Welcome to Aurora, Colorado
(Updated June 2015)

Colorado’s safest large city—and one of the safest in America—is a place where more than 351,000 residents enjoy a comfortable way of life and a wealth of opportunity. Aurora residents enjoy access to quality education, convenient urban living, family friendly neighborhoods and a strong job market.

Situated on prairie grasslands, rolling hills and the Black Forest’s northern tip, Aurora offers a unique quality of life that blends an old-fashioned sense of community with a range of outdoor and leisure activities. The city spans three counties in the eastern Denver-Aurora Metropolitan Area, and is the state’s third largest city and the 54th largest in the country.

Aurora Facts
Name and City Government Structure
- Founded in 1891, the city of Aurora was originally named Fletcher by its founder, former Chicago resident Donald Fletcher. In 1907, the town changed its name to Aurora.
- Council/city manager form of government: Mayor, six council ward representatives and four at-large members

Population: 351,200 (2014 estimate)
- Estimated Average Annual Growth Rate (1990 to 2014): 1.85%
- Median Age: 33.9
- Average Household Size: 2.65
- Estimated Population by Single Race Classification (% of population): White, 60.5%; Black, 15.4%; Asian, 5.3%; other, 12.3%
- Estimated Hispanic/Latino Population (% of population): Hispanic or Latino, 30.1%

Transportation: A strategic transportation hub centrally located in the United States
- Located minutes from Denver International Airport (DIA) and Front Range Airport
- Intersected by I-225, I-70 and E-470
- Light rail stops along I-225 operating at Dayton Road and Parker Road, with additional stops under construction for the remainder of the I-225 corridor (planned completion of the 10.5-mile line with eight new stations in 2016); two additional commuter rail stops in Aurora under construction along the East Rail Line from DIA

Climate: Semi-arid (mild and dry)
- Warmest Month: July (Avg. High, 90°F, and Low, 55°F) / Coolest Month: January (Ave. High, 45°F; and Low, 16°F)
- Most Precipitation: May (Average, 2.85 inches) / Least Precipitation: January (Average, 0.49 inches)

Geography: 154.31 total square miles (97.41 square miles of developed land)
- Latitude: 39° 41’ 45” N (39.695833°) and Longitude: 104° 48’ 29” W (-104.808056°)
- Official Elevation: 5,435 feet (6,229 feet at highest point located a quarter mile north of the intersection of Inspiration Drive and Antelope Trail in Douglas County and 5,285 feet at lowest point at the Sand Creek Wastewater Reclamation Facility)
- Located in Arapahoe, Adams and Douglas counties (percentage of population in each county: Arapahoe County-87.95%, Adams County-12%, Douglas County-.05%)
Growth and Neighborhoods – Aurora, Colorado
(Updated June 2015)

Aurora residents and businesses enjoy tremendous value for their money, with award-winning public safety, quality parks and recreation, beautiful open spaces, and cultural, educational and community activities. The city offers the most house for the money in the Denver-Aurora metro area, an attractive, value-filled market for a full array of homebuyers. Flexible open enrollment provides access to top-tier public education throughout the city.

The city of Aurora strives to create an urban area that embraces expansion while enacting policies that produce balanced housing types, quality development and managed infrastructures and services. The city’s 2009 Comprehensive Plan emphasizes the formation of livable, full-service neighborhoods. Aurora continues to grow at an average 1.85 annually, attracting investments from top national employers, homebuilders and developers.

Neighborhoods
- Aurora welcomes all walks of life and makes residents feel at home in more than 450 neighborhoods featuring the broadest variety of nationalities.
- Developed park land includes 97 parks on 4,019 acres, including the Aurora Sports Park, Wheel Park and Grandview Dog Park, and Centre Hills Park Disc Golf Course
- Six award-winning municipal golf courses
- 5,099 acres of open space land
- More than 85 miles of trails
- Twenty-six historic sites, two historic districts and two cultural landmarks

Water System
- Aurora Water provides water, wastewater and storm water services to a 151-square-mile service area.
- Most of Aurora’s water comes from mountain runoff, surface water than is piped into the city from more than 180 miles away. The city’s most recent water system, Prairie Waters, went online in 2010 and can deliver up to 12 million gallons of water each day. It recaptures water from the South Platte, provides additional drought protection and is the backbone for a regional water-sharing agreement that is one of the first of its kind.

City-operated Recreation Centers, Classes, Pools and Cultural Services
- More than 8,000 recreation classes and activities offered annually, including art and dance classes, sports leagues, cooking and wine tastings, aquatics, fitness and more
- One full-service recreation center, one center for adults ages 50 and older, five community centers, two indoor pools and several outdoor pools, including the newly renovated Del Mar Family Aquatic Center
- One 245-seat performing arts theater with attached black-box theater
- One small, newly renovated history museum, which houses an historic trolley trailer

Libraries
- Four full service libraries located throughout the city offering books, magazines, newspapers, CDs, DVDs, computers with internet, printing, Microsoft software and computer classes, study rooms and programs for kids and adults. Additionally, one smaller library/computer center, a computer lab and library computers/internet available at two recreation centers.
Aurora’s economy is moving forward even in tough times, partly because the city continues to lure some of the top businesses in the nation in such industries as aerospace and defense, bioscience and health care, sports and recreation, and transportation and logistics. Now in this age of clean energy, Aurora is poised to become a hub for progress in solar and wind power enterprises.

The city also offers a number of educational opportunities for its residents, providing an ample training ground for Aurora’s future workforce.

**Education**

**Higher Education**
- University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus
- Community College of Aurora, including the Colorado Film School
- Pickens Technical College
- Anthem College
- Colorado School of Holistic and Naturopathic Studies
- Colorado Technical University – South Denver Campus
- Concorde Career College
- Ecotech Institute
- Everest College
- ITT Technical Institute
- Platt College
- Westwood College

**School Districts**
- Cherry Creek Schools (one of the top performing districts in Colorado)
- Aurora Public Schools (one of the state’s most diverse districts with children from more than 90 nations)
- Bennett Public Schools (undeveloped land in Aurora that extends east of Monaghan Road, north of County Line Road and south of 72nd Avenue falls within this district.)
- Brighton Public Schools (serving Aurora residents who live in the new Highpoint at DIA neighborhood)
- Douglas County School District (serving residents of Aurora’s Rocking Horse neighborhood along Gartrell Road, just north of Inspiration Road)

**Workforce: 107,669 jobs in Aurora (not including sole proprietorships)**
- Percent Working in...
  - Sales and Office Occupations: 27.7%
  - Management, Professional and Related Occupations: 30.1%
  - Service Occupations: 19.4%
  - Production, Transportation and Material Moving Occupations: 11.8%
  - Natural Resources, Construction, Extraction and Maintenance Occupations: 11.8%
Commerce and Industry

