



News



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April 2026

Issue #4

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Big News for Brighton: Crusoe is Expanding!

Brighton EDC is proud to announce and welcome Crusoe to the Brighton community. As the industry's first vertically integrated AI infrastructure provider, Crusoe is launching its new 352,000-square-foot "Spark Factory" right here in the 76 Commerce Center.



Key Highlights:

\$200 Million Investment: Bringing cutting-edge advanced manufacturing to the I-76 industrial corridor.

200+ New Jobs: Hiring is already underway for high-salary roles in manufacturing, electrical engineering, and production operations.

This site will produce "Crusoe Spark™" prefabricated modular mini-data centers which can be transported and deployed individually as stand-alone computing hubs or grouped to form larger scale integrated compute clusters, in as little as three months.

"Speed is core to Crusoe's DNA," says Co-Founder Cully Cavness. By manufacturing these units in-house, Crusoe is revolutionizing how we build the future of AI. This new Crusoe Spark facility is expected to be completed in the third quarter of 2026, thanks to a collaboration between the Brighton EDC, other City of Brighton departments, Adams County, and Hyde Development.

To see full press release from City of Brighton, click here: [Press Release](#)

Learn more & apply: [Crusoe Website](#)

Meet Our Team



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WHO WE ARE AND HOW WE CAN HELP

MISSION

The mission of the Brighton Economic Development Corporation is to enhance Brighton residents' quality of life by fostering and supporting economic growth that will ensure Brighton as a desirable place to live, work, learn, and play. Brighton EDC is committed to supporting economic growth and improving the quality of life for all residents of Brighton.

GOALS

The goals of Brighton EDC are to provide employers and business representatives with the most comprehensive data and resources they need to develop, start, and grow their businesses.

RETENTION & EXPANSION

Brighton EDC serves as an advocate for the Brighton business community and provides access to services and resources to help businesses of all sizes and types achieve their business goals. The Brighton EDC provides consulting and guidance to local businesses, as well as referrals to appropriate partners for specific follow-up services and resources.

BUSINESS ATTRACTION

In line with city leadership priorities, the Brighton EDC organization continues to actively pursue businesses considering new locations. The Brighton EDC team takes a proactive approach to attracting suitable companies to Brighton, providing advocacy, and, in some cases, limited incentives.





Brighton Economic Development Corporation Welcomes TFP Nutrition To The City



TFP Nutrition, a family-owned leader in pet food and animal nutrition, will be locating its warehouse and distribution operations in Brighton in support of its newest manufacturing facility in Platteville, Colorado. The manufacturing plant opened in January 2026 with the Brighton facility planned to open in July.

Founded in 1930, TFP Nutrition is a fourth-generation, family-owned company headquartered in Nacogdoches, Texas, producing premium nutrition products for livestock and companion animals. The company will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2030, a testament to its enduring values, commitment to quality, and family-owned legacy.

“We are honored to have TFP Nutrition's logistics operations in Brighton to support their new manufacturing facility,” said Greg Mills, Brighton Mayor.

“Our strategic location of being served by Highway 85, I-76 and E-470 highlights the community’s value in supporting highly valued companies such as TFP Nutrition and compliments our rich history in agriculture. We look forward to supporting them for many years.”

TFP will be moving into 100,000 square feet at the Mile High Logistics Center at 18875 East Bromley Lane commonly referred to as the former Kmart Distribution Center. The company’s move into Colorado marks TFP Nutrition’s largest expansion outside Texas, featuring leading-edge automation, sustainability, and food-safety systems designed for dry kibble production. Equipped with advanced automation and cutting-edge food safety systems, the plant and distribution center will specialize in producing and delivering dry kibble formulas for dogs and cats.

“This investment represents more than just new capacity, it’s a continuation of TFP’s commitment to doing things the right way for our customers, our employees, and the communities we serve,” said Ben Wright, President and CEO of TFP Nutrition. “The Platteville facility is a strategic step forward that strengthens our ability to grow with our partners, innovate with confidence, and carry forward a 95-year legacy of quality and stewardship into our next century.”

