City of Thornton
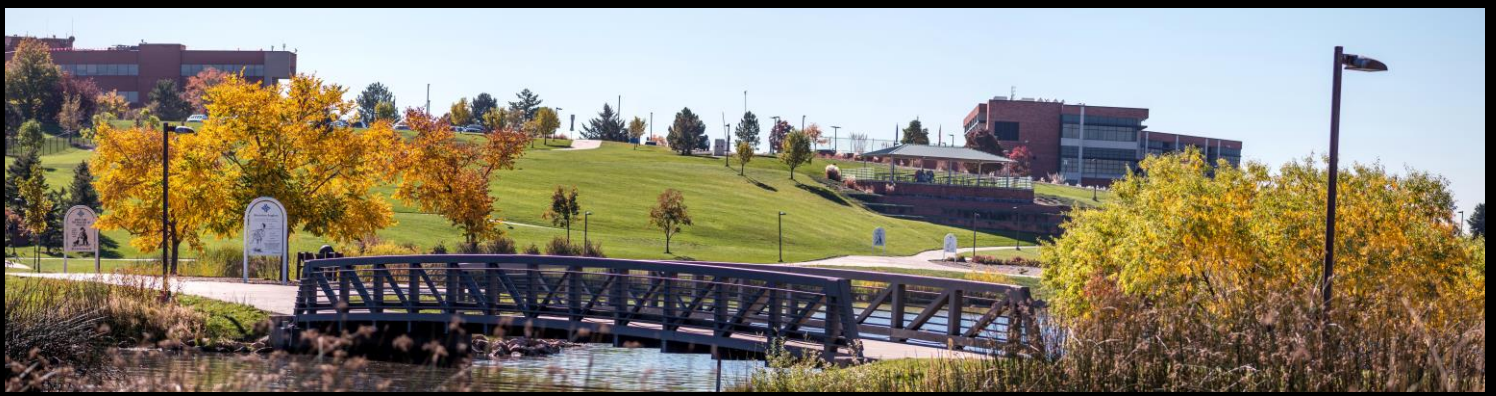## Colorado

CITY DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR

$180,000 - $195,500

Apply by
February 6, 2022
(First Review, Open Until Filled)

PROTHMAN

THORNTON, COLORADO

Located in the northeast quadrant of the Denver metropolitan area and comprising 37 square miles, the city of Thornton is Colorado's sixth largest city and home to a diverse and growing population of 146,000 residents. The city is only 10 minutes from downtown Denver, 35 minutes from Denver International Airport (DIA) and less than 2 hours from the Breckenridge and Vail ski areas. The community's location provides an ideal environment for a wide range of businesses to thrive, and the community's natural setting of ridgelines, wildlife, waterways, rolling hills, and undeveloped land provide Thornton residents with amenities and an abundance of recreational opportunities that contribute to a unique and excellent quality of life. Thornton's location also allows for easy access to the region's 28 major resort areas found in the nearby Rocky Mountains, which offers skiing, hiking, rafting, and camping, as well as beautiful and breathtaking scenic wonders, all within a two-hour drive. Cultural activities, including numerous museums, gardens, the opera and symphony, are readily available in Denver and other nearby communities such as Boulder, Fort Collins, Loveland, Greeley and Arvada.

Thornton has aggressively pursued recreation programs with nearly 1,000 acres of land developed or designated for public parks. The city's 18-hole municipal golf course, numerous lighted tennis courts, athletic fields, indoor and outdoor swimming pools, recreation centers and gymnasiums present recreation opportunities for people of all ages and activity levels. Sports fans can also enjoy the region's multiple professional sports teams, including the Denver Broncos, Colorado Rockies, Colorado Avalanche, Colorado Rapids and the Denver Nuggets.

The region's residents are well educated. Nine major universities and colleges are located within a 45-mile radius of the community, along with numerous smaller institutions of higher learning. The larger institutions include the Universities of Colorado at Boulder and Denver, University of Denver, Metropolitan State College, University of Northern Colorado, Colorado State University, Colorado School of Mines, Regis University, and Colorado Christian University.

Thornton is served primarily by two school districts encompassing four high schools, five middle schools and fourteen elementary schools.