Anschutz Medical Campus and Fitzsimons Innovation Campus
- This one-square-mile site of the former Fitzsimons Army Base is a $5.2 million redevelopment project that will eventually employ more than 42,000 people. It’s one of the world's newest education, research and patient care facility and the largest academic health center from Chicago to the west coast, north of Texas. It attracts more than one million visitors annually.
- Campus includes:
  - Fitzsimons Innovation Campus (Features a 184-acre campus with more than six million square feet of corporate and bioresearch facility space, with over 40 commercial bioscience firms growing businesses in advanced, turnkey facilities and custom-built labs and offices)
  - The University of Colorado Health (Employs 4,890 people and is ranked the No. 1 best hospital in the metro area and the state in the 2014-15 U.S. News and World Report’s Best Hospitals list, with nine nationally ranked specialties and three high-performing adult specialties)
  - The University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus (Employs 8,070 people at an academic health center that combines interdisciplinary teaching, research and clinical facilities)
  - Children’s Hospital Colorado (Employs 5,650 people and is ranked No. 5 on the best children’s hospital honor roll in the 2015-16 U.S. News and World Report’s Best Children’s Hospitals list, with nine nationally ranked pediatric specialties)
  - State-of-the-art VA hospital slated to open in 2017
  - Urban village center includes student center and library, 400 to 600 multifamily housing units, retail and recreational facilities

Buckley Air Force Base
- Contributes nearly $1 billion annually to Aurora’s economy
- Supports 12,000 personnel (10 percent of Aurora’s total employment)
- Home to the 460th Space Wing, Buckley operates a satellite system that supplies persistent global surveillance, and provides missile warning, missile defense and technical intelligence, tracking and targeting
- Hosts “Big Five” mission partners (Colorado Air National Guard, Navy Operational Support Center, Aerospace Data Facility-Colorado, Army Aviation Support Facility and Air Reserve Personnel Center) and supports 84 base partners located on base and in the community

Retail
- Square Feet of Retail Space in Aurora: 21 million
- Aurora City Place (village street concept features major retail anchors and smaller shops)
- Cornerstar (outdoor retail center features both smaller and larger stores and restaurants as well as a small grocery)
- The Gardens at Havana (pedestrian-oriented outdoor retail center featuring an urban garden theme and a mix of smaller shops and larger retail anchors as well as a small grocery)
- Southlands (1.7-million-square-foot outdoor lifestyle center with a four-block main street and community plaza surrounded by additional retailers, restaurants and a movie theater)
- Town Center at Aurora (indoor shopping center with more than 140 specialty stores, including major department stores and eateries)
Other Major Public and Private Employers

- **Aurora Public Schools** (Employs 5,000 people)
- **Cherry Creek Schools** (Employs 3,730 people, which are only those in the district who work in Aurora schools)
- **City of Aurora** (Employs 4,210 people)
- **Community College of Aurora** (Employs 600 people)
- **Raytheon Company** (Employs 2,410 people to design space systems, ground equipment and software)
- **HealthONE: The Medical Center of Aurora** (Employs 1,770 people to provide medical care)
- **Kaiser Permanente** (Employs 1,680 people in the health care industry)
- **Northrop Grumman** (Employs 760 people and works on hardware/software data processing systems)
- **Lockheed Martin Corporation** (Employs 730 people to conduct systems/design research)
- **ADT Security Systems** (Employs 720 for alarm system monitoring)
- **Steven Roberts Original Desserts** (Employs 690 people to make and distribute bakery products)
- **G4S Secure Solutions (USA) Inc.** (Employs 680 people working in security services)
- **Staples** (Employs 620 people in office supply distribution)
Environmental Initiatives – Aurora, Colorado  
(Updated June 2015)

The environment is a precious resource, and in Aurora, the city is working hard to preserve it. Hundreds of acres of open space have been acquired so future generations can continue to enjoy the natural areas that make Colorado such a great place to live. Numerous citywide policies are in place to ensure that the city is developing environmentally friendly programs and educating employees about the important role they play in Aurora’s continuing efforts to be environmentally conscious.

In fact, The Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment presented the city with the Colorado Environmental Leadership Program’s Bronze Achiever award in 2011, which is a voluntary program designed to recognize and reward organizations and businesses that demonstrate superior environmental performance. Environmental initiatives include, but are not limited to:

City Planning and Development
- The city’s 2009 Comprehensive Plan includes the addition of a Sustainability Plan that delves into energy efficiency and conservation, renewable energy and economic growth.
- The Sustainable Infill and Redevelopment (SIR) Zoning District encourages creative approaches to sustainable development and redevelopment within high-profile, targeted areas of the city, ultimately resulting in business growth and expanded living choices. Some goals of the new designation include promoting energy and resource efficiency and completing pedestrian and bicycle connections to surrounding sites and neighborhoods.
- Residential design standards are designed to ensure that Aurora stays competitive in the metropolitan market for homes in terms of pricing, quality, location, energy, water efficiency and indoor air quality while preserving architectural design, durability, choice and home value.

Renewable Energy
- Aurora is home to the first shared solar technology center of its kind in North America, occupying 74 acres of the 1,762-acre Aurora Campus for Renewable Energy (ACRE). It includes seven public- and private-sector entities working on solar-energy commercialization. SolarTAC provides a solar facility where member companies can bring their technologies for testing and demonstration, particularly solar technologies at the early commercial or near-commercial stage of development.
- Two three-acre community solar gardens in Aurora provide Xcel Energy customers with the option to buy renewable energy credits from these solar gardens to use at their homes and businesses.
- Photovoltaic systems operate at three city facilities, reducing power consumption purchased from the commercial power company by 460,200 kWh/year and lowering the carbon footprint by about 5 tons/year.
- Solar thermal domestic hot water heat systems at Fire Stations No. 8 and 10, Meadow Hills Pool and Beck Recreation Center, taking care of certain hot water needs at these facilities and saving energy.
- The city was recognized in 2013 as a Solar Friendly Community for adopting policies and procedures that streamline solar permitting, making solar installation faster for installers and less expensive for citizens.
Tree Planting and Parks
- Aurora has been designated a “Tree City USA®” for more than 30 years, with more than 77,000 city-owned trees.
- Two municipal golf courses and the Aurora Sports Park are designated as Certified Audubon Cooperative Sanctuaries.