“We are excited to see TFP’s expanding footprint, which reinforces the broader regional economy”, said Richard Werner, President & CEO, Upstate Colorado Economic Development. “TFP’s decision last year to invest in a new manufacturing facility in Platteville and now a complementary distribution operation in Brighton is a strong reflection of our connected regional economy where companies can scale efficiently by leveraging shared infrastructure, a talented workforce that moves across community lines, and regional partners working in alignment to support business growth and long-term success.”



Brighton Nearing 1,000 New Jobs and 50,000 Residents in 2026



Brighton Economic Development is currently working with nine new companies in progress of locating their businesses in the City of Brighton. "In total, we are looking at over 985 new jobs coming to Brighton in 2026, and it's only the first quarter," says Economic Development Director and President Robin Martinez. "After a quiet third and fourth quarter in 2025, it is great to see companies moving forward with their expansion plans. The City of Brighton is growing but so are our resources."

Community Development reports that residential permits issued this year are on pace with the same period last year, with a slight increase. The City is projected to reach 50,000 residents in 2026. "This is exciting news because it puts the City of Brighton on the attraction map as a mid-size community," Martinez adds. One of the main factors companies evaluate when selecting the communities to expand into are the number of rooftops and the size of their workforce along with how quickly a business can get through their development and permit review and approvals so they can begin operating.

The City of Brighton recently implemented a new Attraction Incentive Agreement Policy which includes an expedited review process to ensure high priority companies get up and running in an expedited manner. City Council voted on the updated policy in 2025 and has since approved Trader Joe's and Crusoe AI to run under the new expedited review timeline.

With the new Water Treatment Plant (STP) now in progress, we are well on our way of meeting the needs of our growing community and the new growth coming to Brighton. The contracted completion date was February 2027, but the project is ahead of schedule and is expected to be complete by the end of 2026.

The WTP will have capacity to produce 20-million-gallons of water per day (MGD). This increased capacity, along with the City's other water sources, is anticipated to serve current customers and growth through 2045.

Stay in the know with current development projects happening in Brighton [Development Status Map](#)



Coming Soon

Main St. Café and Main St. Grill Expand And Billie's Café Begins a New Chapter



Billie's Café, originally opened by the McDonald family in 1990 and later purchased by the Wong family in 2007, is entering a new chapter. After 19 years of ownership, the Wongs have passed the torch to local restaurateur Antonio Guzman, well-known as the owner of Main St. Grill in downtown Brighton.

Antonio brings more than 11 years of experience in the restaurant industry, beginning in his youth while working alongside his father in the family's restaurant in Littleton—still in operation today. His family later opened the carnicería at 4th & Jessup, selling the business in 2016 but retaining ownership of the building. In 2020, Antonio, his father, and his brother opened Main St. Café. At the same time, Antonio was hosting events in what is now Main St. Grill. He was in the process of installing a kitchen to support catering when the COVID-19 pandemic hit, forcing him to rethink the business plan. Through perseverance, creativity, and strong family support, Main St. Grill officially opened later that year.



So, what's next for Billie's Café? Antonio's vision is to honor its long-standing reputation as Brighton's beloved breakfast spot while blending in the flavors and extended hours of Main St. Grill—bringing both concepts together under one roof.

Over the next two months, Antonio will work to combine “the best of both worlds.” Mornings will feature Billie's classic breakfast favorites, along with a “Grill Corner” showcasing breakfast items from Main St. Grill. Afternoons and evenings will offer the Main St. Grill menu, complemented by a “Billie's Corner” featuring fan-favorite dishes that go beyond breakfast. Eventually, guests can look forward to a seamless fusion of Billie's Café and Main St. Grill—open seven days a week from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and yes, popular items like the B Town Burger and the Holy Jalapeño Burger are here to stay. Catering services will continue, and delivery through DoorDash and Uber Eats will remain available.

