

GOVERNMENT

Cherry Hills Village, Colorado on Open.Media



Cherry Hills Village Homepage



City Hall of Cherry Hills Village



Cherry Hills Village Overlook

Cherry Hills Village is a home-rule city located in Arapahoe County, immediately south of Denver and only a few miles from downtown. The community developed from a largely rural landscape of farms, ranches, orchards, and country estates into one of the Denver metropolitan area's distinctive residential communities. Cherry Hills Village was formally incorporated in 1945, in part to preserve its spacious, low-density residential character as development expanded southward from Denver. That history remains visible today in the city's large lots, mature trees, equestrian traditions, open spaces, and historic properties. Despite being surrounded by a major metropolitan area, Cherry Hills Village has worked to retain the quiet and semi-rural atmosphere that has defined the community for generations.

According to the 2020 U.S. Census, Cherry Hills Village had 6,442 residents. Rather than a traditional commercial downtown, many of Cherry Hills Village's attractions center on recreation, trails, open space, and historic properties. The community is also home to the private Cherry Hills Country Club, whose golf course has hosted major championships and has become nationally associated with the city. Together, these amenities reflect Cherry Hills Village's longstanding emphasis on preserving green space and its connection to the landscape of Colorado's Front Range.

Cherry Hills Village supports public access to local government through its City Council meetings, online agendas, meeting packets, minutes, public notices, livestreams, and archived video recordings. City Council meetings are open to the public, and regular meetings include an Audience Participation Period in which residents may comment before the council. The city typically posts agendas and packets before regularly scheduled meetings and publishes approved minutes afterward. Most importantly for residents who cannot attend in person, Cherry Hills Village livestreams and records City Council meetings and provides an online archive of meeting videos, giving the public another way to follow discussions and decisions that affect their community. (cherryhillsvillage.com)

[Watch Cherry Hills Village public meetings live and on demand](#)

The Camera Doesn't Lie: How Video Is Transforming Government

Government accountability has always depended on witnesses. For most of American history, that meant journalists in the press gallery, engaged citizens in the public gallery, and a handful of civic organizations with the resources to monitor what elected officials were actually doing. That system worked reasonably well when local newsrooms were fully staffed and civic participation was higher. Today, with local news organizations closing at an alarming rate and public meeting attendance at historic lows, the witness model is under serious strain. The question facing communities across the country is straightforward: who is watching, and what happens when nobody is?



When the Recording Becomes the Record

Video has quietly become one of the most powerful tools in the civic accountability arsenal. A recorded public meeting does not forget, does not misquote, and cannot be pressured to soften its account of what was said and by whom. When a council member makes a promise during a budget hearing, the recording holds that promise intact. When an official's vote contradicts a public statement made six months earlier, the archive makes that contradiction visible and verifiable. Communities that have built consistent video records of their public meetings are finding that the recordings do not just document history — they actively shape how officials conduct themselves in the present. The camera, it turns out, has a measurable effect on accountability even when no one is watching in real time.

Open Access, Open Government

Platforms like open.media are making this kind of institutional memory accessible to communities that could never have built it before. By providing affordable, purpose-built tools for live-streaming, processing, and archiving public meeting video, open.media is giving small towns, school districts, and regional bodies the same transparency infrastructure that large city governments have long enjoyed. Journalists investigating local government can search archived footage for specific agenda items. Residents preparing to speak at a meeting can review how similar issues were handled in the past. Advocacy organizations can build documented, timestamped cases for policy change using the public record as their foundation. The result is a civic ecosystem where transparency is not a promise made in a mission statement but a practical, searchable, and shareable reality — one meeting, one recording, and one community at a time.

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EVENTS

Colorado State Fair August 28-September 7



The 2026 Colorado State Fair returns to Pueblo, bringing 11 days of agriculture, entertainment and Colorado tradition to the State Fairgrounds. Visitors can experience livestock shows and competitions, carnival rides, exhibits, family activities, fair food and live music, along with four nights of PRCA Rodeo from August 28-31. This year's celebration also coincides with America's 250th anniversary and Colorado's 150th anniversary, giving the fair an opportunity to highlight the history, culture and communities that have shaped the Centennial State.

The fair continues its emphasis on accessibility as well, with **Sensory Day** on Labor Day, September 7, offering reduced sound, fewer flashing lights and a quieter environment for visitors with sensory needs from 11am -2pm. For generations, the Colorado State Fair has provided a place where rural and urban Colorado come together, celebrating the state's agricultural heritage while marking the unofficial close of another Colorado summer.

[Visit the Colorado State Fair website](#)

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