Recycling, Cleanup Events and Air Quality
- The city operates two recycling drop-off locations.
- Aurora Water’s Household Chemical Roundup annually collects and recycles aerosols, antifreeze, hazardous wastes, paint, pesticides, tires and more.
- The city partners with private businesses each year to provide recycling of electronic waste, free shredding services, used cooking oil recycling and collection of mercury-containing devices and equipment and used alkaline batteries.
- The city recycles tons of office waste, toxic lead and copper from police firing range bullets, and fleet shop materials and fluids.
- Aurora Water hosts the High Line Canal Clean Up each year, recruiting hundreds of volunteers to pick up trash along an 11-mile stretch of the canal before water upstream is released into the canal in the spring.
- The city joined Denver’s Great Colfax Cleanup in 2015, with about 30 volunteers cleaning up debris along Colfax from Havana to Yosemite.
- The Aurora Public Library circulates books, CDs and DVDs at a rate of nearly 800,000 times a year. That’s two to three items each year for every one of Aurora’s residents. If 800,000 books a year were purchased and tossed, that would be 400 tons of material going to the landfill or recycling center. Materials shared among customers reduces the amount of items to be manufactured and shipped, saving both material and energy resources. Books and DVDs get about 40 uses while CDs are used about 70 times.
- Aurora is one of the first metro-area municipalities to use alternatives to sand and salt for winter maintenance operations, therefore reducing small-sized particulate matter in the atmosphere and keeping the air cleaner.

Energy Efficiency and Conservation
- City fleet includes both hybrid cars and flex-fuel vehicles. The city is adding 17 alternative fuel vehicles to its fleet in 2015 as part of the city’s Smart Fleet program; grant funds are defraying the cost of purchasing these vehicles.
- City installed two grant-funded electric vehicle charging stations for public use at the Aurora Municipal Center garage in 2014. Additional grant funding will allow for the installation of charging stations at the coming Iliff Station Parking Garage and the city’s Public Safety Training Center.
- Since 2009:
  o About 14,000 light bulbs/tubes in 41 city buildings have been retrofitted with new energy efficient ones, reducing about 15 tons of carbon dioxide gas emissions annually
  o HVAC repairs and upgrades at Aurora Municipal Campus buildings eliminated 15 tons of annual carbon dioxide gas emissions
  o Power management software funded with dollars from an Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant allows city computers to be powered on and off remotely for automated updated and maintenance, allowing all computers to be turned off at the end of the day and resulting in 65 percent annual energy savings. The same grant dollars allowed the installation of a subfloor air management system in the city’s data center, resulting in a 29 percent decrease in the center’s energy costs.
  o All of the city’s traffic signals have been retrofitted with LED lights, and lighting at select ball fields was upgraded, resulting in lower energy bills and reduced maintenance costs.
**Transportation Alternatives**
- Aurora’s first light-rail stops located along I-225 at Dayton Road and Parker Road, one at Iliff Avenue under construction and the remainder along I-225 slated for completion by 2016, along with two on the East Rail Line.
- Planning under way for compact, mixed-use, pedestrian-friendly developments built within easy walking distance of the planned transit stations.
- A bike and pedestrian master plan provides a long-range vision for giving bicyclists a safer way to travel and making it easier for pedestrians to navigate the city.
- Aurora offers 86 miles of trails available for pedestrians and bicyclists to traverse the city.
- The city is equipped with 46.5 miles of signed, on-street bicycling routes.

**Water Conservation and Reclamation**
- The Parks, Recreation & Open Space department couples a computerized irrigation system with low-spray heads and radio-controlled moisture sensors to reduce water waste.
- Since 2007, more than 12,500 customers have benefited from Aurora Water’s high efficiency toilet, xeriscape and irrigation rebates.
- Aurora Water’s Youth Education program has reached 62,458 students with classroom presentations designed to teach children where their water comes from and how to prevent pollution.
- Aurora Water launched a Low-income Water Efficiency Program in 2011, and since then has retrofitted 284 low-income households with high efficiency toilets and low-flow showerheads and aerators.
- A xeriscape rebate program has successfully converted 1,430,761 square feet of Aurora residential turf to xeriscape. The program began in 2007.
- Prairie Waters uses a state-of-the-art, multi-barrier treatment process and increases Aurora’s water capacity by up 12 million gallons per day. The system provides additional drought protection by recapturing river water in the South Platte, and is the backbone for a regional partnership that provides fully treated water to communities heavily dependent on non-renewable sources.
Major Attractions and Amenities – Aurora, Colorado
(Updated June 2015)

Arapahoe County Fairgrounds and Regional Park
Located adjacent to Aurora Reservoir in unincorporated Arapahoe County, the Arapahoe County Fairgrounds and Regional Park is home to the Arapahoe County Fair, and features a 45,000-square-foot events/exhibition center. Future additions are planned for the 236-acre site, including an indoor arena, outdoor area and horse barn, as well as open space, parks and trails.

Art in Public Places
Situated throughout the city, these 240 artworks indoors and out range from traditional to whimsical; funded through a 1993 city ordinance requiring 1 percent of city construction and remodeling projects with budgets over $100,000 to be used to fund public art.

Aurora Cultural Arts District
A 16-block area located along the historic commercial corridor from Clinton to Geneva streets on East Colfax Avenue that features art galleries and arts-related venues; the district’s offices are home to Theatre Esprit Asia

Aurora History Museum
A community-based cultural center featuring a permanent exhibit on Aurora history and two changing exhibit galleries touching on topics related to history and decorative arts. Educational programs, tours, workshops and family events are offered for all ages throughout the year.

Aurora Fox Arts Center
An historic landmark and 245-seat performing arts facility and adjacent black-box theatre in the Aurora Arts District, home of the Aurora Fox Theatre Company and the Aurora Fox Children's Theatre Company, and one of the metro area's only professional Equity theaters; also home to Ignite Theatre

Aurora Sports Park
A 220-acre site of major local, state and national competitions annually on 12 baseball/softball fields and 23 soccer/multiuse fields, including softball, soccer, rugby, cross country, football and lacrosse.

Aurora Symphony Orchestra
Community orchestra established more than 30 years ago, and offering season of full orchestra concerts annually as well as smaller chamber ensemble performances

Aurora Wheel Park
Includes a bicycle moto-cross dirt racetrack, three full-size in-line hockey rings and an 18,000-square-foot skateboard bowl with a street skating freestyle course

Colorado Freedom Memorial
Located near Buckley Air Force Base, this memorial’s glass panels contain the names of nearly 6,000 of the state’s military service personnel killed in action since Colorado became a state.
Del Mar Family Aquatics Center
Newly renovated center features a 181-foot waterslide with splashdown activity pool, a huge water playground with two slides, and a 25-meter, six-lane pool with zero depth entry, a 12-foot dive well and 1-meter and 3-meter diving boards

DeLaney Farm
Site of Aurora’s famous historic round barn, and featuring 130 acres of open space, trails with access to the High Line Canal, a historic farm with two structures on the National Register of Historic Places and a one-room schoolhouse, and a membership-supported, educational community farm operated by Denver Urban Gardens

Dining
More than 100 ethnically diverse eateries situated throughout Aurora, from wine bistro and sushi bars to authentic Mexican and fast casual

Disc Golf
Aurora manages disc golf courses at Centre Hills Park and Expo Park.