Meanwhile, Main St. Café—owned and operated by Julio Guzman—plans to expand into the space soon to be vacated by the Grill. That's welcoming news for the loyal customers who eagerly await a table on bustling weekend mornings.



2026

New Companies Opening in 2026:

- Billy's Café/Main Street Grill
- Valvoline (Opening April 2026)
- Bright Sun Coffee
- Chili Shack (Opening April 2026)
- QuickTrip
- Mattress Firm
- Edon Fitness (New Location)
- Pure Soul Pilates
- Faudoa's Meat Market
- Crusoe AI
- Trader Joe's Distribution Center
- Jupiter Bach
- Vin 39 Wine Bar
- Yamato Sushi (Opening April 2026)
- The Prohibition District
- TFP Nutrition
- Crown District Hat Co.
- Sports Clips



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2025 Brighton Business Awards

Brighton Economic Development Corporation hosted our annual business awards luncheon at the Armory Performing Arts Center.

Congratulations to all our nominees and award winners!

To view the videos highlighting our award winners visit [2025 Brighton Business Awards](#)



BUSINESS AWARD WINNERS 2025

- Accelerating Business Award – **Signarama Brighton**
- Economic Development Partnership Award – **Julie Ramsey**
- Next Big Thing Award – **United Power**
- People's Choice Award – **7AM Somewhere**
- Project of the Year Award – **Power Equipment Company**
- Start-Up Business Award – **Wolf and Honey**

BUSINESS AWARD NOMINEES 2025

- 7AM Somewhere
- A Nu Do Hair & Tanning Salon
- B&E Auto Body
- Brian Engle/Rhino Financial Solutions
- Colorado Karate Club
- Cox Ranch Originals
- Cruisin' Cutz
- Jen's 360 Realty
- Julie Ramsey/Brighton EDC
- Kiko's Authentic Mexican Food
- La Estrellita
- Lisa Craig Photography & Marketing
- Minuteman Press
- My Local Boutique
- Olive Garden
- Power Equipment Company
- Signarama
- The Fireplace Dispensary
- Ty Ono/Brighton Fire Rescue District
- United Power
- Vintage Home & Land/Farmlore
- Willow & Fern LLC
- Wolf and Honey
- Xcel Energy
- Zingano Brazilian Jiu Jitsu



Anythink Brighton Library Renovations Near Completion

Anythink Brighton's soon-to-debut renovation project will bring the outside in.

Construction on the library's west side adds windows and doors to existing meeting rooms, welcoming Colorado's abundant natural light and creating a new enclosed porch that connects directly to the spaces. The porch will also activate the long-underused area between the library and the Depot building.

Meeting rooms are expected to open for public reservations this summer. Whether you're planning a seminar, a business networking event or a birthday party, consider hosting your next gathering at the Brighton Anythink library. Reserve a space at: [Anythink Library](#)

Stay tuned for details about a ribbon-cutting celebration in August, when the community will be invited to see the renovations firsthand.

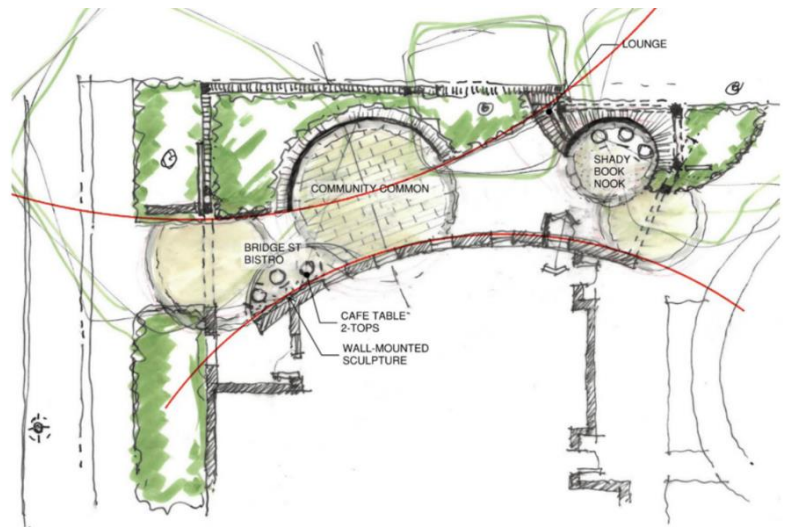
Upcoming Anythink business programming: Anythink supports local businesses through a variety of programming, in person at Anythink locations and online through the virtual Anythink World platform.

