

A+ Denver

By Billie Bramhall and Monique Lovato

A+ Denver: Not just about school closings.

A+ Denver is a broad-based group of citizens who have volunteered their time to evaluate the components of reform for Denver Public Schools. Former Mayors Peña and Webb are heading the committee with others. A+ Denver is not merely about closing schools; DPS personnel do not staff it. It is being funded and housed by local charitable foundations that provide funding to educational initiatives.

Two members of the INC education committee, Billie Bramhall from the Golden Triangle Association and Monique Lovato from the Whittier Neighborhood Association in north-east Denver, have joined A+ Denver as liaisons to Denver neighborhood groups. Billie and Monique, with other members of the INC education committee, will report regularly to the INC delegates on the progress of A+ Denver and in addition will seek input from INC members on DPS education matters. At the March 10 INC delegates meeting, a number of questions and comments came up to which the education committee committed to seek answers. This ongoing conversation will continue at meetings; questions and comments from INC members may be posted to the INC website and will be addressed in future INC newsletter articles.

A+ Finance and Facilities Subcommittee -- The topic of school closings has already come up at the three INC delegates meetings this year. The A+ Denver committee is taking on this issue through its Finances and Facilities subcommittee to provide recommendations to DPS officials about how best to go about optimizing district facilities while providing quality education.

The district has 139 schools plus several administrative offices. These facilities have capacity for 97,000 students but just 68,000 students are enrolled this current school year. The fixed costs for these underutilized schools are a large drain on the school district's budget and are unsustainable.

In order to give the A+ Denver effort time to research and evaluate recommendations, the school district has committed not to close schools until the '08-'09 school year other than charter schools with charters up for renewal; some of these alternative charters were recommended to be closed for performance reasons.

Enrollment has continued to decline precipitously over the past decade until the 2006-2007 school year. This school year, the district enrolled just two students over the previous year's enrollment. It is anyone's guess as to whether the district will add or lose students going forward.

Billie Bramhall, a retired Denver city planner, reports that the data being used as part of the Finance and Facilities Subcommittee's work are more comprehensive than anything she has previously worked with and she and her colleagues on A+ Denver will have all the information needed to make good decisions – not easy ones – about school closings.

INC education members believe strongly that schools will need to be closed and consolidated but agree with DPS' assertion about school closings - the need for a compelling reason and a better alternative for displaced students.

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The Newsletter of Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation



April
2007

www.
neighborhoodlink.
com/denver/inc

Denver Neighborhood
Connection

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INC Member and Associate Organizations (Patrons in Bold)

Member Organizations

Alamo Placita Neighbors Assn
 Athmar Park Neighborhood Assn
 Baker Historic Neighborhood Assn
Ball Park Neighborhood Assn
 Bellevue-Hale Neighborhood Assn
 Berkeley Neighborhood Assn
 Bonnie Brae Neighborhood Assn
CCHN Country Club Historic Neighborhood
 Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods Inc
 Cherry Creek North Neighborhood Assn

Cherry Point Homeowners Assn
 City Park West Neighborhood Assn
 Civic Association of Clayton
 Colfax on the Hill, Inc
 College View Neighborhood Assn
 Congress Park Neighbors
 Cook Park Neighborhood Assn
Cory-Merril Neighborhood Assn
Crestmoor Park Homeowners Assn 2nd filing
Downtown Denver Residents Org
 Driving Park Historic District
 East Montclair Neighborhood Assn
 Eastmoor Park Condo Assn.
 Elyria Swansea/Globeville Business Assn.

The Unsinkables
 University Hills Neighborhood Assn
University Park Community Council
Upper Downtown Development Org
Virginia Vale Community Assn
 Virginia Village/Ellis Community Assn
 Warrens University Community Council
 Washington Park East Neighborhood Assn
 West Highland Neighborhood Assn
 West University Community Assn (WUCA)
 Whittier Neighborhood Assn
 Windsor Gardens Association



Denver Neighborhood Connection

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Articles must be e-mailed to the editor
 by the 20th of the month.

Subscriptions are free. INC organizations should send changes to their organization personnel to the membership chair at kbeaudrie@totalspeed.net or 303-798-9306.

Subscription information and changes of address for non-INC organizations and persons should be e-mailed to Karen Cuthbertson at athmarpark@ecentral.com.

INC Delegates' Meetings are held on the second Saturday of each month at 8:45 a.m. See this issue for location.

The INC Executive Committee meets monthly. All members are welcome. Call the Chair for time and location.

Far Northeast Neighbors, Inc
 George Washington Homeowner's Assn. Inc.
 Globeville Civic Assn #1

Golden Triangle Assn
Golden Triangle Museum District
 Greater Mar-Lee Community Org
Greater Park Hill Community, Inc.

Hampden South Neighborhood Assn

Hilltop Heritage Assn LLC
 Historic Montclair Community Association, Inc.

Hutchinson Hills/Willow Point HOA

Inspiration Point Neighborhood ssn
 Ivy Street Neighbors Assn

Leetsdale Cop Shop
 Lowry Community Master Assn.