Eisenhower Suite
Restored suite in Building 500 at the Anschutz Medical Campus where President Dwight D. Eisenhower spent seven weeks recovering from a heart attack while vacationing in the area in 1955; restoration completed through careful review of photographs, archival notes and press accounts and tours available by calling 720-848-4070

Festivals and Special Events
Year-round events for all ages, including Punkin Chunkin Colorado, a fall festival with a pumpkin launching competition; the Fourth of July Spectacular, with the largest fireworks display in the metro area; KidSpree, a festival designed for children and families; Aurora’s Summer Concerts in the park; and Global Fest, celebrating Aurora’s international community.

Golf Courses
Six award-winning municipal golf courses (Aurora Hills, Meadow Hills, Murphy Creek, Saddle Rock, Springhill and Fitzsimons as well as privately owned Blackstone Country Club, CommonGround Golf Course, Heather Ridge Country Club, Heritage Eagle Bend Golf and Country Club, John F. Kennedy Golf Course and Valley Country Club

Historic Sites
The city of Aurora manages two historic districts, two cultural heritage sites and 26 historic sites and landmarks, including the Gully Homestead of 1870, the Victorian-style Centennial House of 1890, the privately owned American War Mothers National Memorial Home, the Art Deco-style KOA Building of 1934, the DeLaney Round Barn of 1902, and Lowry Building 800, the interim headquarters for the U.S. Air Force Academy from 1955 to 1958.
**Horseracing at Arapahoe Park**
Located adjacent to Aurora Reservoir but located in unincorporated Arapahoe County, Colorado’s only live horseracing track features thoroughbred racing, quarter horse stakes, appaloosa competitions and Arabian dashes from June through September, with simulcast horse and greyhound racing offered year-round.

**Jewell Wetland**
A 50-acre wooded wetland featuring more than a mile of soft and hard surface trails, a boardwalk/deck access into the wetland and a butterfly garden

**Plains Conservation Center**
Preservation space for 1,100 acres of native shortgrass prairie located north of Hampden Avenue at Picadilly. Open to the public with a variety of educational programs

**Reservoirs**
- **Aurora Reservoir** features a swim beach, fishing, an eight-mile loop trail, a certified 5K soft-surface trail, and canoe, kayak, paddle boat and aqua cycle rentals. It also serves as the host site for races and triathlons. **Quincy Reservoir** offers a 3.5-mile soft-surface trail, shoreline and dock fishing, and a boat launch and rental.

**Star K Ranch/Morrison Nature Center**
Star K Ranch provides important habitat for wildlife and has several trails for nature exploration. You can also access the Sand Creek Greenway Trail from the property. Parking for Star K Ranch is located off Smith Road, a half-mile east of Chambers Road on Laredo Street.

**The Vintage Theatre**
Houses the 145-seat Jeffrey Nickelson Auditorium, the 67-seat Bond Trimble Theatre and the 60-seat lobby raised stage.
Accolades – Aurora, Colorado
(Updated June 2015)

2015
- National Association of Clean Water Agencies
  - Sand Creek Water Reclamation Facility: Platinum Performance Award
- National Accreditation Honors
  - Re-accreditation from the Commission on the Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies: Aurora Police Department (accredited since 2000)
- Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) Local Government Award
  - Bronze – Planning for Economic Development: Aurora Line, Phase 1
- Aurora Chamber of Commerce
  - Man of the Year Award: City Manager George (Skip) Noe
- National Mayor’s Challenge for Water Conservation: No. 1 for Cities 300,000 – 599,999 in Population
- Better Doctor: No. 1 Fittest City on its Fit Cities Index
- Walk Score: No. 15 Most Bikeable City in the U.S.
- WalletHub: No. 13 Most Diverse City in America
- WalletHub: No. 16 Hardest Working Cities in America
- WalletHub: No. 18 Best Cities to Start a Career
- WalletHub: No. 29 City with the Most Diversified Economies
- WalletHub: No. 31 Best Cities for 4th of July Celebrations
- U.S. News and World Report Best Children’s Hospital List (2015-16): Children’s Hospital Colorado No. 5 on the best children’s hospital honor roll, with nine nationally ranked pediatric specialties

2014
- U.S. Conference of Mayors
  - Honorable Mention City Livability Award: A-GRIP
- Urban Library Council
  - Top Innovator Award in Operations: Aurora Public Library
- Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) Metro Vision Local Government Awards
  - Gold – Planning for Economic Development: Havana Corridor
- Colorado Theatre Guild
- National Association of Telecommunication Officers and Advisors Awards
  - Aurora 8: Third Place for Election Coverage
  - Aurora 8: Third Place for Public Education – I-225 Light Rail Construction
  - Aurora 8: Honorable Mention for News Coverage – Aurora News Weekly
- Public Relations Society of America, Colorado Chapter
  - Silver Pick Award, Publications (Single Issue Newsletters/Booklets/Calendars): “Advancing Aurora”
- Explorer Tactical Competition
First Place, Incident Command System Competition (teamed up with Anaheim Police Department Explorers) – Aurora Police Explorer Post 2024

- Aurora Chamber of Commerce
  - Community Leadership Award: Michelle Wolfe, Deputy City Manager
- Trust for Public Land ParkScore: No. 10 Best Park Systems in the United States
- NerdWallet Finance: No. 1 Best Large Cities for Women in the Workforce
- WalletHub: No. 10 Best Cities for Wallet Wellness
- WalletHub: No. 14 Most Recession-Recovred Cities
- WalletHub: No. 15 Best Places to Retire
- WalletHub: No. 19 Best Cities for Veterans
- WalletHub: No. 25 Best Cities for Recreation
- WalletHub: No. 34 Best Cities for First-Time Home Buyers
- WalletHub: No. 35 Best Cities for Pet Lovers
- WalletHub: No. 38 Best Cities for an Active Lifestyle
- Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation: Aurora Reservoir No. 90 out of America’s Top 100 Family Fishing and Boating Spots
- U.S. News and World Report Best Hospitals List (2014-15): University of Colorado Hospital No. 1 best hospital in Denver metro area and the state, with nine nationally ranked specialties
- U.S. News and World Report Best Children’s Hospital List (2014-15): Children’s Hospital Colorado No. 6 on the best children’s hospital honor roll, with nine nationally ranked pediatric specialties
- U.S. News and World Report Best Hospitals List (2014-15): The Medical Center of Aurora No. 4 best hospital in the Denver metro area, with high performance in 10 specialties