To learn more about the incredible opportunities found in and around the city of Thornton, please visit www.thorntonco.gov.

THE CITY

Operating on a 2021 total budget of $437,053,743 with approximately 1,100 FTEs, the city of Thornton utilizes a Council-Manager form of government. Thornton's City Council consists of a mayor who is elected at large, and eight council members, where two are elected from each of the City's four wards.

The mayor and council members each serve staggered four-year terms. The City Manager, City Attorney, and Presiding Municipal Judge are appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the city council.

While the city council is responsible for setting policy for the city of Thornton, the City Manager is in charge of the day-to-day operations of the City, including hiring and supervising city staff.

THE DEPARTMENT

The City Development Department is responsible for guiding the current and future growth of the city. The department performs the following services: providing information to the public; managing development processes; regulating development in the city; enforcing compliance with codes and ordinances; reviewing and approving development applications; administering and amending the codes and ordinances related to development; advocating for Thornton's regional transportation interests; developing and maintaining GIS databases; supporting city-wide functions, provide regular GIS support city-wide and maintaining standardized maps. The department's division include Administration, Policy Planning, Code Compliance, Development Services, and GIS Services. Together, the department operates on a 2022 budget of $9,027,860 with 73.75 FTEs.

To learn more about the department and the objectives of each division, please view the attachment found here.

THE POSITION

Under direction of the City Manager, the City Development Director leads, directs and manages all activities of the department, including the development review and inspection processes, current and long-range planning, development engineering, building permits and inspection, enforcement of codes and ordinances, regional transportation coordination, and the development and maintenance of GIS databases and systems. In this capacity, the Director contributes to the development of and supports the approved work plan to address the city and community priorities. For a full job description, please view the attachment found here.

EDUCATION & EXPERIENCE

A bachelor's degree in Planning or a related field from an accredited college or university, and eight (8) years of management level experience in community development or a related field, including five (5) years of supervisory experience is preferred. It is also preferred candidates have AICP designation. Any equivalent combination of education and experience will be considered.

IDEAL CANDIDATE

The successful candidate is experienced at directing high quality, fast-paced development reviews with interdisciplinary teams. Whether it be engineering, planning, or building development issues, Thornton has brought each of these disciplines under one roof to expedite and coordinate the development approval processes. The Development Director is central to that process and through their understanding of how each team works to the same end, but in its own way, to build Thornton strong.

While the department is fully engaged in the development of the community, long-range strategic planning is how the vision for that development is created. A successful candidate will have a full understanding of how the community engages to form that vision and knowledge of how that vision is translated into action. The new Development Director will have the ability to move back and forth between the Big Picture and the details it takes to achieve it.

This opportunity is well suited for an experienced "Second Chair" development manager to move up to "First Chair" as the Director of a 75-member department. Having solid people management, with an understanding of each of the 3 primary disciplines they will oversee and being a leader is what Thornton is seeking.

Prior successful management experience of similar sized teams is of strong interest. Being politically astute and comfortable in the world of community "politics" is essential to success in the position. This is not the Big "P" politics of political parties, but rather the on-the-ground issues of local neighborhoods and the goals of the Thornton City Council.

COMPENSATION & BENEFITS

- **$180,000 - $195,500 DOE**
- Health, Dental, and Vision Insurance
- Life, Dependent Life & Supplemental Life Insurance Options
- Voluntary Accidental Death & Dismemberment Policy
- Flexible Spending Plan
- Retiree Health Savings Plan
- Retirement Plan
- Deferred Compensation Plan
- Short & Long-term Disability Plans
- Paid Holidays
- In-House Training Opportunities
- Tuition Reimbursement
- Employee Assistance Program

For more information on the city of Thornton, please visit:

www.thorntonco.gov

The city of Thornton is an Equal Opportunity Employer. All qualified candidates are strongly encouraged to apply by **February 6, 2022** (first review, open until filled). Applications will only be accepted electronically. To **apply online,** go to **www.prothman.com** and click on "**Open Recruitments**" followed by "**City Development Director – City of Thornton, CO**" and follow the directions provided, or please **click here**.

www.prothman.com

371 NE Gilman Blvd., Suite 310
Issaquah, WA 98027
206.368.0050