Mayfair Neighbors, Inc
 Neighborhood Resource Center of Colorado

Neighbors and Friends for Cheesman Park

North City Park Civic Assn
 Overland Neighborhood Assn
 Sloans Lake Citizens Group
 Sloans Neighborhood Assn
 South Hilltop Neighborhood Assn
 South Jackson Street Reg Denver Neighborhood

Stapleton United Neighbors
 Summerfield at Indian Creek
Sunnyside United Neighbors, Inc
 The Five Points Historic Assn

Associates

Bonna Gayhart
 Cherry Creek North BID
Councilman Doug Linkhart
Councilwoman Peggy Lehmann
Denver Water
Downtown Denver Partnership, Inc.
 FRESC (Front Range Economic Strategy Center)
 Harriet R. Hogue
 Hilltop
 League of Women Voters of Denver
 Morrison Road Business Association of Denver
 Pam Schenkein
Rosy Griffiths
 The Greens @ Pinehurst HOA

Dollar Dictionary Drive



Twelfth Annual Dollar Dictionary Drive - A dictionary and thesaurus of their own for all Denver Public Schools third-grade students. INC created the Dollar Dictionary Drive in 1996 to give all of Denver Public School's third-grade students a dictionary of their own. These young citizens of Denver are making the big transition from "learning to read" to "reading to learn." The dictionary, which they get to keep, is a valuable tool for their third-grade literacy efforts and for life-long learning. The thesaurus came by the fortuitous delivery in 1996 of some dictionaries and some dictionary/thesaurus combination books – for the same price of 99 cents each.

The Dollar Dictionary Drive is an opportunity for INC to reach out to a group of citizens in the spirit of our stated goal - the continuing improvement of Denver. Just as each of our homes has an assigned police station, fire station, and council district, we also have designated public schools. While we may not currently have a student in our designated school, at one time each of us was in the third grade. Try to remember how an eight-year-old feels when given a gift from a previously unknown neighbor, friend, or mentor. It could be the spark that ignites a fire of passion for the quest of life-long learning and community involvement and the enhancement of not only one but also many lives.

"Your children are not your children. They are the sons and daughters of Life's longing for itself. They come through you but not from you, and though they are with you yet they belong not to you."

"You may give them your love but not your thoughts, for they have their own thoughts. You may house their bodies but not their souls, for their souls dwell in the house of tomorrow, which you cannot visit, not even in your dreams. You may strive to be like them, but seek not to make them like you. For life goes not backward nor tarries with yesterday."

"You are the bows from which your children as living arrows are sent forth. The archer sees the mark upon the path of the infinite, and he bends you with his might that his arrows may go swift and far. Let your bending in the archer's hand be for gladness; for even as he loves the arrow that flies, so he loves also the bow that is stable." Gibran

Donations can be sent to:

Dollar Dictionary Drive

PO Box 18347 Denver, CO 80218

Minutes of March 10 Delegates Meeting By Karen Cuthbertson, Secretary

Andy Baldyga and Dave Walstrom, from Colfax on the Hill, welcomed everyone.

Linda Millemann, Manager of the Tattered Cover, told everyone about the challenges of converting a theater with a sloping floor into a bookstore that still honored the original building.

Candidates for City Council introduced themselves: At-large candidates Carol e Campbell and Doug Linkhart and District 8 candidate Carla Madison.

Joe Ely reported on the Colfax Marathon that is scheduled for Sunday, May 20th, and passed out information on the street-closure and the clean-up schedules. The Marathon is looking for volunteers to staff the water stations, et cetera. For more information about street closures, if you are interested in volunteering, and more, call 303-770-9600 or visit www.coloradocolfaxmarathon.org.

Ellen Dumm, Department of Environmental Health, spoke about dog licensing and mentioned that any cat or dog over six months must be licensed and that state law requires a rabies shot. Animal Care and Control now has an online licensing feature at www.denvergov.org/AnimalControl. Ms. Dumm reported that, because there are so many microchip technologies, implanting a microchip into an animal is not a substitute for obtaining a license for an animal. Ms. Dumm noted that the Denver municipal animal shelter at 678 South Jason is the oldest on the Front Range and DEH is hoping that the results of the Infrastructure Task Force will lead to recommendation of a replacement facility. Some questions followed.

Q: What is the schedule for rabies shots?

A: Annually.

Q: Are there guidelines to follow for what microchip technologies to use in Denver?

A: Ms. Dumm will put some on the website (www.denvergov.org/AnimalControl).

There was a recommendation to have smaller tags for cats; e.g., a plaque that could be sewn onto the cat's collar.

Nick Koncilja, Project Manager for the Justice Center construction project, gave a project update. The parking structure will have a post office and other retail facilities on the ground floor. Mr. Koncilja spoke about the Master Plan and the architecture firms that have been hired to implement the various phases of construction. The parking structure is currently under construction and is scheduled to open in August. The demolition of the old Rocky Mountain News building is underway and the Detention facility is scheduled for completion in December of 2009. Work

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Zoning and Planning

By Diana Helper

The INC Zoning and Planning (ZAP) Committee met February 24, 2007. Topics included:

