

Colfax Connections

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Colfax Municipal Code Amendment Corrects An Old Error

By wstockwin2024@gmail.com

The **March 25 city council meeting** opened with Mayor Caroline McCully announcing that agenda item 5a – a public hearing about establishing an entertainment zone in the downtown historic district – had been pulled and would be brought back on a future agenda.

All members of the council were present.

Next up was the agenda’s second public hearing, this one dealing with amending the city municipal code to change “Special Public Services District (SPSD),” a designation that does not exist in the municipal code, to a “Public/Quasi Public” designation for land uses that provide for community, educational and cultural services, and for recreational facilities.

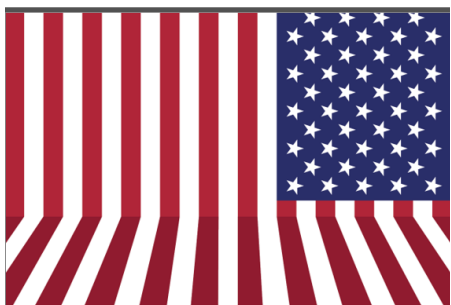
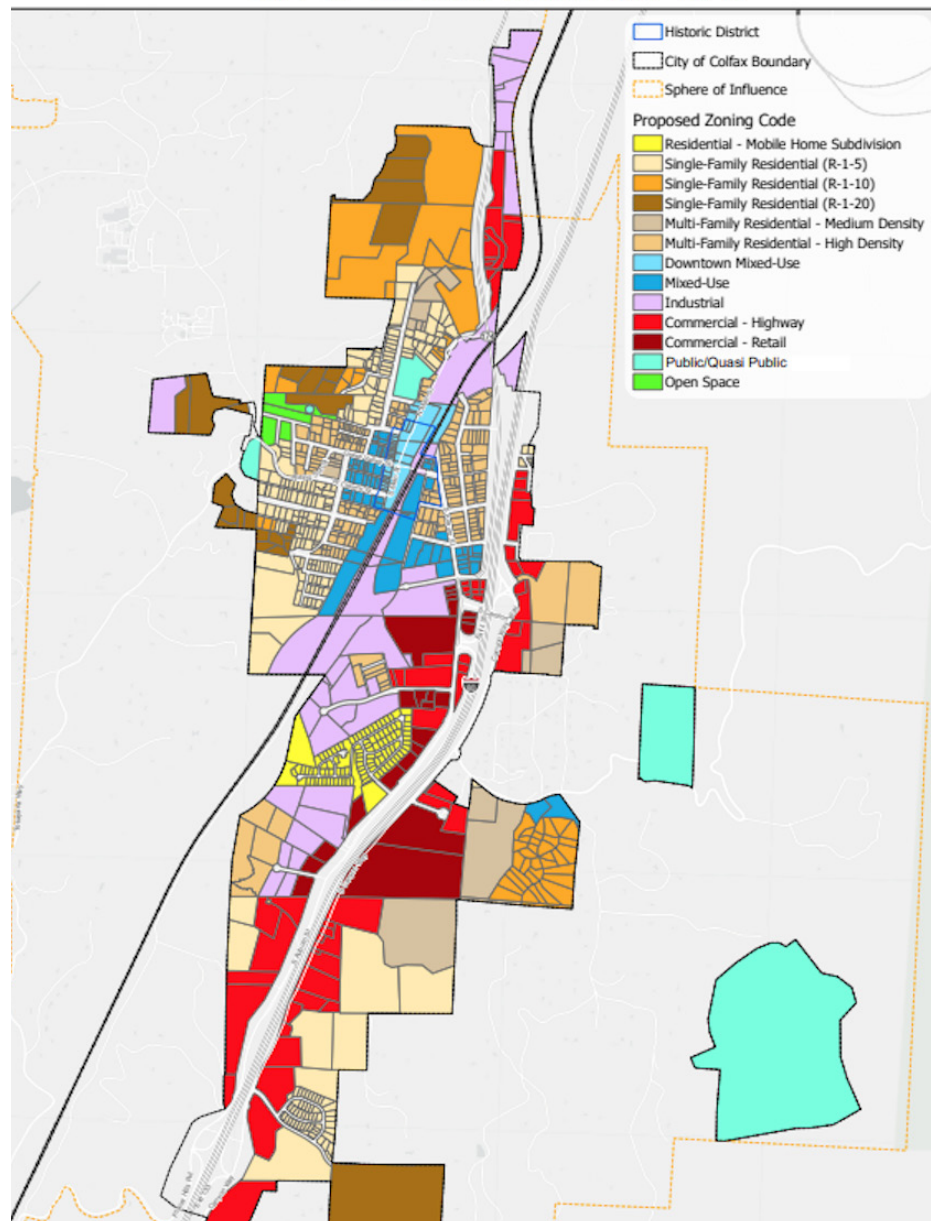
There are currently four properties in Colfax (see city zoning map below) that have the SPSD designation: the wastewater treatment Plant, the Sierra Vista Community Center, the old city landfill on Iowa Hill Road, and the Veterans Memorial Hall. City planner Kathy Pease said council approval of the item

