

2023 TOWN OF EATON ANNUAL REPORT

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



Greetings,

As we wrap up another year and look ahead to the big plans in 2024, I want to reflect on the great foundation we laid in 2023.

2023 was about taking big ideas and turning them into actions. Our Town

staff has worked hard to formulate construction and development plans, apply for (and were awarded) several significant grants, and keep our Town moving forward. Their hard work is much appreciated and is reflected in our accomplishments and future plans.

Thank you, Eaton community, for your continued dedication to our Town and for providing us with your feedback and opinions. Eaton belongs to all of us who live here, and we will continue to shape it into a place we are all proud to call home today and tomorrow.

Thank you,

Scott Moser

MAYOR SCOTT MOSER

EATON'S SIX STRATEGIC PILLARS

The Eaton Town Board has used these six “pillars” to guide Town decisions since 2022. With the data points and anecdotal stories found on the next pages, you’ll see how we’ve expanded our community engagement, added programs for a variety of ages, sustained our safe community with our active police force, and so much more.



Setting the Foundation for Our Future

BY THE NUMBERS

PARKS MASTER PLAN

In 2023, the Town heard from many of you at our Open House event and by answering a community survey regarding our Parks Master Plan. And a second survey was available in January 2024. Results can be viewed online. Our planners are busy evaluating your feedback and will release a plan in 2024 that will outline what the next several years will look like to upgrade playground equipment, add amenities, and make our parks into something our whole community can enjoy and love.

LIBRARY PROJECTS

The Eaton Public Library made some big moves in 2023. A new, full-time, Spanish-speaking Outreach Librarian was added to the staff and continues to do on-site visits with our seniors and youth. The 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program was launched with a \$15,000 grant from the Weld Trust Foundation, to grow literacy skills and provide free books to ages 0-5 and their caregivers. We also heard your feedback during community meetings to help us create our new outdoor space for children. This will be ready for all to enjoy in 2024. Finally, the library has laid plans to purchase a bookmobile. Look out for it at parades, schools, and around town this year!



CEMETERY EXPANSION

2023 was all about laying the groundwork for our cemetery expansion. The land was regraded, we installed irrigation and built roads. In 2024, you'll see beautification and the finishing touches! This spring, we will plant grass seeds and trees and install the columbariums.

THANK YOU FOR 2A!

We want to thank you, our residents, for voting YES on a ballot initiative last November to increase our Sales & Use Tax by 1% to be used as a dedicated street fund! We will kick off these street repairs and maintenance with a full rebuild of South Christensen from Collins Street to the southern limit of town. This project will be about \$1 million, an additional \$800,000 will be spent for street maintenance projects, including segments of Cherry Ave, First St, Fifth St, Hawkstone Dr, Mountain View Dr, Fourth St Rd, and Cheyenne Ave.



GRANT AWARDS

Applying for grants is a large undertaking, but we wouldn't be able to embark on such ambitious projects such as our Downtown Revitalization Plan without them. Our Town staff worked hard this year and was awarded over \$3.6 million in grant funding! This is a huge testament to our staff's attention to detail and fiscal responsibility. These funds will help us to complete projects such as ramp reconstruction on sidewalks to meet ADA standards, replace over 300 residential water meters, and bring our Downtown Revitalization Plan to life with numerous improvements in 2024. The Town will also be able to complete other smaller planning and operational projects.

COMMUNITY POLICING

You likely saw the Eaton Police Department out and about in 2023, engaging with the community and hosting events! Our officers made appearances at Eaton Days and Old Fashioned Christmas and cohosted the End of Summer Bash with the Fire Department. They collected over 100 pounds of prescription drugs at two Drug Takeback days. They also supported our community through the No Shave November fundraiser for men's hygiene products and spread joy to our youngest community members with the Toys From a Cop Giving Tree program.



NEW BUSINESSES

BRICK AND MORTAR: **10**

HOME OCCUPATION: **1**



BUILDING PERMITS

NEW RESIDENTIAL: **0**

NEW COMMERCIAL: **0**

RESIDENTIAL OTHER: **137**

COMMERCIAL OTHER: **30**



LIBRARY

MATERIALS CIRCULATED: **71,816**

LIBRARY VISITS: **39,220**

PROGRAMS: **765**

PROGRAM ATTENDEES: **11,790**



POLICE

DEPARTMENT CLEARANCE RATE: **96.7%**

CALLS FOR SERVICE: **6,164**

TICKETS: **1,702**



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS: **4,764**

E-NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBERS: **1,518**

LOOKING TO 2024

Big Changes are Coming to Downtown!

We are so excited to kick off the construction phase of our Downtown Revitalization Plan in 2024! You'll start to see construction begin in the first half of 2024, and we promise it will be worth it.

Our Downtown is getting a complete facelift, with the goal of turning First Street into a thriving downtown core from Oak Avenue to Cheyenne Avenue. This has been a goal in our Comprehensive Plan since 2020, and after much community feedback, we have a solid plan and vision. The Town also received a \$1.5 million grant from the Department of Local Affairs' Main Street LIVE Initiative as well as \$1.15 million from CDOT Revitalizing Main Streets. With the help of these grants, you will see the following improvements made this year:


Road reconstruction	Street trees with improved landscaping
Sidewalk reconstruction and widening	Permanent Parklets
Curb, gutter, and drainage replacement/improvements	New entrance monument on 1st and 85
Underground utility improvements, including water lines, stormwater pipes, manholes, and a rain garden	12,000-square-foot parking lot extension between the 200 block of 1st and Town Square
Streetlights added	5,000-square-foot outdoor seating plaza


Find more information about the plan on our website, and stay tuned to the Town's Facebook page and email newsletters for construction updates. We look forward to celebrating our new Downtown this summer at Eaton Days!




STAY CONNECTED

Interested in learning more about our capital improvement projects, upcoming Board meetings, and community events? Follow us on Facebook, subscribe to our newsletter *Inside Eaton* through the "Living Here" tab on our website, or visit eatonco.org for the latest Town news.

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