1. Community Planning and Development (CPD) Manager Peter Park plans to hold an educational forum regarding the real purpose of zoning and the implementation of zoning for neighborhoods deemed "stable" by Blueprint Denver.
2. City Forester Jude O'Connor presented a draft of an ordinance to go to City Council in six to ten weeks to define characteristics of trees, address tree protection and preservation, and increase of Denver's tree canopy. The proposal also will close some loopholes in the present ordinance. The ZAP committee voted to support the proposed ordinance as presented and to include the request for adequate staffing to implement it. There were two abstentions and no opponents. All Registered Neighborhood Organizations (RNOs) were urged to write in support.
3. Kerry Buckey of the City Attorney's office explained the proposed amendment to the Zoning Code addressing "accessory structures." Kerry clarified that this proposed ordinance does not allow accessory housing units such as granny flats except in mixed-use zones where they are already allowed. The city must find ways to allow more affordable housing, however, and there will likely be discussion in the future regarding housing in Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs).
4. The Director of the Division of Housing and Neighborhood Development Jacky Morales-Ferrand spoke about how neighborhoods can be informed about proposals to spend public funds on housing projects. Improved 30-day advance notification to RNOs is planned. Meetings including the whole community are needed.
5. An update on the Zoning Code Task Force with goals that include better alignment with Blueprint Denver, finding better tools to stabilize "stable" neighborhoods, easier methods of encompassing change, better consistency, and simpler usability of the Zoning Code. ZAP members are invited to study these goals and suggest ideas for implementation.
6. At the February 10 INC meeting, Joan Wilson of the Department of Parks and Recreation presented and discussed a proposal to allow sponsors of benefit runs and walks to sell beer, wine, and champagne to participants and passers-by in the parks on race day. [See also e-mail sent to ZAP in this regard.] ZAP members discussed this proposal and voted unanimously to oppose it. A hearing is scheduled March 8 and comments may be sent to Parks Manager Kim Bailey until 5 p.m. April 4. All RNOs were urged to send letters of opposition

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Athmar Park Neighborhood Assn. – We're drowning in graffiti. We are launching up our Adopt-A-Spot campaign to get residents and businesses to take responsibility for one thing and keep it graffiti-free (or report the graffiti the same day it occurs).

Baker Historic Neighborhood Assn. – BHNA received positive feedback from the neighborhood folks who helped to feed the homeless in January. We are working with Watermark Development to host residents, give a tour of developments, and answer questions.

Bonnie Brae Neighborhood Assn. – We are working on a new Neighborhood Directory. Any supporting ideas on how to do this would be appreciated. Contact David Bell at 303-744-3836. We are working to improve our Zoning Review Board and have grown much stronger this year. A wonderful addition this year has been a revolving wine tasting group among neighbors.

Cherry Creek North Neighborhood Assn. – The annual CCNNA Spring Fling charity fundraiser will be held for CCNNA residents on June 7 at the Denver Country Club. This year's beneficiary will be the Denver Children's Home. Last year's silent auction at the Spring Fling raised \$5,000 for the Salvation Army.

Curtis Park Neighbors – The last CPN meeting hosted a discussion about a new VOA 121-unit residence at 26th and Lawrence. Building renderings were discussed and the VOA was willing to listen to neighbors' concerns and recommendations. The dialogue was constructive and the neighborhood viewed it as positive. CPN will be hosting a District 8 candidate's forum April 2 at the Blair Caldwell Library at 7:00 p.m. Candidate questionnaires will be published in our newsletter and on our website prior to the forum. Curtis Park will be hosting the 34th annual Historic Denver Home Tour the first weekend after Labor Day.

East Montclair Neighborhood Assn. – Our annual yard sale will be May 5 at Ashley Elementary School, 19th and Syracuse. Donations of items are welcome as are shoppers!

Golden Triangle Assn. – The public hearing for the Justice Center PUD comes before City Council March 27. We

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More Zoning & Planning

By Diana Helper

The INC Zoning and Planning (ZAP) Committee met on March 24 at 9:30 a.m. There was a brief update on the work of the Zoning Code Task Force.

Biddie Labrot advised that on March 28, City Council's Blueprint Denver Committee will discuss a proposed bill which would allow present non-conforming multiple-unit structures in R-0 or R-1 districts to be demolished and replaced by larger multiple-unit dwellings. The law now states that such non-conforming structures must abide by the R-0 or R-1 zoning if demolished. This change could result in major changes to neighborhood character and density. She urged ZAP members to attend the Blueprint Denver meeting and/or be sure to send their comments to the members of that committee as well as to Community Planning and Development (CPD) Department and the Zoning Code Task Force.

Catherine Cox-Blair and Chris Yake of CPD spoke about Transit Oriented Development (TOD) at light rail stations. Seven site categories ("typologies") have been identified: Downtown, Major Urban Center, Urban Center, Urban Neighborhood, Commuter Town Center, Main Street, and Campus/Special Events Station. Each is described for Land Use, Desired Housing Types, Commercial Employment Types, Proposed Scale, and Transit System Function. Two consultant teams have been brought in to work with RTD and others to do a market analysis. Ms. Cox-Blair stated that public process is an integral component of planning. A series of transit station Public Workshops are scheduled from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. as follows:

May 9 – 10th and Osage, Decatur, and Auraria West stations at (site to be determined)

May 10 – Alameda, Southmoor, and Colorado Stations at University Park Elementary School

May 21 – 40th and 40th Station at Wyatt Edison Elementary School

May 22 – Sheridan Station at Denver Human Services

The TOD planning process includes the vision for the area, developing concepts and alternatives, evaluation and selection, and implementation—that includes recommended zoning. ZAP members agreed it is too early to judge the impact of new light rail use on surrounding areas.

Broad communication, timely notification, and the use of Denver terms and lay language were requested by ZAP members. Visit www.denvergov.org/TOD.