Select upcoming offerings:

- Colorado Sales Tax 101 for Small Businesses (4p.m. Tuesday, May 5) [Register Here](#)
- Grow Your Leadership for Women (5-week partnership with Mi Casa Resource Center, starting June 1)
- Grow Your YouTube Channel (8-week series, starting June 4)



anythink™



ANYTHINK BRIGHTON COURTYARD 3/7/25 1"=10'-0"

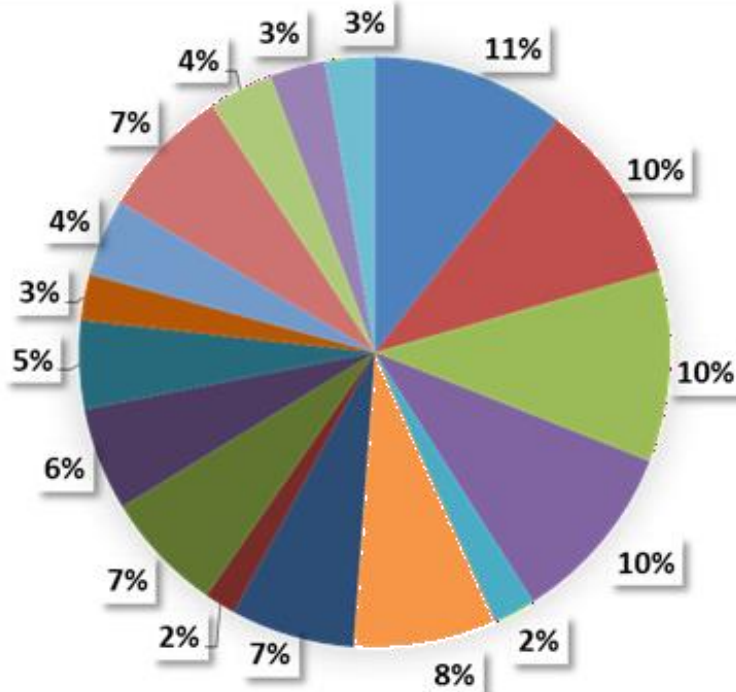


Learn more about these and other programs at: events.anythinklibraries.org



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Brighton 2026 Demographics



Employment Breakdown

- Retail Trade
- Construction
- Education Services
- Health Care
- Mining
- Transportation
- Accom/Food
- Arts, Entertainment & Recreation
- Manufacturing
- Other Services
- Professional, Scientific & Tech Services
- Wholesale Trade
- Administrative, Support & Waste Mgmt
- Public Administration
- Finance & Insurance
- Information
- Real Estate, Rental & Leasing

Brighton's Top Employers

Company	Local # of Employees
Adams County Government	1,970
27J School District	1,080
Intermountain Platte Valley Hospital	921
City of Brighton	745
Vestas	610
Walmart	365
Wells	350
Transwest	257
United Power	208
Target	200

Commercial Businesses Licensed in City of Brighton: 478

Home Based Businesses: 107



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DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

