence Monument's future by:

- **Strategic Roadmap:** The Comprehensive Plan serves as a roadmap, outlining Monument's long-term vision and growth strategy for the community.
- **Guidance for Development:** The plan informs the decisions the town has to make on land use and zoning.
- **Community Vision:** The Comprehensive Plan ensures the citizens of Monument will be able to use their opinions, values, and goals when designing for planning.
- **Policy and Direction:** The Comprehensive Plan creates policies for what kind of developments need to be in the community.
- **Evolving:** To ensure the relevance of future projects, it's crucial that it can evolve to the community's changing needs.

For more information on the Monument 2040 project, see page 1.

Dairy Queen drive-thru coming to Monument Marketplace

Ordinance No. 05-2025 concerned a final planned unit development for a new retail building at Jackson Creek North Retail within the Monument Marketplace. The building will house a Subway restaurant as well as the highly anticipated Dairy Queen. Dan Ungerleider presented the proposal, detailing site plans, landscaping, and architectural elements. Council members voiced concerns regarding

landscaping standards and building color scheme. Ultimately, the council unanimously approved the ordinance, clearing the way for Dairy Queen to open its doors tentatively in October.

Regional water partnership explores reuse possibilities

Resolution No. 15-2025 called for authorizing a project participation agreement with the Pikes Peak Regional Water Authority. The agreement involves a study exploring the potential for indirect potable reuse of water resources across the region. Director of Public Works Tom Tharnish explained that the study aims to gather data and insights beneficial to all participating members, who are largely located in El Paso County, with the exception of Palmer Lake.

Community recognizes officer's dedication

During the public comment portion of the March 3 meeting, Executive Director of Tri-Lakes Cares Haley Chapin shared a letter written by a staff member commending Officer Kelly Fisher for her outstanding dedication to the Monument community. The letter highlighted Fisher's commitment to public safety, crisis intervention, and fostering positive relationships with local businesses.

Annual Report highlights 2024 achievements

The March 17 meeting commenced with the presentation of the 2024 Annual Report. Council members commended staff on the well-organized and comprehensive report, which highlights key projects and accomplishments from the past year. In summary, the report highlighted several key accomplishments:

- **Website redesign:** Implemented a comprehensive website redesign, improving accessibility and reflecting the town's natural surroundings.
- **Staff development:** Town staff engaged in diverse professional development opportunities, increasing expertise and contributing valuable insights.
- **Records management:** The establishment of a records manager position, as well as the acquisition of a new electronic records system to modernize and streamline procedures.
- **Community events:** The continuation of several beloved annual community events such as Concerts in the Park, a Memorial Day Ceremony, The Fourth of July Parade and Street Fair, and the annual Tree Lighting event.
- **New businesses:** Monument continued to grow, welcoming My House Cafe, KVRR Hospitality Group, the Colorado Pinball Pub, Whataburger, and 7-Eleven in to the town.
- **Staff recognition:** Recognized Police Department members' various contributions.
- **Finance department improvements:** Implemented a self-collected local sales tax and managed the town finances with constant staff throughout the year.
- **Public Works facility improvements:** Water infrastructure upgrades and energy savings projects such as solar being added to Town Hall and LED lighting in all buildings.
- **Planning Department review:** Reorganized and re-established the department's development review program and streamlined it.

The full report is available on the town's website for public review at <https://www.townofmonument.org/documentcenter/view/4770>.

CELEBRATE HOLY WEEK

PALM SUNDAY 10 am
MAUNDY THURSDAY 6pm
GOOD FRIDAY 6pm
EASTER SUNDAY 8am | 10am

EASTER EGG HUNT IN BETWEEN SERVICES @ 9:30am

Trinity Lutheran Church 17750 Knollwood Drive, Monument

Free Community Event

EASTER EGG HUNT

SUNDAY, APRIL 20
9:30 AM

Between services

Accessible fun!

Special appearance by the Easter Bunny

HOSTED BY:

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 TRINITY COMMUNITY PARK

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