Dick Kisseberth of Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods (CHUN) spoke about the negative impact of some restaurant outdoor patios on nearby neighbors and the need for a comprehensive list of city rules and other available tools for neighborhoods to use when problems arise. It was recommended that a subcommittee of interested neighbors, a restaurant/patio owner, a CPD staff person, and perhaps a Denver Police staff person be formed to create such a document. Please send your comments and offers to serve to rkisseberth@qwest.net.

ZAP members raised numerous matters of zoning concern in their neighborhoods including historic preservation, notification, density, and character as well as transportation issues.

Please note that the next ZAP meeting will be April 28, the fourth Saturday of the month. Barbara Kelley, the Chair of the Planning Board is scheduled to speak.

Alcohol in the Parks

A letter from INC dated March 16 was sent to members of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, Kim Bailey, Tiffany Moerhing, Joan Wilson, Mayor John Hickmiller, Amber Callender, Councilwoman Peggy Lehmann, and Helen Gonzales. The text of the letter follows:

"On March 10, 2007, the Delegates of Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation, which is a coalition of more than 70 registered neighborhood organizations from all parts of Denver, voted 28 in favor of the following motion, with one abstention:

'Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation strongly opposes the proposed new policy to expand the sale of alcoholic beverages in city parks for race and walk events. Parks should be available for use by all citizens and should not be constantly commercialized.

If the Parks Department insists on approving the expansion policy, events where beer and wine may be sold should be limited to a small number of events per year per park. In addition, all neighborhood groups should 1) be given the opportunity to comment on which parks in their neighborhoods should be allowed to have alcohol sales and 2) receive notification and opportunity to comment on all specific applications for festival special event liquor license permits in their neighborhoods.'

Thank you for your consideration."

Data Corrections

Keep INC informed of changes in your organization's president and delegates. Notify the membership chair at 303-798-9306 or kbeaudrie@totalspeed.net

Organizations and persons not affiliated with INC should communicate their desire to obtain this newsletter or submit address changes to the secretary at 303-936-9206 or athmarpark@ecentral.com

DPS Meetings

Denver Public Schools is hosting a series of regional community meetings beginning on Monday, March 19 to engage the community in discussions around their vision and expectations for the schools in their neighborhood. The district will present information on school enrollment, performance data, and other important concerns that affect DPS schools.

The community meetings will be held at eight DPS high schools, however the discussions will revolve around the education offered, K through 12. Parents and community members with an interest in the education offered at the elementary, middle, and K-8 schools in that region are encouraged to attend. These meetings are open to the public. Refreshments, translation, and childcare will be provided. Additional meetings will be scheduled in northwest and near northeast Denver to follow up meetings held in those communities last fall and earlier this year.

The community meeting schedule for April is as follows:

- April 4 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at West High School, 951 Elati Street.
- April 9 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Abraham Lincoln High School, 2285 S. Federal Boulevard.
- April 10 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at John F. Kennedy High School, 2855 S. Lamar Street.
- April 11 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at Thomas Jefferson High School 3950 S. Holly Street
- April 12 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at East High School, 1600 City Park Esplanade

Contact: Lisa Schiff at (720) 423- 3885, Cell: (303) 522-0848

Call for Volunteers

The Denver Office of Cultural Affairs (DOCA) is seeking volunteers for the third annual *Doors Open Denver*. The 2007 event will take place on the weekend of **April 14 and 15 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.** at Union Station. *Doors Open Denver* is a FREE event that offers the opportunity to tour the spectacular buildings seen every day downtown. Be a part of this exciting event as a Site Volunteer! Site Volunteers serve as greeters and ambassadors for the event and for the City of Denver. To register as a Site Volunteer, please visit the *Doors Open Denver* website at www.denvergov.org/doorsopendenver or call 303-282-5071.

This year, attendees will have access to nearly 80 of Denver's prominent architectural sites. These include corporate offices, mansions, museums, architecture and design studios, hotels, commercial and retail buildings, sports venues, transportation hubs, and more.

Participants can experience *Doors Open Denver*

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Recyclers' Corner

Mulch Giveaway and Compost Sale!

On Saturday, May 5, Denver Recycles/Solid Waste Management and Denver Parks and Recreation will be hosting the City's annual "Treecycle Mulch Giveaway and Leaf-Drop Compost Sale." The mulch is made by grinding up the Christmas trees collected from residential homes this past holiday season and the compost is made from leaves collected in last fall's LeafDrop program.

The mulch is **free** and available to Denver residents while supplies last. Compost will be **sold** only at the Havana Nursery site by A1 Organics at the incredibly low price of \$2 per ten-gallon bag (about 40 pounds) or \$28.50 per cubic yards (plus tax). Compost will only be available while supplies last so come early and bring your own bags. The free mulch will be available on Saturday, May 5, from 8 a.m. until 3 p.m. at the following locations:

NE District

- **Havana Nursery** (10450 Smith Rd., two blocks south of I-70 Exit 280) – Loader service for trucks and trailers and dig-your-own.
- **Fred Thomas Park** (Quebec & 26th Ave.) – Dig-your-own mulch.

NW District

- **Sloan's Lake Park** (Sheridan & 17th Ave.) – Dig-your-own mulch.

SE District

- **Veterans' Park** (Iowa & Vine) – Dig-your-own mulch.

SW District

- **Bear Creek Park** (On Raleigh south of Dartmouth) – Dig-your-own mulch.