would “clean up an error in the Municipal Code” and the council passed the item on a 5-0 vote.

The two items of official council business included correcting the minutes of the October 22,

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CITY OF COLFAX ZONING MAP 2026



2026 ELECTIONS

City Council elections will take place this November, and three Council seats will be on the ballot. For more information about candidacy requirements, please contact the City Manager.



City Council from page one

2025 meeting regarding the proposed disposable foodware, convenience retail and roadway impact fee ordinance (that was abandoned at the 3/11/26 council meeting), which passed 5-0, and approval of a resolution to make an application for Board of State and Community Corrections Proposition 64 Public Health and Safety Grant program.

The Prop. 64 program provides funding to local jurisdictions to address cannabis-related public health and safety impacts to the community, and could include public safety elements associated with the new skate park and security infrastructure.

Mayor Pro Tem Larry Hillberg asked why the city was applying for the grant funds when the city does not have a skate park, speculating that it sounded to him like a “back door” attempt to find the funds to bridge the quarter-million dollar shortfall in the proposed skate park’s construction financing.

City staff said that adoption of the resolution would not obligate the city to accept the grant funds if the grant conditions are determined to be infeasible or inconsistent with city priorities.

Hillberg is the only council member who would be directly impacted by a skate park due to its current proposed location immediately adjacent to his property.

City staff said that the grant funds would apply to all city property to improve public safety, but after hearing that a consultant had already been hired to write the grant application, Hillberg remained unconvinced. When a roll call vote was called for, he was the sole vote against applying for the grant and the item passed on a 4-1 vote.

The **March 11 city council meeting** opened with four council members in the room and Trinity Buruss attending via phone.

The first two of the three items of official council business dealt with a mid-year budget review and a separate review of the budget calendar for 2026-27. The mid-year budget review passed on a 5-0 vote after little discussion from the seven audience members or the council.

The short discussion on the budget calendar prompted a suggestion from Mayor Caroline McCully for a public budget workshop, and after a quick check of personal calendars, April 29 at

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HISTORIC COLFAX RAILROAD DAYS
 Invites you to see
UNION PACIFIC
 COAST-TO-COAST TOUR
4014
 Sunday April 12th, 2026
 10am-130pm
 Big Boy stop 12-1245pm
 Food * Vendors * Kids Zone
 Live Music & More
 Downtown Colfax, Ca



Continued from page 2

6:00 p.m. was the date and time continued that fit everyone’s schedules.

That left the meeting’s final business item: a request by city staff to abandon the development of a disposable foodware, convenience retail and roadway impact fee ordinance, because local business owners were against it.

The idea for such a fee came out of the October 22, 2025 council meeting during the initial discussion of the litter on city streets and roadways, and how to mitigate the problem. Burruss was credited with suggesting having city staff write a draft ordinance.

Mayor Pro Tem Larry Hillberg said dropping the idea of a fee sounded like ,the city “was going to continue eating the cost of cleaning up the litter and not ask for any help” from local merchants whose businesses contributed to the problem.

That’s when Burruss stepped in to say she’d never asked for a fee or an ordinance at the October 22 meeting. She said that instead, she had suggested that city staff could look into examining all aspects of the problem with a nexus study to determine “costs and potential mitigation steps.”