2013

- Colorado City & County Management Association
  - City Manager of the Year: George “Skip” Noe
- America’s Promise Alliance: 100 Best Communities for Young People (award program discontinued after this year)
- Solar Friendly Communities/Colorado Solar Energy Industries Association: Silver-level Solar Friendly Community
- Government Finance Officers’ Association
  - Distinguished Budget Presentation Award for the 2013 Budget Book
- NG9-1-1 Institute
  - Outstanding 9-1-1 Call Center Award: Public Safety Communications Department
- International Association of Chiefs of Police
  - Outstanding Achievement in Law Enforcement Volunteer Programs: Police Department
- Colorado State Fire Chiefs
  - 2013 Disaster Humanitarian Award: Aurora Fire Department
- Partnership for Safe Water
  - Phase IV Excellence in Water Treatment: Griswold Water Treatment Facility
  - Phase IV Excellence in Water Treatment: Wemlinger Water Treatment Facility
  - Phase III Directors Award: Peter D. Binney Purification Facility
- National Association of Clean Water Agencies
  - Excellence in Management Gold Recognition: Aurora Water
Platinum Peak Performance Award: Sand Creek Water Reclamation Facility
American Water Works Association, Rocky Mountain Section
Outstanding Water Laboratory Award: Aurora Water’s Water Quality Lab
City-County Communications & Marketing Association (3CMA)
Silver Circle Award, Printed Publications/Other Collaterals: “DIY and DIR: do it yourself and do it right Home Improvement Handbook”
Aurora Chamber of Commerce
Man of the Year Award: Mayor Steve Hogan
Woman of the Year Award: Council Member Marsha Berzins
Community Leadership Award: Police Chief Dan Oates
Humanitarian of the Year Award: Fire Chief Mike Garcia (shared with David Patterson, Rural/Metro Ambulance)
Special Chairman’s Award: City Manager George (Skip) Noe
Prevention Magazine: No. 12 of 25 Healthiest, Happiest Cities in America
U.S. News and World Report Best Hospitals List (2013-14): University of Colorado Hospital No. 1 best hospital in Denver metro area and the state, with national rankings in five adult specialties and nine high-performing adult specialties
U.S. News and World Report Best Children’s Hospital List (2013-14): Children’s Hospital Colorado No. 7 on the best children’s hospital honor roll, with 10 nationally ranked pediatric specialties
U.S. News and World Report Best Hospitals List (2013-14): The Medical Center of Aurora No. 4 best hospital in the Denver metro area, with high performance in eight specialties
Parents Magazine: Children’s Hospital Colorado No. 5 among the “10 Best Children’s Hospitals” and No. 1 for “Family Friendliness”

2012
America’s Promise Alliance: 100 Best Communities for Young People
Denver Business Journal’s 2012 Healthiest Employer Awards
Finalist: City of Aurora (X-large-sized businesses with 1,000 or more local employees category)
National Accreditation Honors
Re-accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies: Police Department
Re-accreditation from the American Public Works Association: Public Works Department
E911 Institute
911 Training Program Recognition: Public Safety Communications Department
Partnership for Safe Water
Phase IV Excellence in Water Treatment: Griswold Water Treatment Facility
Phase IV Excellence in Water Treatment: Wemlinger Water Treatment Facility
National Association of Clean Water Agencies
Excellence in Management Gold Recognition: Aurora Water
Gold Peak Performance Award: Sand Creek Water Reclamation Facility
American Water Works Association, Rocky Mountain Section
Outstanding Water Laboratory Award: Aurora Water’s Water Quality Lab
The Associated General Contractors of America
Marvin B. Black Excellence in Partnering Award: Peter Binney Water Purification Facility
Digital Cities Survey’s Top Digital Cities in America (for cities with 250,000 or more population)
Fifth Place
Government Finance Officers’ Association
- Distinguished Budget Presentation Award

- **Colorado Lottery**
  - Starburst Community Award: Beck Recreation Center renovation

- **Denver Regional Council of Governments**
  - Community Outreach/Public Education, Local Governments Award Program Category: Urban Coyote Safety and Awareness Program

- **National Association of Telecommunication Officers and Advisors Awards**
  - Aurora 8: Second Place for Election Coverage
  - Aurora 8: Second Place for Public Service Announcements

- **Public Relations Society of America, Colorado Chapter**
  - Gold Pick Award, Publications (Single Issue Newsletters/Booklets/Calendars): “Finding Balance”

- **City-County Communications & Marketing Association (3CMA)**
  - Savvy Award, Printed Publications/Reports: “Finding Balance”

- **Aurora Chamber of Commerce**
  - Business for the Arts Award: Aurora Fox Executive Director Charles Packard
  - Humanitarian of the Year Award: Aurora Police Officer Jim Seneca, Cops Fighting Cancer

- **Forbes Magazine**: No. 9 in Top 10 Safest Cities in America

- **Men’s Health Magazine**: No. 9 best cities for men and No. 2 best city for heart health

- **U.S. News and World Report** Best Hospitals List (2012-13): University of Colorado Hospital No. 1 best hospital in Denver metro area and the state, with five nationally ranked specialties and nine high-performing adult specialties.

- **U.S. News and World Report** Best Children’s Hospital List (2012-13): Children’s Hospital Colorado No. 7 on the best children’s hospital honor roll

- **U.S. News and World Report** Best Hospitals List (2012-13): The Medical Center of Aurora No. 4 best hospital in the Denver metro area, with high performance in 10 specialties

### 2011

- America’s Promise Alliance: 100 Best Communities for Young People
- **Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment**
  - Colorado Environmental Leadership Program – Bronze Achiever Award

- **American Public Works Association**
  - Public Works Project of the Year – Peter D. Binney Water Purification Facility

- **American Council of Engineering Companies**
  - Honors Award – Peter D. Binney Water Purification Facility

- **American Concrete Institute, Rocky Mountain Chapter**
  - Project of the Year – Peter D. Binney Water Purification Facility

- **Partnership for Safe Water**
  - Directors Award – Griswold Water Treatment Facility

- **Government Finance Officers’ Association (GFOA)**
  - Distinguished Budget Presentation Award

- **International City/County Management Association**
  - Certificate of Distinction – Center for Performance Measurement

