



Centennial's Budget Reality

WHAT RESIDENTS NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE ROAD AHEAD

2026
Budget
Overview

The Challenge

Centennial is at a financial crossroads. Between now and 2035, the City's annual expenditures are expected to exceed revenue. By 2028, Centennial may not have enough funding to sustain the current level of maintenance for roads, bridges, traffic signals, and other essential infrastructure.

Without action, roads will deteriorate, safety risks will grow, and Centennial will fall further behind on critical projects — including the \$100 million in improvements identified in the City's Transportation Master Plan.

KEY NUMBERS

\$100 million in transportation improvements identified in the Transportation Master Plan

\$20 million needed annually to fund ongoing critical infrastructure maintenance

By 2028, a shortfall of funding will force difficult decisions about services and investments

What \$20 Million Funds

- Road repair and maintenance — pothole repair, pavement preservation, and repaving
- Sidewalks and on-street bike paths — maintaining, completing, and expanding connections
- Bridges and traffic signals — replacing and modernizing aging infrastructure (some up to 40 years old)
- Traffic safety — crosswalks, lighting, intersection improvements, and safer routes for pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers
- Year-round street maintenance — routine upkeep, including snow removal, street sweeping, and striping

A Potential Solution

If Centennial's sales tax went from 2.5% to 3.5%, it would generate roughly \$23 million annually — enough to fund the City's most critical infrastructure needs.

WHY THIS APPROACH?

Protects the General Fund — preserves funding for neighborhood services, traffic enforcement, and other resident-facing programs

Spreads the cost fairly — visitors and commuters who use Centennial's roads contribute alongside residents

Below the Front Range average — at 3.5%, Centennial's rate would still be lower than the regional average of 3.63%

Centennial has raised its sales tax
only once in its 25-year history.

YOUR VOICE MATTERS

No decisions have been made. City Council will review community input and determine next steps in August. Learn more and share your input at YourCityBudget.co