Asked by the mayor what the council should do with the item before them, Burruss said they should just drop it. And by unanimous vote, that’s what they did. With no further official business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

April 2026 council meetings on the 8th and 22nd.

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Colfax Connections is a monthly city publication edited by Will Stockwin, who can be contacted via e-mail at **wstockwin2024@gmail.com**. All submissions are welcome, the earlier the better.

Submissions deadline is the 20th of the previous month.

STAFF
Photography – Alan Shuttleworth
Assistant To Editor – LindaLou Haines

Hard Copies of Colfax Connections can be found at City Hall, the Colfax Library, Colfax Area Chamber of Commerce, Colfax Heritage Museum and Snapdragon Cafe.

Digital copies can also be found on the Chamber’s Website at (www.ColfaxChamber.com) and on the City’s Website at (www.colfax-ca.gov).



Business Briefs with Lindalou Haines

Craftfolk Collective invites you to be part of a new community craft school of classes and workshops to enjoy in community and taught by regional artists, plus a weekly self-led craft club.

The creator and facilitator of Craftfolk is **Gretchen Boyce (at right)**, who has lived in Colfax since 2019. Since moving here, she has wanted to find ways to create a community of like-minded crafting folks. She herself is a fabric artist.



Her first Craftfolk workshop was held this past February. She found there was a resurgence since Covid for folks to gather and hangout, in other words for community. As a result, her efforts have been well received. She uses no social media to advertise, thus word of mouth is the key to her success.

In addition to the expert-led classes and workshops, every Thursday, 4-6 pm a free Craft Club is held for crafters to share and to bring their own craft to work on in community with others.

Just show up with your craft works in hand. What a fun idea! I'll bring my mandala coloring book and colored pencils.

All classes and workshops are held at Snapdragon Cafe, 38 N.Main St. During non-business , you can enter through the back door off the alley directly into the lounge in the back room of Snapdragon.

Recently, the class that was held for Craftfolk was an Introduction to Natural Perfumery. Gretchen was present to greet folks and to participate in the class herself. The teacher was Loreto Remsing, L'Aromatica Perfume Laro Fragrance. Loreto uses no synthetics, but she sources the



Loreto Remsing, seen here with Colfax Farmers Market manager Jen Mullin, teaches Introduction to Natural Perfumery.

whole natural plant to make the perfumes.

In conjunction with Snapdragon, Craftfolk is presenting Fork & Palette on April 18, 6-9 pm. It promises to be an entertaining evening for those who come to paint a ceramic plate as well as for the folks who come only to enjoy the live music and purchase a 'mocktail' and nosh on small bites of goodies.

Folks who want to paint a plate need to make reservations ahead of time. You can do so at hello@craftfolkcollective.com. You can also sign up for her newsletter by that email. The website is Craftfolkcollective.com. Her phone for text and voice is 570-269-1807.

Hours for Snapdragon for now are Tuesday through Saturday, 8:30 - 2:30. Stay tuned for updated hours in the near future.

To share your Colfax business news, email me, lindalouhaines14@gmail.com.

Photos by Alan Shuttleworth

april at CRAFTFOLK



Community Craft Club - FREE
Thursday
4-6pm **2**



Herbal Infused Oils & Salves
Saturday
1-4pm **4**



Beginner Crochet
Tuesdays
3/31 & 4/7
6-8pm **7**



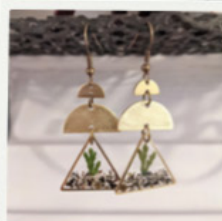
Community Craft Club - FREE
Thursday
4-6pm **9**



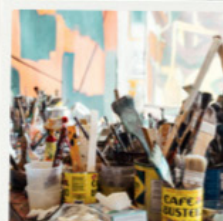
Goat Milk Soap
Saturday
10am-Noon **11**



Painting with Tissue Paper on Glass
Tuesday
6-8:30pm **14**



Resin Earrings
Saturday
1-4pm **18**



Community Craft Club - FREE
Thursday
4-6pm **23**



Beginner Punch Needle
Sat & Sun, 9am-Noon **25/26**



Community Craft Club - FREE
Thursday
4-6pm **30**



Find it on  Libby.