- **Colorado Parks and Recreation Association**
- Columbine Award for Programming – Parks, Recreation & Open Space Neighborhood Circles Program
- Colorado Lottery
  - Starburst Acquisition Award – Ponderosa Preserve
  - Starburst Community Award – City Park
- Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education
  - Environmental Education Award for Excellence in Government – Girl Scout Water Badge Day
- United Veterans of Colorado
  - Meritorious Service Award – Sheila Anthony
- National Association of Government Communicators
  - Blue Pencil and Gold Screen Award – First Place in Conference Materials for Veterans Salute
- International Festival & Events Association Pinnacle Awards
  - Gold Pinnacle – Best Media Relations Campaign (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
  - Bronze Pinnacle – Best Press/Media Kit (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
- National Association of Telecommunication Officers and Advisors Awards
  - Aurora 8 – First Place in Community Awareness for “Aurora Center for Active Adults,” Second Place in Seniors for “Aurora Center for Active Adults,” Third Place in Profile of a City/County Department for “Aurora Center for Active Adults” and Honorable Mention in Public Information Series for “Down Syndrome Awareness”
- Men’s Health Magazine: No. 8 best city in “The 10 Best and Worst Cities for Men”
- U.S. News and World Report: Ranked among the top 10 Winter Wonderlands for Retirement
- U.S. News and World Report Best Hospitals List (2011-12): University of Colorado Hospital No. 1 best hospital in Denver metro area and the state, with four nationally ranked specialties and 10 high-performing adult specialties
- U.S. News and World Report Best Children’s Hospital List (2011-12): Children’s Hospital Colorado No. 5 on the best children’s hospital honor roll, with five specialties ranking among the top 10.
- U.S. News and World Report Best Hospitals List (2011-12): The Medical Center of Aurora No. 5 best hospital in the Denver metro area, with eight high-performing specialties.

2010
- America’s Promise Alliance: 100 Best Communities for Young People
- National Accreditation Honors
  - Re-accreditation from the National Institute for Senior Centers: Aurora Center for Active Adults
- Government Finance Officers’ Association (GFOA)
  - Distinguished Budget Presentation Award
- Partnership for Safe Drinking Water (EPA/AWWA) Awards
  - Excellence in Water Treatment: Wemlinger Water Treatment Facility
  - Director’s Award: Griswold Water Treatment Facility
- Rocky Mountain Water Environment Association
  - Outstanding Collection System: Aurora Water Wastewater Division
- Denver Regional Council of Governments Community Outreach/Public Education Award
  - Third Place for Water Quality and Environmental Programs Public Outreach Initiative
- Digital Cities Survey’s Top Digital Cities in America (for cities with 250,000 or more population)
  - Third Place
- National Association of Telecommunication Officers and Advisors Awards
  - Aurora 8: Second place for 2009 election coverage and second place for News Series (Operating Budget Under $300,000) for “Aurora News Weekly”
• International Festival & Events Association Pinnacle Awards
  o Gold Pinnacle: Best Media Relations Campaign (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
  o Silver Pinnacle: Best Press/Media Kit (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
  o Silver Pinnacle: Best Pin or Button (for an event) (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
  o Silver Pinnacle: Best Promotional Poster (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
  o Silver Pinnacle: Best Newspaper Insert/Supplement (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
• National Foreclosure Mitigation Counseling Program
  o Certificate of Appreciation: Neighborhood Services Department’s Home Ownership Assistance Program
• Colorado Theatre Guild
  o Henry Award: The Aurora Fox’s Little Foxes Summer Youth Theatre Program
• Channel 7 A-List Award
  o No. 1 Museum in the Metro Area: Aurora History Museum
• Aurora Chamber of Commerce
  o Community Leadership Award: Community Relations Division Chief Barbara Shannon-Banister
  o Chamber Leadership Award: Aurora 8 Producer Mark Isenburg
• U.S. News and World Report Best Children’s Hospital List (2010-11): The Children’s Hospital listed among best pediatric hospitals, with eight specialties ranking in the top 10.
• Women’s Health Magazine: No. 4 best city in “America’s Best & Worst Cities for Women”
• Men’s Health Magazine: No. 11 best city in “America’s Best & Worst Cities for Men”
• Redbook Magazine: One of six more affordable housing markets in the U.S.

2009
• International City/County Management Association’s (ICMA) Center for Performance Measurement
  o Certificate of Achievement/Certificate of Distinction/Certificate of Excellence (one of only 20 U.S. jurisdictions to receive this): City of Aurora Performance Measurement Program
• ICMA
  o Honorary Membership: Dr. Jay Gershen, University of Colorado Hospital (nominated by Aurora City Manager Ron Miller)
• Government Finance Officers’ Association (GFOA)
  o Distinguished Budget Presentation Award
  o Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporter for the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report
• U.S. Department of Justice’s Community Capacity Development Office
  o Coordination Honors Award – Original Aurora Renewal’s “Weed and Seed” Program
  o Nicholas Sloan Valor Award for the late Rodney Morales – Original Aurora Renewal’s “Weed and Seed” Program
  o Tenure Award for Site Director Dawn Barrett – Original Aurora Renewal’s “Weed and Seed” Program
• Digital Cities Survey’s Top Digital Cities in America (for cities with 250,000 or more population)
  o Tied for Third Place
• ASIS International’s Denver Mile High Chapter
  o Officer of the Year: Aurora Police Sgt. Timothy Holt
• Colorado Attorney General’s Office
  o Inaugural Excellence in Law Enforcement Award: Aurora Police Sgt. Joe Young
• U.S. Department of Justice’s Office of Justice Programs
  o Amber Alert Law Enforcement Leadership Award: Aurora Police Sgt. Joe Young
• International Festival & Events Association Pinnacle Awards
Gold Pinnacle: Best Press/Media Kit (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
Gold Pinnacle: Best Media Relations Campaign (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
Gold Pinnacle: Best Pin (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree

National Association of Telecommunication Officers and Advisors Awards
- Aurora 8: Honorable Mention for “Nature Notes” and Honorable Mention for “Aurora News Weekly”

National Emergency Number Association’s Colorado Chapter
- Center of Excellence: City of Aurora Public Safety Communications Department

Aurora Civitan Club
- Citizen of the Year: Aurora City Manager Ron Miller

American Water Works Association’s Rocky Mountain Section
- Best of Show Regional Water Taste Test Competition: Aurora Water

Partnership for Safe Drinking Water (EPA/AWWA) Awards
- Excellence in Water Treatment: Wemlinger Water Treatment Facility
- Director’s Award: Griswold Water Treatment Facility

Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment’s Environmental Leadership Program
- Bronze Award: Wemlinger Water Treatment Facility

National Association of Clean Water Agencies
- Gold Peak Performance Award: Sand Creek Water Reuse Facility

Colorado Parks and Recreation Association
- Columbine Award for Maintenance: Parks, Recreation & Open Space Conservation Area Program

National Accreditation Honors
- Full accreditation from American Public Works Association: Public Works Department
- Re-accreditation from the Commission on the Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies: Aurora Police Department (accredited since 2000)

Aurora Chamber of Commerce
- Chamber Leadership Award: City Manager Ron Miller
- Community Leadership Award: Police Officer Tim Huffman

Salary.com: No. 2 city to build wealth in “Top 5 Cities to Build Wealth”
Men’s Health Magazine: No. 7 best city in “America’s Best & Worst Cities for Men”

