

POTENTIAL TEEN/YOUTH COUNCIL

TOWN COUNCIL
JUNE 18, 2024



GROUPS IN OTHER AREAS

- **Douglas County:** 25-member Youth Commission advises Commissioners on pertinent matters, including how to promote smoking cessation, youth suicide prevention, mental health help and more
- **Lone Tree:** Similar role to County's commission and awards Outstanding Youth of Lone Tree. Five to nine eighth to 12th-graders meet monthly and have an annual budget of \$5,000
- **Parker:** Similar role to others; implements social, educational, public safety, cultural, recreational, service and leadership activities for youth. Nine ninth to 12th-graders meet monthly and have an annual budget of \$8,500
- Other jurisdictions including Englewood, Northglenn and Superior also have youth commissions

EXISTING TOWN GROUPS

- **Teen Advisory Group:** Helps plan Parks and Recreation activities of youth. Twelve seventh to to 12th-graders meet monthly, coordinated by a dedicated staff member but with no dedicated budget
- **Teen Court:** Provides 20 youth the opportunity to get involved in criminal justice, serve the community and grow skills. Staffed by a prosecutor at about \$18,000 annually; the program budget is \$4,800
- **Fire Explorer:** Encourages youth to go beyond high school education, teaches leadership skills and forms friendships. Nineteen members are ages 14 to 20, coordinated by a member of the Fire Department, with an annual budget of \$5,000
- **Police Explorer:** Assist CRPD by working Town events and projects. Twelve members are ages 13 to 20 are advised by Police Department members, with an annual budget of \$15,000
- **Youth Police Academy:** Provides 60 youth the opportunity to learn and build leadership. Overseen by SROs, this program does not have a dedicated budget

OTHER INFORMATION

- Town's existing five teen programs serve 125 youth and represent \$50,000 in Town investment
- Town also invests \$19,800 annually toward Douglas County Youth Initiative, which coordinates youth-serving efforts and assesses young residents' needs
- If Council wishes to add another teen/youth group within the Town, staff recommends exploring whether the Teen Advisory Group Coordinator can take this on; otherwise, staff recommends hiring another, similar position to coordinate a new Teen/Youth Council, should Council decide to pursue that concept
 - If current staff can assist, the group could be in place in August; if not, it would take at least a couple additional months
- The anticipated cost of adding another teen/youth group is up to \$12,000, about a third for the coordinator, with the rest for programming, based on neighboring communities' budgets



POTENTIAL MOTION

“I move to direct staff to amend the 2024 Budget to include related expenses to establish a Youth Commission this year.”