Please remember:

- **The compost will only be available for sale at the Havana Nursery location.**
- The free mulch is available to City and County of Denver residents only.
- Bring a shovel or pitchfork and your own bags or containers to shovel and transport your supply of mulch or compost.
- Only the Havana Nursery site will have loader service (mulch and compost) for trucks and trailers.
- Residents loading material into trucks or trailers must bring along a tarp to make sure their loads are covered.

Mulch is generally used as a top dressing for soil around trees and plants that helps to control weeds, retains soil moisture, and protects shallow-rooted plants from weather extremes. Compost is a nutrient-rich soil amendment made from decomposed organic materials such as leaves and grass. It resembles soil and it can be mixed into soil to help reduce water and fertilizer needs or spread thinly over

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You don't have to be a tree hugger to plant a tree...

Join metro area partners to plant trees

7,000 TREES in 7 DAYS

**April 21 through April 28
Earth Day to Arbor Day 2007**

Participating Municipalities

City of Arvada	City of Thornton
City of Boulder	City of Westminster
City of Brighton	Commerce City
City & County of Denver	Highlands Ranch Metro District
City of Englewood	South Suburban Parks and Recreation District
City of Lafayette	Town of Erie
City of Littleton	Town of Parker
City of Lone Tree	Town of Superior
City of Longmont	
City of Louisville	
City of Northglenn	

Partnering Agencies

Alliance for Sustainable Colorado
AmeriCorps*NCCC
Capital Hill United Neighbors
Colorado State Forest Service
Colorado Tree Coalition - Trees Across Colorado
Corey Elementary School
East High School
Earth Force
Englewood School District
George Washington High School
Mile High Youth Corps
National Arbor Day Foundation
R.E.I.
Rocky Mountain School of Expeditionary Learning
The Greenway Foundation
The Park People
University of Denver
Urban Drainage & Flood Control
Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado
Xcel Energy Foundation

To volunteer, contact:

720.913.1311*

www.greenprintdenver.org/trees

*Denver residents can call: 311

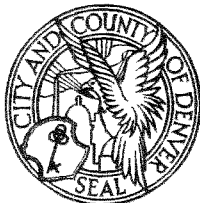
What is 7K in 7 Days? "7,000 trees in 7 days" was developed as a metro-wide, kick-off for Mayor Hickenlooper's million tree program. The million tree program is an initiative of Greenprint Denver to plant 1 million trees in the Denver metro area over the next 20 years, and is coordinated by Denver Parks and Recreation.



Title Sponsor



John W. Hickenlooper
MAYOR



City and County of Denver

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TTY/TTD: 720-865-9010

March 6, 2007

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation
C/O David Webster, President
POB 181009
Denver, CO 80218

Dear Neighbors,

I am writing to thank you for your recent letter regarding public participation in Denver, and to continue the important dialogue on the matter. As you know, I wholeheartedly agree that citizen participation is critical to the success of our city. I'm proud of the meaningful involvement neighborhoods have committed to in the past and look forward to vibrant engagement in the future.

Your letter made a number of specific recommendations, and I appreciate each one. You've raised the important charge of holding department heads accountable for involving the public in important policy issues and for responding promptly to your communications. This is the standard I hold for each and every employee in the City, and I will continue to encourage my team along these lines. We're committed as well to having neighborhood representation on boards, commissions and other similar public bodies and will continue to strive for diversity at all levels when vacancies arise. I welcome INC's assistance in identifying the best candidates for these appointments.

We understand the importance of keeping an accurate listing of RNOs and are working with Michael Henry of INC and Community Planning and Development staff to ensure that the entire process – registration, listing, and notifications – is held to the highest standards. Where possible, we are sending email notifications to groups that have requested this method of communication, and we'll continue to look for similar notification efficiencies.

Finally, you've recommended that City staff at all levels should come to neighborhood meetings to not only announce or discuss City initiatives, but to listen to neighborhood concerns. I couldn't agree more, and our team has found that when we attend gatherings to discuss an issue, we find great value in hearing other neighborhood concerns, challenges and successes. Again, I have set very high standards for each and every one of our employees, and will continue to encourage the important skills and values you've identified.

I truly appreciate your commitment to Denver's neighborhoods, and along with my Neighborhood Liaison Amber Callender, I look forward to an even stronger relationship among our diverse communities.

Sincerely,


John W. Hickenlooper
Mayor

CC: City Council
Agency Heads

(Continued from page 3, Delegates Meeting)

on 14th Avenue includes replacing sewer and water lines, running telecommunications cables, and much more. This is the first Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design ("LEED") certified project under the new U.S. Green Building Council and with women and or minority owned programs to be completed in Denver. Key neighborhood concerns that were addressed included parking (structured parking provided), the number of inmates (only 1500), future expansion (will only be at Smith Road facility), sight and sound impacts, and connectivity to neighborhoods (site planned with detached sidewalks and 14th being reduced to two lanes from Speer to Bannock). A PUD will rezone the site to allow detention facility usage. The second reading before City Council for the PUD will be March 27. Call 720-865-2664 or visit www.denvergov.org/justice_center for more information. It was noted that the Golden Triangle Association and Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods voted to support the PUD. A few questions followed:

Q: Will the portion of Elati that was renamed "Gene Amole Way" stay Gene Amole Way?