—Shelby Van Pelt, author of Remarkably Bright Creatures

THE
PARIS
EXPRESS

A NOVEL

EMMA
DONOGHUE

BESTSELLING AUTHOR OF ROOM

**COLFAX LIBRARY
BOOK CLUB**

WEDNESDAY APR 8 | 2PM



Wet And Gusty Winter 2025 Turns Into A Hot, Dry Spring 2026

By wstockwin2024@gmail.com

After a wet and windy start to the 2025-26 wet season last fall, giving us 26.3 inches to start 2026 with, January and February produced just 9.8 inches. Still, we started March with 36.1 inches, just 13.3 inches off from where we finished last year's wet season.

The surprise in March was getting no rain at all, and over the last 18 years (2007–2025) April has not been an especially wet month. So the odds of making up any March shortfall in April aren't good. The 18-year average for April showers is 3.6 inches.

In 11 of those 18 years April recorded less than 5 inches total for the month. The lowest April total was .5 inches in 2009, just slightly lower than the .9 inches recorded in 2023.

May is typically when our dry season starts here on the Sierra Foothills western slope, but don't be surprised if CalFire shuts down the burn season before then.

And, according to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA):

- NOAA ranks 2025 as the third-warmest winter in its global temperature record dating back to 1850.
- Upper ocean heat content chucked up a record



Downtown Colfax, February 19, 2026.

Photo by Alan Shuttleworth

high in 2025.

- Annual sea ice extent for both the Arctic and Antarctic regions ranked among the three lowest years on record.
- The Northern Hemisphere snow cover extent was the third lowest on record.



***The 2026 SVC Farmers Market
Will Be Starting On Thursday, May 14th,
Same Location On South Main St.,
Between W. Grass Valley And Church Sts.
Open From 4 P.M. to 7:30 P.M.***

Chamber of Commerce Notes and Events

Spring will come and so will happiness. Hold on. Life will get warmer.
Anita Krizzan



Spring is in full effect and while the weather is warming up, it's the perfect time to get outside and visit our local museums. This month we are highlighting our member the **Golden Drift Museum**.

The Golden Drift Museum is located in Dutch Flat and gets its name from the Golden Drift Historical Society, which was named after the gold mining company that existed in Dutch Flat in the early 1900s.

The Museum and Historical Society are dedicated to the preservation of the history of the area, including the towns of Gold Run, Dutch Flat, Alta, Towel and Baxter. The museum has photographs depicting some of the history from churches, Native American and Chinese heritage, mining towns and more.

The museum also displays artifact exhibits including Chinese joss house artifacts, Fraternal order memorabilia, Native American projectile points and mining and railroad relics.

The Golden Drift Historical Society serves to preserve the historical heritage of the surrounding communities. The Society provides docents and operates the Golden Drift Museum.

They provide a library of research material and support to local nonprofits responsible for maintaining historical buildings in the area.

The Golden Drift Museum is located at 32820 Main Street, Dutch Flat, CA 95714. The museum is open Friday – Sunday from 12:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Every year on the Saturday before Memorial Day the museum hosts an Open House to celebrate the year's grand opening.

To contact the Golden Drift Museum call (530) 889-6500. Their web site is <https://www.golden-drift.org/events>.

As always, look for ways to get involved in the community. The City Council holds meetings on the second and fourth Wednesday of the month starting at 6 p.m.

The Chamber hosts a Coffee and Conversations on the first Friday of the month at the Train Depot from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m.

Thank you from all of us at the Colfax Area Chamber of Commerce.

Amanda Palmquist, CACC President



www.ColfaxChamber.com

99 Railroad St. (Physical),

PO Box 86 (Mailing),

Colfax, Ca 95713

(530) 346-8888

Tacos for Fireworks

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo &
Taco Tuesday with the



3RD of JULY

Tacos, Burritos, Drinks,
Margaritas & Music

**Tuesday May 5th
430-730pm
Roy Tom Plaza**



JOIN US FOR STORYTIME!



Books, songs, rhymes, bounces, and playtime for babies 0-24 months.