Brighton City, CO

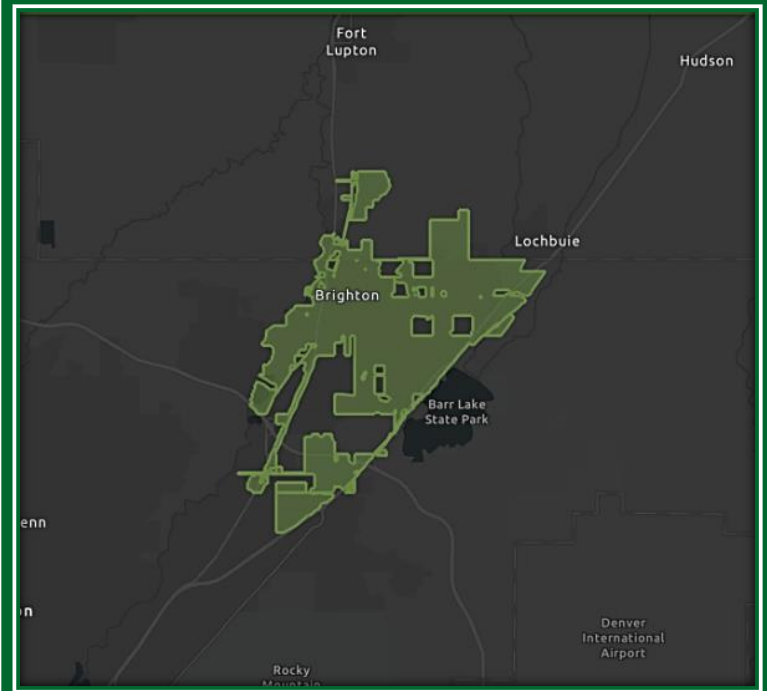
Geography: Place



Source: This infographic contains data provided by Esri (2025, 2030).

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Source: This infographic contains data provided by Esri (2025, 2030).



EDUCATION



No High School Diploma



31.8%
High School Graduate



31.0%
Some College/
Associate's Degree



27.1%
Bachelor's/Grad/
Prof Degree

EMPLOYMENT



White Collar



Blue Collar



Services

3.8%

Unemployment Rate

KEY FACTS

49,801
Population

34.9
Median Age

17,288
Households

\$85,080
Median Disposable Income

INCOME



\$109,194
Median Household Income

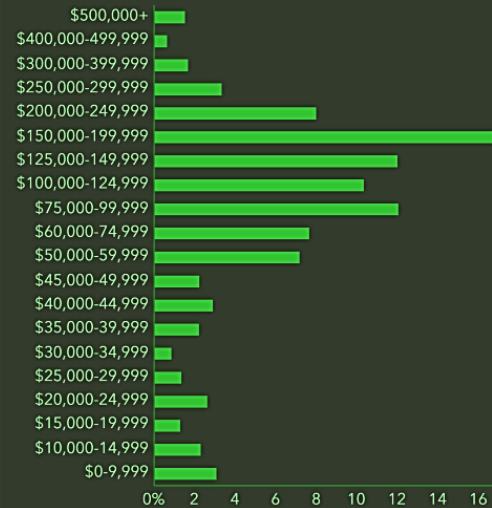


\$42,632
Per Capita Income



\$304,364
Median Net Worth

HOUSEHOLD INCOME





Small Business Feature



Dr. RODNEY D. FAIR RETIRES

Brighton Eye Associates has long been a cornerstone of our community, beginning 67 years ago when Dr. Ron Fair—now retired and a member of the National Optometry Hall of Fame—first opened the practice in 1959. After completing his residency, his son, Dr. Rodney “Rod” Fair, joined him, carrying on the family commitment to excellence. Now, after more than 44 years of serving Brighton as one of its most respected optometrists, Dr. Rod Fair is retiring from practice.

Dr. Rodney D. Fair

Dr. Rod Fair grew up in Brighton and is a proud graduate of Brighton High School. He attended Hastings College in Nebraska, followed by the Southern California College of Optometry in Fullerton, where he graduated with honors in 1982. He then completed a residency in pediatric vision and vision therapy at the State University of New York in New York City.

Throughout his career, Dr. Fair has been deeply involved in the Brighton community. He has served as a member of the Kiwanis Club, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Heart of Brighton which supports the Armory Performing Arts Center. He is a past president of the Colorado Optometric Association and was appointed by former Governor Roy Romer to the Colorado Department of Social Services Medical Advisory Council.

