

GOVERNMENT

Colorado Special Legislative Session Live on The Colorado Channel



THE COLORADO CHANNEL

A special session for the Colorado Legislature has been announced beginning August 21 to address a \$1.2 billion budget deficit and Colorado's pioneering new AI law. The deficit stems from changes in the federal budget bill. Budget solutions on the table include drawing from state reserves, revising tax policies, and reducing previously approved expenditures.

All House and Senate sessions—including this special session—are live streamed and available on demand through The Colorado Channel, which relies on Open Media to archive and preserve legislative sessions for public access and transparency.

[Read CPR News article for more details](#)



Lyons, CO on Open.Media



Downtown Lyons

Nestled in northern Boulder County at the confluence of the North and South St. Vrain Creeks, Lyons lays claim to the moniker "Double Gateway to the Rockies," thanks to its position along State Highway 7 and U.S. Highway 36 leading directly to Rocky Mountain National Park. Founded by Edward S. Lyon in 1880 and incorporated a decade later in 1891, the town emerged around the quarrying of famed red sandstone. Its sandstone schoolhouse—built in 1881 and now the Lyons Redstone Museum—once served as the town's hub for meetings and education, and today preserves its storied past ([Wikipedia](#)).

Lyons is a small but vibrant statutory town with just over 2,200 residents recorded in the 2020 census, reflecting modest growth from 2010. The town's demographic profile, drawn from 2022 data, reveals a median age of around 45.6 years and a median household income of \$131,179. Most households average three people, and nearly all residents hold at least a high school diploma. Together, these figures paint the picture of a well-educated, relatively affluent, and close-knit mountain community.



Town of Lyons Homepage

Lyons' old-world charm and beauty shine through its historic architecture, outdoor events, and natural surroundings. Highlights include the Lyons Redstone Museum, local shops, and eateries lining West Main Street. Outdoor aficionados enjoy tubing, fishing, and relaxing along the St. Vrain Creeks, and countless nearby hiking and biking trails, including the popular Heil Valley Ranch and Button Rock paths. Cultural life flourishes too—Planet Bluegrass hosts beloved festivals like [RockyGrass and the Folks Festival](#), and the town features public art and studio tours.



Open Media Session

Lyons' local government sustains transparency and community involvement through frequent public meetings. The Board of Trustees and the Planning & Community Development Commission (PCDC) convene regularly at Town Hall, with options to participate live or via livestream. Agendas and meeting packets are made available online ahead of time, and records are archived for public review. These meetings handle crucial matters—from annexation and noise ordinances to intergovernmental agreements—and emphasize accessibility through recorded videos and clear documentation ([townoflyons.com](#)).

[Watch Town of Lyons Public Meetings Live and On Demand](#)

Advocacy and Engagement

Avoiding Legal Trouble: How Streaming Helps Municipalities Stay Compliant

For municipalities, staying **compliant with open meeting laws** isn't just a matter of good governance—it's a legal obligation. Sunshine Laws, including the Colorado Open Meetings Law, require that public meetings be accessible to all and that decisions are made in an open forum. While these requirements may sound straightforward, violations can occur unintentionally through inadequate notice, limited accessibility, or a lack of thorough public records. Streaming public meetings provides a clear path to avoiding these pitfalls. By offering **real-time access online**, municipalities ensure that the public can attend regardless of physical constraints, distance, or scheduling conflicts. In addition, recorded streams create a verifiable record of proceedings, protecting both the public's right to know and the municipality's legal standing.



Implementing a reliable streaming solution not only safeguards against legal missteps but also **builds public trust**. Platforms like Open Media are designed specifically for government transparency, making it simple for clerks and staff to schedule, broadcast, and archive meetings in compliance with state and federal requirements. By cataloging and storing meetings, Open Media reduces the risk of missing documentation and makes it easy to provide on-demand access. In an era when the public expects convenient digital access, streaming is more than just a compliance measure—it's an essential tool for demonstrating accountability, fostering civic engagement, and protecting your municipality from costly legal challenges.

CAREER ENGINE



Our **Open Media Career Engine** is a service offered to Employers in the Media & Journalism sector to help you find and hire more diverse jobseekers. This program has helped over 40 employers in Colorado's Media & Journalism field hire POC jobseekers at more than double the industry average. We help craft your job description to appeal to diverse applicants, post it to over 20 job boards proven to generate more diverse jobseekers, and manage the screening process so that even the smallest HR team can afford a broad and inclusive hiring process developed by industry leaders.

Email careers@openmediafoundation.org to explore how the OMCE can help you with your next hire.

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