2008

National Civic League
- All America City Winner

Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education Award
- Excellence in Environmental Education: Water Conservation Office Education Program “Forests to Faucets”

Government Finance Officers’ Association (GFOA)
- Distinguished Budget Presentation Award

Partnership for Safe Drinking Water (EPA/AWWA) Awards
- Excellence in Water Treatment: Wemlinger Water Treatment Facility
- Director’s Award: Griswold Water Treatment Facility
• American Water Works Association’s Rocky Mountain Section
  o Outstanding Water Laboratory Award: Aurora Water Quality Control Laboratory
• American Public Works Association’s Colorado Chapter
  o Environmental Design/Maintenance and Operation Award: Aurora Water Stormwater Division
• Rocky Mountain Water Environmental Association
  o Outstanding Collection System – Aurora Water Wastewater Division
• National Association of Clean Water Agencies
  o Gold Peak Performance Award: Sand Creek Water Reuse Facility
• U.S. Department of Justice’s Community Capacity Development Office
  o Best Practices Recognition: Original Aurora Renewal’s “Weed and Seed” Program
• National Association of School Resource Officers
  o Model SRO Agency Award: Aurora Police Department’s School Resource Officer Unit
• U.S. Secret Service
  o Certificate of Appreciation from Director Mark Sullivan for Supporting the Protective Mission During the Democratic National Convention: Aurora Police Department
• Digital Cities Survey’s Top Digital Cities in America (for cities with 250,000 or more population)
  o First Place
• Colorado Association of Libraries Awards
  o President’s Award: Patti Bateman, City of Aurora library services manager
• National Association of Telecommunication Officers and Advisors Awards
  o Aurora 8: First Place for Excellence in Government Programming and “Aurora News Weekly” and Second Place for election coverage and the “Commuter’s Survival Guide”
• International Festival & Events Association Pinnacle Awards
  o Gold Pinnacle – Best Press/Media Kit (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
• National League of Cities Showcase
  o Neighborhood Services’ Fence Replacement Program awarded participation
• Colorado Community Revitalization Authority (now Downtown Colorado, Inc.) Governor’s Award for Downtown Excellence
  o Paul Suss of Suss Buick Pontiac GMC named Downtowner of the Year for his work on Aurora’s Havana Business Improvement District
• National Accreditation Honors from the International Accreditation Service
  o City of Aurora Building Division (Colorado’s first and only building department to achieve accreditation)
• Aurora Chamber of Commerce
  o Man of the Year Award: Mayor Ed Tauer
• Men’s Health Magazine: No. 5 best city in “America’s Best & Worst Cities for Men”
• Women’s Health Magazine: No. 10 best city in “America’s Best & Worst Cities for Women”
• U.S. News and World Report Best Children’s Hospitals: The Children’s Hospital ranked seventh among the nation's 10 best pediatric hospitals

2007
• Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) Distinguished Service Award
  o Distinguished Service Award: Mayor Ed Tauer (shared with Denver and Lakewood mayors for their role in the 2006 Colorado Colfax Marathon)
• DRCOG Metro Vision and Local Government Innovations Award
  o Gold – Planning With a Vision Category: City of Aurora Senior Housing Program
- Silver – Community Outreach/Public Education Category: Aurora Water Youth Education Program
- International City/County Management Association (ICMA)
  - Program Excellence Award: City of Aurora’s “Nature as Your Neighbor: The Joys and Responsibilities of Living Next to Nature” program
- National Association of Clean Water Agencies
  - Gold Peak Performance Award: Aurora Water’s Sand Creek Reuse Facility
- Partnership for Safe Drinking Water (EPA/AWWA)
  - Director’s Award: Wemlinger and Griswold Water Treatment Facilities
- Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education
  - PreK-12 Education Award: Water Conservation Office Education Program/Youth Water Festival
- American Council of Engineering Companies and the National Society of Professional Engineers’ Professional Engineers in Private Practice Division
  - National Qualifications-based Selection Award of Merit: Aurora Water
- Colorado Drinking Water Excellence Program
  - Bronze Environmental Achievement Award: Wemlinger and Griswold Water Treatment Facilities
- American Water Works Association’s Rocky Mountain Section
  - Ralph M. Leidholdt Water Treatment Plant Operator Award: Kevin Linder, Wemlinger Water Treatment Facility
- Water Environment Federation (WEF)
  - Laboratory Analyst Award: Leah O’Connor, Aurora Water Quality Control Laboratory
- Western Resource Advocate
  - “Top Drop” Award (excellence in water conservation programs): Aurora Water Conservation Office
- Geospatial Information and Technology Association (GITA) Innovator Award
- Colorado Lottery 2007 Starburst Conservation Award
- Digital Cities Survey’s Top Digital Cities in America (for cities with 250,000 or more population)
  - First Place
- National Association of Telecommunication Officers and Advisors Awards
  - Aurora 8: First Place for Asian Film Festival Coverage and Second Place for the station’s Library, Recreation & Cultural Services promotional piece
- Center for Resource Conservation Water Conservation Award
  - Excellence in Water Conservation
- Public Relations Society of America Colorado Chapter Silver Pick Award
  - Special Events (Events with Budgets of $25,000 or More): KidSpree
- International Festival & Events Association Pinnacle Awards
  - Bronze Pinnacle: Best Media Relations Campaign (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
- National Bond Buyer Southwest Deal of the Year
  - City of Aurora’s Prairie Waters Project Series 2007A Bond
- Government Finance Officers’ Association (GFOA)
  - Distinguished Budget Presentation Award
- Colorado Association of Libraries Awards
  - President’s Award: Patti Bateman, City of Aurora library services manager
  - Collaborative Project of the Year Finalist: Joint Aurora Public Library and Arapahoe Library District BIG READ 2007 project
- MetLife Foundation Community/Police Partnership Award
- Original Aurora Renewal’s Weed and Seed Operation
- National League of Cities Showcase
  - Art in Public Places awarded participation
- Home Builders Association of Metro Denver
  - Community of the Year: Southshore, a waterside neighborhood in southeast Aurora
- Denver Parade of Homes
  - Southshore (also in 2000 at Tallyn’s Reach)
- *U.S. News and World Report* Best Children’s Hospitals: The Children’s Hospital ranked fourth among the nation's 10 best pediatric hospitals