His many honors include the Young Optometrist of the Year award, Optometrist of the Year, the Distinguished Optometrist award, Optometrist of the Decade (1990s), the Clair Sewell Award, and the 2014 Small Business of the Year Award from the Greater Brighton Chamber of Commerce. Beyond his clinical excellence, Dr. Fair is known as a supportive employer, mentor, business owner, father, husband, and friend. Over the years, his office has employed more than 30 local high school students, supported local charities and organizations, and contributed countless volunteer hours to community initiatives.

Dr. Fair is also a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry—an honor achieved by only about 10% of optometrists—requiring extensive case reports and examination. He has a special interest in children’s vision, vision and learning, ocular disease, and contact lenses.

Dr. Cheryl Baker Fedel joined the practice in 2011 and has continued to provide outstanding eye care to the community. She was the Valedictorian of her optometry college in Florida.



Dr. Cheryl Baker



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Small Business Feature, continued

The next chapter for Brighton Eye Associates begins with Dr. Yessica Cañas, a Brighton High School graduate who grew up in Brighton. Dr. Cañas began working at the practice in 2009 at age 14, when Dr. Fair hired her as a part-time after school employee. She continued to work through high school and during summers while attending the University of Colorado and later Midwestern University Arizona College of Optometry.



Dr. Yessica Cañas

Reflecting on her journey, Dr. Fair shared: "I hired a very shy young woman named Yessica Cañas to work at Brighton Eye Associates. It is always a blessing to see these young people blossom into competent adults. No longer quiet and shy but outgoing and confident, Yessica attended the University of Colorado at Boulder for four years and then decided to become an optometrist. She just received her diploma and is now a Doctor of Optometry, and we could not be more thrilled to call her colleague! Congratulations, Dr. Cañas."

In 2026, Dr. Cañas purchased Dr. Fair's interest in Brighton Eye Associates, ensuring that the practice remains locally owned and continues its long tradition of serving the Brighton community with dedication and care.

We extend our warmest wishes to Dr. Fair and his wife, Monica, their daughter Miss Katrina Fair, parents Ron and Patricia Fair, as they begin this new chapter. He retires with confidence knowing that the 67-year-old family practice is in good hands and will continue its legacy of excellence for years to come.

Grant Funds Available for Local Businesses

The Brighton Urban Renewal Authority (BURA) has opened applications for its 2026 Façade Improvement Grant for Brighton businesses located in the downtown urban renewal area.

This program is designed to help eligible businesses enhance the exterior of their buildings to revitalize the area and attract customers to shop, dine, and do business in Brighton.

Click on the QR code to view the BURA boundary map and to review program guidelines.



BURA
Brighton Urban Renewal Authority

FAÇADE IMPROVEMENT GRANT PROGRAM

2025 Application Now Open!



75/25 MATCH

www.brightonura.org

How does it work?
The Brighton Urban Renewal Authority (BURA) Façade Improvement Grant Program is a competitive grant program meant to encourage property owners and tenants of buildings within eligible portions of Brighton's core downtown plan area to make building improvements that will revitalize the area and attract customers to shop, dine and do business in Brighton.

BURA's mission is to encourage investment and reinvestment in targeted areas while strengthening the tax base of the whole city. Visit brightonura.org for complete program guidelines.

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Brighton's Business Investment Program (BIP)



Business Grant Up to \$10,000 Grant!
Apply Now!

BRIGHTON
INVESTMENT
PROGRAM

2026 BUSINESS INVESTMENT PROGRAM (BIP) APPLICATION IS NOW OPEN



Transforming Brighton

BIP grants allow you to improve your business and contribute to the overall prosperity of Brighton by enhancing property values, attracting visitors, and beautifying the city.



Empower Business Growth

Access essential capital through BIP to facilitate development, redevelopment, and business improvements. Upgrade your facilities, revamp your storefront, or invest in innovative technologies with BIP's support.