- Auburn: Tuesdays 9:30
- Colfax: Wednesdays 10:30am
- Granite Bay: Wednesdays 10:30am
- Rocklin: Thursdays 10:30am
- Kings Beach: Wednesdays 10:30am
- Tahoe City: Fridays 10:30am

Movement, songs, and books to develop First 5 skills for children ages 18-36 months.

- Auburn: Wednesdays 9:30
- Colfax: Thursdays 10:30am
- Granite Bay: Thursdays 10:30am
- Rocklin: Wednesdays 10:30am & Fridays 9:30am



Stories, songs, and activities for children ages 3-5 years old.

- Auburn: Mondays 9:30
- Colfax: Fridays 10:30am
- Foresthill: Thursdays 10:30am
- Granite Bay: Fridays 10:30am
- Rocklin: Wednesdays 10:30am
- Kings Beach: Tuesdays 10:30am
- Tahoe City: Thursdays 10:30am



SCAN ME! for more details about storytime, scan the QR code.

COUNTY OF
Placer
LIBRARY SERVICES

Churches

Colfax Assembly of God Community Fellowship
252 Culver St., Colfax, CA 95713
Email: colfaxesag@gmail.com
Website: <http://www.colfaxagca.org/>

Colfax Baptist Church
24850 Ben Taylor Rd., Colfax, CA 95713
530-346-8110
Email: pastorgaryhoward@yahoo.com
Website: <http://colfaxbaptist.com/>

Colfax United Methodist Church
59 W. Church St., Colfax, CA 95713
530-346-2267
Website: <https://www.colfaxumc.org/>

Kingdom Hall of Jehovah Witnesses
944 Canyon Way, Colfax, CA 95713
530-346-2525
Website: <https://www.jw.org/en/>

St. Dominic's Catholic Church
589 E. Oak St., Colfax, CA 95713
530-346-2286
Website: <https://www.scd.org/parish/st-dominic-parish-colfax>

Seventh Day Adventist
454 Scholtz Ave., Colfax, CA 95713
530-346-8844
Website: <https://www.colfaxsdachurch.com>

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
1875 S. Auburn St., Colfax, CA 95713
530-346-7702
Website: <https://www.lds.org/>

Social Organizations

American Legion Post 192
22 Sunset Dr., Colfax, CA 95713
530-305-7526
Website: <http://norwellpost192.org>

Historic Colfax Downtown Association
P.O. Box 396
Colfax, CA 95713
(916)548-9198
info@historiccolfax.com

Colfax Area Chamber of Commerce
99 S. Railroad St., Colfax, CA 95713
530-346-8888
Website: <http://colfaxchamber.com>

Colfax Area Historical Society
Archives: PO Box 185, Colfax, CA 95713
Museum 99 Railroad St., Colfax, CA 95713
530-346-8599
Website: <https://colfaxhistory.org>

Colfax Garden Club
PO Box 1801, Colfax, CA 95713
530-269-9467
Website: <http://californiagardenclubs.com/content/colfax-garden-club>

Colfax Lions Club
PO Box 664, Colfax, CA 95713
530-477-2533
Website: <https://www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/colfaxca>

Colfax Visitors Center
99 S. Railroad St., Colfax, CA 95713
530-346-8888

Sierra Vista Center
55 School St., Colfax, CA 95713
530-346-8726 Website:
<https://sierravistacolfax.wordpress.com>

Soroptimist International of Colfax
PO Box 475, Colfax, CA 95713
530-637-4878

VFW Post 2003
22 Sunset Dr., Colfax, CA 95713
530-346-7768
<https://www.colfaxveterans.org/vfw.html>

Colfax VFW Auxillary 2003
22 Sunset Dr, Colfax, CA 95713
530-305-6936
VFW Auxiliary 2003@gmail.com
Website: <https://www.auxiliary.org>

Snapdragon & CRAFTFOLK
PROVISIONS

FORK & PALETTE

Free live music
Small bites and mocktails for purchase
Paint your own ceramic plate (\$30)



6:00 PM -
9:00 PM

APRIL 18
2026

38 N. Main St,
Colfax



RESERVE YOUR PLATE - \$30

<https://bit.ly/4szcq2z>