A: No. The section of street in front of the new Denver Newspaper Agency building will likely be renamed Gene Amole Way.

Q: What level of LEED certification is this project achieving?

A: The lowest (i.e., certification) but is striving for the higher silver level.

Q: What interaction is there between artists and architects and is there public review?

A: The artists meet with the architects so the public art will be integrated with the architecture. The Project Evaluation Panel has representatives from the neighborhood.

Q: Are the architects having conversations with folks who know about crime and detention centers so that the design takes into account the people who will work there or will have to be housed there?

A: The architects are working with the Crime Prevention and Control Commission throughout and are incorporating their suggestions into the design.

INC Chair Dave Webster reported about Channel 8 recording several candidate forums. Mike Henry reported that 38 candidates filed. Mike encouraged all neighborhoods to put on a strong showing at the forums. For a listing of the forums, visit www.neighborhoodlink.com/denver/inc. There was a recommendation that INC put out a list of suggested questions.

Joan Wilson, Program Manager with Parks and Recreation, handed out a list of Million Trees activities and events that need volunteers (still need around 1,200 folks). This fall, the arboreal inspectors will be working on a tree replacement project. Ms. Wilson also handed out a job requisition for a Planting Lead volunteer.

Monique Lovato noted that planting yard trees counts toward the final tree count and encourages tree-planters to plant the right tree in the right place. Monique noted that Xcel Energy has guidelines to help folks (visit www.xcelenergy.com and click on "About Energy & Rates", and then on "Trees and Power Lines"). Tree-planters should also ensure that they have identified natural gas lines on their property (call 1-800-922-1987 for more information).

Committee Reports:

Education: Monique Lovato and Billie Bramhall reported on the A+ Denver program. Billie and Monique are on two of the A+ Denver sub-committees (the three sub-committees are Finance/Facilities, Marketing/Recruitment/Retention, and Implementing the Denver Plan.) The initial goal: 2,500 new students into DPS, replicate successes (e.g., DSA), and assess and sensitively consolidate schools. Bill Johnston reported that there would be no school closings in 2007.

Zoning and Planning: At the last committee meeting, ZAP made a motion in opposition to expanding the Denver Parks and Recreation (P&R) alcohol policy. Mike read the motion. The motion passed with 28 in favor and one abstention. All neighborhood organizations are encouraged to write letters to Kim Bailey (Manager, P&R), to the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, and to their Council representatives voicing their concerns.

Public Safety: Shepard Nevel, Crestmoor Park, has volunteered to Chair the Public Safety Committee. The Committee had an initial meeting and will be developing a regular meeting schedule. All INC delegates are encouraged to let Shepard know what they would like the Public Safety Committee to address in 2007.

Dollar Dictionary: Cathee Fisher showed the dictionary and thesaurus DD passes out to every third-grader in DPS. The need is even greater this year so Cathee asked for greater participation from RNOs.

INC Executive Committee Elections:

Chair: Karen Cuthbertson and Dave Webster ran for Chair. Dave was re-elected.

Vice Chair: Charles Howard was re-elected.

Treasurer: Al Habercorn was re-elected.

Secretary: No person was nominated. Karen agreed to do it one more month.

Five Delegates-At-Large: Karen Cuthbertson, Katie Fisher, Steve Nissen, and Brad Zieg were elected by acclamation.

(Continued from page 6, Call for Volunteers)

through:

- a self-guided tour
- an Urban Adventure (self-guided tours tailored to a specific interest or theme)
- an Expert Tour (led by architects and historians)

(Continued from page 1, A+ Denver)

One request that the INC education committee is making of the district is that, during the school consolidation process, registered neighborhood organizations (RNOs) will be given information by DPS in a timely fashion with enough opportunity to comment similar to the way the city informs RNOs about zoning changes, street vacations, issuing of liquor licenses, et cetera. This would include proper notice of school closings, format changes, sale, rental, or alternative use of schools. The Board of Education has been asked to take this under advisement and believes it is a reasonable request for the district. Staffing and logistics will need to be reviewed in order to fulfill INC's request.

Marketing, Recruitment and Retention Subcommittee -- Another of the A+ Denver's subcommittees is the marketing, recruitment, and retention work group. This group will assist the district in positioning the positive progress of Denver's schools, make recommendations to the district on how to replicate successes, and determine the educational characteristics that would attract segments of the Denver citizenry that may be willing to send their children to DPS schools over other choices, such as "choicing out" of neighborhood and district schools altogether.

The Denver Plan Subcommittee -- The final subcommittee of A+ Denver is the largest and is providing community input to the district on implementation of The Denver Plan. The Denver Plan is the reform plan developed last year by district administration and faculty that comprises instructional reform, leadership reform, and other reforms.

NOTE: If you have questions or comments, please direct them to Billie Bramhall at Bramhall1@msn.com, Monique Lovato at MoniqueLovato@comcast.net, or Bill Johnston at wmwjohnton@msn.com.

Free Concerts

The following are free concerts offered by the Lamont School of Music at the University of Denver's Newman Center, 2344 E Iliff Avenue. Free parking is usually available in the Center's garage.

April 1, 7:30 to 9 p.m., Caitlin Craig, horn, Lamont Student Concert Series, Hamilton Recital Hall.

April 3, 7:30 to 9 p.m., Amanda Stevens, Lamont Student Concert Series, Hamilton Recital Hall.