Drive Economic Prosperity

Join us in fostering a thriving business community, decreasing vacancy rates, and increasing employment opportunities in Brighton. BIP aims to make our city more competitive and attractive for businesses and job seekers.



Small Business Grant Up to \$10,000

BIP is a reimbursement grant program, requiring a 50/50 match for businesses licensed and located in a Brighton commercial building.

Open from January to October. Eligible Uses:

- Interior & Exterior Building Improvements
- Equipment
- Marketing
- Signage
- Workforce Training

If a Brighton business or contractor is utilized, reimbursement will be provided at the rate of 60%.

For exterior projects, the first \$3,000 will be reimbursed at 100%.

[BIP Grant | brightonedc](https://www.brightonedc.org)

CONTACT US

APPLY: www.brightonedc.org

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Scan Me





Local Business Resources

- Colorado Enterprise Fund (CEF) - Brighton EDC's Revolving Loan Fund Program [Business Support](#)
- Brighton EDC's BIP Grant [BIP Grant | brightonedc](#)
- BURA Façade Improvement Grant [2026 BURA Façade Improvement Grant - NOW OPEN!](#)
- City of Brighton's 50/50 Sidewalk, Curb & Gutter Replacement Program [50/50 Sidewalk, Curb & Gutter Program](#)
- Brighton EDC's - Free Legal Support for Your Brighton Business [3i Law Consultation](#)
- Small Business Development Center (SBDC) - Programs: Free Small Business Counseling
 - [Statewide Business Programs | Small Business Development Center](#)
 - SBDC – Workshops: [Events](#)
- Alliance Business Assistance Center – [Alliance Business Assistance Center – Thornton OED](#)
- Anythink Library – Colorado Sales Tax 101 for Small Businesses (4p.m. Tuesday, May 5th) [Register Here](#)
- Development Opportunity Map [Brighton EDC Development Opportunities](#)
- Building Permit Fee Calculator [Calculator](#)
- Stay in the know with development projects happening in Brighton [Development Status Map](#)
- Greater Brighton Chamber of Commerce: [Brighton Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Bureau](#)
- Brighton Business Builders (BBB) – Check out their Facebook page for upcoming speakers and events [BBB Facebook](#)
- Save the Date! 9.17.26 - Brighton EDC's 2026 Sip-tember Business Networking Event - Free networking event for all Brighton businesses to attend

Check out [HappeningNext.com](#) to learn about more upcoming local events!



Investor Spotlight

Brighton EDC Welcomes

New Board of Directors and Investors



Lesley Cortez

The Brighton Economic Development Corporation (EDC) Board of Investors has announced the appointment of two new small-business representatives to its Board of Directors. Lesley Cortez, Regional Vice President for Primerica, and Doreen Talbot, owner of Tax Smart LLC, were selected from a strong pool of local business leaders.



Doreen Talbot

“Although it was a tough decision to choose from the applicants we interviewed, Lesley and Doreen will be a great addition to our Board due to their long-term relationships within the business community and their passion for supporting Brighton’s small businesses,” said EDC Chair Grant Shibao.

Other new EDC Board of Investors who recently joined Brighton Economic Development Corporation’s Board of Directors, Adams County Government – Commissioner Lynn Baca, Intermountain Health Platte Valley Hospital President Noah Knisely, E-470 Executive Director, Joe Donahue.

To learn more about the EDC Board of Directors, please visit: [Brighton EDC Board of Directors](#)

Click on the images to view investor bios.



Commissioner Lynn Baca



Noah Knisely



Joe Donahue



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Thank You to our Board of Investors

3i Law
Bank of Colorado
E-470
Hyde Development
Primerica
Tax Smart LLC
Vestas

Adams County Gov.
Brighton EDC
Farmlore
Intermountain Health
Signarama Brighton
Trisimo
Wells

Allo Fiber
City of Brighton
FirstBank
Prairie Center
SouthState Bank
United Power
Xcel Energy



Thank You to our Partners





it all grows in BRIGHTON



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