### 2006
- Denver Regional Council of Governments (DRCOG) Metro Vision and Local Government Innovations Awards
  - Extraordinary Service Program
  - Weed and Seed Program
- International City/County Management Association Program Excellence Awards
  - Asian/Pacific Community Partnership
  - Home of Our Own Program
- Digital Cities Survey’s Top Digital Cities in America (for cities with 250,000 or more population)
  - Fourth Place
- International Festival & Events Association Pinnacle Awards
  - Silver Pinnacle: Best Media Relations Campaign (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
- National Association of Telecommunication Officers and Advisors Awards
  - Aurora 8: First Place for Excellence in Government Programming, First Place for “Trial By Jury” and Second Place for “Aurora News Weekly”
- National Accreditation Honors
  - Re-accreditation from the Commission on the Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies – Aurora Police Department (accredited since 2000)
- Aurora Chamber of Commerce
  - Humanitarian of the Year Award: Victim Assistance Supervisor Carole O’Shea
- Kiplinger Business Resource Center/Kosmont-Rose Institute Study: Named the country’s third most tax-friendly city for businesses

### 2005
- National Accreditation Honors
  - Full accreditation from the Commission of Fire Accreditation International – Aurora Fire Department
- Digital Cities Survey’s Top Digital Cities in America (for cities with 250,000 or more population)
  - Tied for Fourth Place
- National Association of Telecommunication Officers and Advisors Awards
  - Aurora 8: First Place for “Journey Through the Link,” First Place for an Aurora Senior Center promotional video and First Place for a New Hire Orientation video
- International Festival & Events Association Pinnacle Awards
  - Gold Pinnacle: Best Press/Media Kit (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
  - Silver Pinnacle: Best Media Relations Campaign (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
  - Bronze Pinnacle: Best Pin (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
- Aurora Chamber of Commerce
2004

- *Sports Illustrated* Award: Aurora named “50th Anniversary Sportstown USA” for the state of Colorado
- National Accreditation Honors
  - Accreditation from the National Institute for Senior Centers – Aurora Senior Center
- Digital Cities Survey’s Top Digital Cities in America (for cities with 250,000 or more population)
  - Fifth Place
- International Festival & Events Association Pinnacle Awards
  - Gold Pinnacle: Best Media Relations Campaign (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
  - Silver Pinnacle: Best New Single Sponsorship Program (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
- National Association of Telecommunication Officers and Advisors Awards
  - Gold Pinnacle: Best Media Relations Campaign (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
  - Gold Pinnacle: Best New Single Sponsorship Program (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
  - Silver Pinnacle: Best Press/Media Kit (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
  - Gold Pinnacle: Best Pin (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
  - Gold Pinnacle: Best New Event (within an existing event) (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
  - Bronze Pinnacle: Best Volunteer Program (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree

2003

- Aurora Chamber of Commerce
  - Woman of the Year: Sheila Anthony
- International Festival & Events Association Pinnacle Awards
  - Gold Pinnacle: Best Media Relations Campaign (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
  - Gold Pinnacle: Best New Single Sponsorship Program (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
  - Silver Pinnacle: Best Press/Media Kit (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
  - Gold Pinnacle: Best Pin (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
  - Bronze Pinnacle: Best Volunteer Program (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree

2002

- International Festival & Events Association Pinnacle Awards
  - Gold Pinnacle: Best Press/Media Kit (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
- Aurora Chamber of Commerce
  - Man of the Year Award: Council Member John Paroske

2001

- International Festival & Events Association Pinnacle Awards
  - Gold Pinnacle: Best Press/Media Kit (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
  - Gold Pinnacle: Best New Single Sponsorship Program (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
  - Silver Pinnacle: Best Volunteer Program (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
- Public Relations Society of America Colorado Chapter Silver Pick Award
  - Gold Pick: Best Media Relations Campaign – KidSpree

2000

- International Festival & Events Association Pinnacle Awards
  - Silver Pinnacle: Best Press/Media Kit (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
  - Bronze Pinnacle: Best New Event Within an Event (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
• Aurora Chamber of Commerce
  o Woman of the Year: Council Member Nadine Caldwell

1999
• Aurora Chamber of Commerce
  o Woman of the Year Award: Council Member Barbara Cleland
• International Festival & Events Association Pinnacle Awards
  o Gold Pinnacle: Best New Event Within an Event (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
  o Silver Pinnacle: Most Creative/Effective News Stunt (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree
  o Bronze Pinnacle: Best Press/Media Kit (Events with Budgets Under $250,000) – KidSpree

1998
• International Festival & Events Association Pinnacle Awards
  o Bronze Pinnacle – Best New Single Sponsorship Program (Events with Budgets Under $250,000): KidSpree
• Public Relations Society of America Colorado Chapter Awards
  o Gold Pick: Best Single New Sponsorship Program – KidSpree
  o Gold Pick: Best Event Photograph – KidSpree

1997
• Aurora Chamber of Commerce
  o Woman of the Year Award: Council Member Edna Mosley

1996
• Aurora Chamber of Commerce
  o Man of the Year Award: Mayor Paul Tauer (also received as a council member in 1983)
  o Woman of the Year Award: Council Member Ingrid Lindemann

1995
• Aurora Chamber of Commerce
  o Man of the Year: Council Member Steve Hogan
  o Humanitarian of the Year Award: Judge Loretta Huffine
Media Contacts – Aurora, Colorado
(Updated June 2015)

Communications Department
Kim Stuart, Communications Director, 303-739-7008, kstuart@auroragov.org
Lori MacKenzie, Public Relations Manager, 303-739-7569, lmackenz@auroragov.org
John Leavitt, Senior Public Information Officer, 303-739-7181, jleavitt@auroragov.org
Abraham Morales, Senior Public Information Officer, 303-739-7013, amorales@auroragov.org
Julie Patterson, Senior Public Information Officer, 303-739-6617, jpatters@auroragov.org

Animal Care
Cheryl Conway, Public Relations Specialist, 303-326-8292, cconway@auroragov.org

Aurora Golf
Karin Rivale, Marketing Specialist, 303-739-7891, krivale@auroragov.org

Fire Department
Capt. Diane Schroeder, Public Information Officer, 303-326-8999, dlord@auroragov.org

Parks, Recreation and Open Space Department
Sherri-Jo Stowell, Marketing/Projects Specialist, 303-739-7161, sstowell@auroragov.org

Police Department
Sgt. Chris Amsler, Media Relations Unit Supervisor, 303-739-6616, camsler@auroragov.org
Officer Diana Cooley, Public Information Officer, 303-739-6840, dcooley@auroragov.org
On-call Public Information Officer, 720-432-5095
Email: apdpio@auroragov.org

Water Department
Greg Baker, Manager, Public Relations Manager, 303-739-7081, gbaker@auroragov.org
Gabrielle Johnston, Senior Public Information Officer, 303-739-7662, gjohnst@auroragov.org
Elizabeth Lefebvre, Public Relations Specialist (Capital Improvement), 303-326-6513, elefebvr@auroragov.org

City of Aurora • 15151 E. Alameda Parkway, Aurora, CO 80012 • 303.739.7000 • auroragov.org