April 6, 13, 20, and 27. Flo's Underground Jazz, Lamont Ensemble Series, room 121, Williams Recital Salon.

"Patriotism is a lively sense of collective responsibility. Nationalism is a silly cock crowing on its own dunghill." Richard Aldington, *The Colonel's Daughter*, 1931.

"One of the greatest attractions of patriotism—it fulfills our worst wishes. In the person of our nation we are able, vicariously, to bully and cheat. Bully and cheat, what's more, with a feeling that we are profoundly virtuous." Aldous Huxley, *Eyeless in Gaza*, 1936

(Continued from page 4, Zoning and Planning)

from their groups.

7. It was announced that Mayor Hickenlooper is hiring a consultant from Minneapolis to manage outreach for the city's proposed infrastructure bond issue. Strategy would include sending a survey to a random sample of citizens asking what infrastructure needs they believed should be on the bond issue and then randomly selecting focus groups to meet.
8. The priorities for ZAP's attention this year were discussed and will be formalized. There is a need for an INC Traffic Committee and information from the Strategic Transportation Program. A number of ZAP members spoke regarding neighborhood concerns regarding historic designation, notification issues, joining greater Park Hill as a "beta test" for proposed zoning code changes, open space, and the relationship of neighborhoods to city staff with regard to responsibility for decision-making.

The next ZAP meeting will be March 24 at 9:30 a.m., 1201 Williams Street, 19th floor.

(Continued from page 6, Recyclers' Corner)

the lawn to help grass roots retain moisture. Compost can retain 100 percent of its weight in water and is an important component of gardening in a drought.

For more information about Denver Recycles' programs, call 3-1-1 or visit us on-line at DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles.

Material of the Month: Junk mail.

Do you toss away piles of junk mail every week? Now there are two great ways to combat this waste stream: **Reduce and Recycle**.

April is national "Cut Junk Mail Month" so there is no better time to **Reduce** the overflow of unwanted mailed stuffed into your mailbox. Denver Recycles offers a free Junk Mail Reduction Kit to Denver residents. The kit includes a series of pre-printed, pre-addressed postcards that you send out to major direct mail marketing firms requesting your name and address be removed from their list. Also, you can visit Denver Recycles' website at DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles for on-line resources.

For that unwanted mail that still ends up in your mailbox, **recycle** it in your purple recycling cart at home. Junk mail such as opened mail, postcards, paper envelopes (plastic windows are okay), flyers, and advertisements can all be recycled in your Denver Recycles' recycling cart. Just remember—no plastic wrappers, no fluorescent paper, and no Tyvek® (polyethylene fiber) envelopes such as some overnight mailing envelopes. Also, do not forget to remove, block out, or shred any personal information (social security number, driver's licenses number, credit card number, et cetera) before placing the material in your recycling cart.

Call 3-1-1 or DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles.



Make a Difference.....

Become an Official

Denver Parks and Recreation in partnerships with the Division of Workforce Development is seeking motivated individuals who want to earn some extra cash while having FUN! All applicants must be at least 14 years of age and meet the eligibility guidelines.

This is a great opportunity to stay involved in the sports you love, and you will discover that you tend to get involved with things that are important to you. Give serious thought to becoming a youth sports official.



Information Session

Jackie Robinson Sports Complex
8250 E. Lowry Blvd, 80220
Saturday, April 14, 2007
10:00AM – 12:00PM



To find out about other Denver
Parks + Recreation Classes, visit:

www.denvergov.org/recreation

Election Forums

Saturday, March 31

Sponsor: League of Women Voters of Denver and INC

Location: Denver Channel 8, 23rd and Ulster Street

Moderator: Ed Sardella or Beverly W.

Candidates for:

Council at Large, 9:00 to 9:30 a.m.

Council District 4, 9:45 to 10:15 a.m.

Council District 5, 10:30 to 11:00 a.m.

Mayor, 11:15 to 11:45 a.m.

Auditor 12:00 to 12:30 p.m.

Wednesday, April 11

Sponsor: Capitol Hill United Neighbors, League of Women Voters, and INC

Location: Denver Press Club, 1330 Glenarm Place.

Moderator: Beverly Weaver

Candidates for:

Unopposed Candidates for Council Districts 6, 10, and 11, 6:00 to 6:30 p.m.

Clerk and Recorder, 6:45 to 7:15 p.m.

Saturday, April 14

Sponsor: INC

Location: Whittier Community Center, 2900 Downing

Moderator: Paul Ryan

Candidates for:

Mayor, 9:00 to 9:30 a.m.

Auditor 9:45 to 10:15 a.m.

Break for audience 10:15 – 10:45 a.m.

Council District 8, 10:45 to 11:30 a.m.

Council at Large, 12:00 to 12:30 a.m.

Hope to have candidates for Clerk/Recorder

Graffiti Meeting

The public is invited to attend the following graffiti task force subcommittees' public comment meeting: Thursday, April 5th, 5:00 to 6:30 p.m., District 1 Police Station, 1311 West 46th Avenue. All Task Force members, subcommittee members, and participants and interested parties are urged to attend.

NOTE

INC needs a person to serve as secretary.

Contact Dave Webster if you would like to volunteer!

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation

2007 Membership Application

INC is a consortium of Denver neighborhood representatives who believe that neighborhood organizations deserve a greater participation in city government and possess a shared vision that individual neighborhoods are stronger when they work together and learn from one another. **To join as a member neighborhood organization, the organization must be registered with the city as a Registered Neighborhood Organization. Log on to Denvergov.org for details. The names of Patron members and associates are listed in bold in our newsletter.**



Join as a voting neighborhood organization: Regular Member (\$35) ☐ Patron (\$75) ☐
See below to apply as an INC Associate

Organization name: _____
Address: _____
Borders: North _____ East _____
South _____ West _____

President's Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: (____) _____ Cell: (____) _____ President is a voting delegate: ☐
E-mail Address: _____
Send newsletter via: E-mail [☐] U.S. Mail [☐] Don't want newsletter [☐]

Voting Delegate Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: (____) _____ Cell: (____) _____ E-Mail Address: _____
Send newsletter via: E-mail [☐] U.S. Mail [☐] Don't want newsletter [☐]

Voting Delegate (if President is not a voting delegate)
Delegate Name _____
Address: _____
Phone: (____) _____ Cell: (____) _____ E-mail Address: _____
Send newsletter via: E-mail [☐] U.S. Mail [☐] Don't want newsletter [☐]

Join as a non-voting supporting Associate : Regular (\$20) ☐ Patron (\$75) ☐

Organization Name: _____
Organization Address: _____
Agent's Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: (____) _____ Cell: (____) _____ E-mail Address: _____
Send newsletter via: E-mail [☐] U.S. Mail [☐] Don't want newsletter [☐]

Bring this form to an INC meeting or mail to:

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation
PO Box 181009
Denver, CO 80218-1009

(Continued from page 4, Around the City)

are supporting it.

Greater Mar Lee Community Org. – We are still having many issues with gangs and graffiti. Our community library is no longer serving our community as a whole. Many seniors have been disenfranchised as have other English-speaking populations. These groups are being told to travel out of our community for services. GMLCO is happy to be hosting a candidate's forum at our March meeting.

Mayfair Neighbors, Inc. – We are exploring adding a sun-sail shade structure to Mayfair Park to provide shade over the playground area and promote more summertime use. This will involve getting Parks and Recreation's okay and raising funds to cover construction.

Solid Waste Management – Saturday, May 5 is the date for the 2007 Mulch Giveaway and Compost Sale. For more information, visit www.denvergov.org/DenverRecycles. Solid Waste Management is considering operating on non-major holidays and delaying services for a day. Non-major holidays include Martin Luther King Day, Caesar Chavez Day, Presidents' Day, Labor Day, et cetera. We'd like feedback from the neighborhoods as to whether or not you think this would be a good idea. Please send comments and questions to swm@ci.denver.co.us. (Note: A "straw poll" of the INC Delegates and guests in attendance showed a generally favorable reaction.)

University Park – The draft UP Neighborhood Plan is heading for presentation by May. The redeveloper of the former Albertsons site has given the UP neighborhood a number of mature trees not needed in the redevelopment.

UP School holds a UP House Tour on May 5. All are welcome. Call 303-756-9407 for more information.

West University Community Assn. – Developments ring the WUCA area and keep us busy. Neighbors solidly oppose the Mile High Development (at the University Light Rail Station) but it now proceeds to the Blueprint Committee. The Louisiana-Pearl Street Station draft plan is out with much work to be done to be viable. Funding for the South Broadway development (public improvements) has come through after so many years and businesses and residents alike are getting involved. The application(s) for the DeBoer Historic District, with all its contentions, will go before City Council on Monday, March 12.

Whittier Neighborhood Assn. – There is nothing to report except the appointment of the Manual High School principal, Dr. Robert Stein, headmaster of the Garland Country Day School. We are excited about Dr. Stein's enthusiasm to re-open Manual and educate our children.

"Patriotism is the last refuge of a scoundrel." Samuel Johnson as quoted by James Boswell in *The Life of Samuel Johnson*.

"To deride patriotism marks impoverished blood, but to extol it as an ideal or an impulse above truth and justice, at the cost of the general interest of humanity, is far worse." John Morley, *Notes on Politics and History: A University Address*, 1913

"Guard against the impostures of pretended patriotism." George Washington, *Farewell Address*, 1796.



The public is welcome to attend the meeting.

**Meeting Saturday
April 14th**
The public
is welcome to attend.

**Whittier Community
Center
2900 Downing Street
(Take the Light-rail
D-Line north)**

See map on page 11

8:45 a.m.

Coffee and Chat

Election Forum
With Paul Ryan moderating

9:00 to 9:30 a.m.

Mayoral Candidates

9:45 to 10:15 a.m.

Auditor

10:15 to 10:45 a.m.

Audience Break

10:45 to 11:30 a.m.

Council District 8

12:00 to 12:30 p.m.

Council-at-large

1 p.m.

Adjournment

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation
P.O. Box 181009
Denver, CO 80218-1009

Officers/Executive Committee/Chairs

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720-941-8026
dj-jl-webster@att.net
Colfax on the Hill, Inc.
Charles Howard, Vice-chair
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ae5260@msn.com
West University Community Assn.
Al Habercorn, Treasurer
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ahabercorn@msn.com
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Karen Cuthbertson, Delegate-at-large
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West University Community Assn.
Steve Nissen, **Delegate-at-large**
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Shepard Nevel, Chair, Public Safety
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Crestmoor Park Homeowners Assn
Filing 2.