

INC Education Committee Busy and Active

The Education Committee is composed of co-chairs Billie Bramhall (Golden Triangle Association) and Karen Brown-Gerdine (Five Points Historic Association) and members Monique Lovato (Whittier Neighborhood Association) and Bill Johnston (West Highland Neighborhood Association). The committee would like at least two more members, one each from southeast- and southwest-Denver so that we can demonstrate to Denver Public Schools (DPS) that INC includes input from all of Denver's neighborhoods. Any person attached to an INC member neighborhood is welcome to join the committee.

This article presents a description of the serious challenges facing Denver Public Schools at this time, facts and figures from DPS (see DPS CHALLENGES below), and is followed by some ideas for INC and its member organizations to get involved. We've done a lot of research and thinking about education issues and how INC can have meaningful input and be helpful.

DPS CHALLENGES

There is good news and bad news about the state of Denver Public Schools today. The bad news is that almost one-third of Denver's children do not attend DPS. (Note: Some Denver children have always attended parochial and private schools and received decent education but, although this is difficult to track, evidence indicates that percentage is increasing in recent years.) This not only affects the quality and composition of Denver's schools in a complicated way, but also seriously threatens the ability to fund K-12 education in Denver. In addition, 25% of public school students drop out of school without completing high school. Further, in a school system that is 57% Hispanic, 19% African-American, and 20% Anglo, the achievement gap between Anglo and other students is widening.

The good news is that, with the leadership of a new superintendent and staff, DPS has adopted a strategic plan to address these challenges and is considering a new direction to fix structural problems in the school district's budget. DPS wants to work in "every school community to establish an intentional school culture and positive school climate."

The Facts

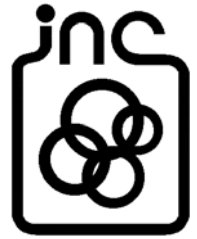
- The number of school-aged children in Denver is estimated to be between 80,000 and 95,000. DPS serves 68,000 of them in 140 buildings. That is a drop of 10,000 since 2002 and nearly 30,000 since the 1968 enrollment peak.

- DPS ranks 159th out of 174 Colorado school districts in rate of graduation. The Denver rate for all students was 76.4% for the class of 2004. Of 575 students at one high school in 2005, 32% dropped out, 27% graduated, 27% transferred, and only 14% still attend the school. DPS is working to make its drop-out information accurate and complete.

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August
2006

www.
neighborhoodlink.
com/denver/inc

Denver Neighborhood
Connection

INC Member and Associate Organizations (Patrons in Bold)

Member Organizations

Advocates for Diverse Denver
 Alamo Placita Neighbors Assn
 Athmar Park Neighborhood Assn
 Baker Historic Neighborhood Assn
Ball Park Neighborhood Assn
 Bellevue-Hale Neighborhood Assn
 Berkeley Neighborhood Assn
 Berkeley-Regis United Neighbors
 Bonnie Brae Neighborhood Assn
CCHN
 Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods Inc
 Cherry Creek East Assn

Cherry Creek North Neighborhood Assn
 Cherry Hills Vista Community Assn
 Cherry Point Homeowners Assn
 City Park West Neighborhood Assn
 Civic Association of Clayton
 Clayton Neighborhood Assn
 Colfax Business Improvement District
 Colfax on the Hill, Inc
 Congress Park Neighbors
 Cook Park Neighborhood Assn
Cory-Merrill Neighborhood Assn
Crestmoor Park Homeowners Assn
2nd filing
 Crestmoor Park Homeowners Inc Filing One
 Curtis Park Neighbors
 Denargo Market Neighbors Coalition
 Denver's Art District on Sante Fe
Downtown Denver Residents Org
 Driving Park Historic District
 East Montclair Neighborhood Assn
 Elyria Swansea/Globeville Business Assn.
 Far Northeast Neighbors, Inc
 George Washington Homeowner's Assn. Inc.
 Globeville Civic Assn I
 Godsman Community Neighborhood Org
Golden Triangle Arts District
 Golden Triangle Assn
 Greater Mar Lee Community Org
Greater Park Hill Inc.
 Hampden Heights Civic Assn
 Hampden South Neighborhood Assn
 Harkness Heights Neighborhood Assn
 Harman Neighborhood Assn Inc.
 Highland United Neighborhood
 Hilltop Heritage Assn LLC
 Humboldt Street Neighborhood Assn
 Hutchinson Hills/Willow Point HOA
 Inspiration Point Neighborhood Assn
 Ivy Street Neighbors Assn
 Leetsdale Cop Shop
 Lowry Community Master Assn.
 Lynwood 7 & 8 Neighborhood Assn
Mayfair Neighbors, Inc
 Mayfair Park Neighborhood Assn
 Montbello United Neighbors
 North City Park Civic Assn
 Overland Neighborhood Assn
 Platt Park Peoples Assn
 Sloans Neighborhood Assn
 South City Park Neighborhood Assn

South Hilltop Neighborhood Assn
 South Jackson Street Reg Denver Neighborhood
 Southern Hills Community Assn.
Southmoor Park East Homeowners Assn
 Stapleton United Neighbors
 Summerfield at Indian Creek
 The FAX Partnership
 The Five Points Historic Assn
 The Unsinkables
 University Neighbors
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)
West Washington Park Neighborhood Assn
 Whittier Neighborhood Assn

Associates

Bonna Gayhart
 Bow Mar Heights Improvement Assn
 Carter M. Ballinger, M.D.
 Cherry Creek North BID
Councilman Doug Linkhart
Councilman Rick Garcia
Councilwoman Carol Boigon
Councilwoman Jeanne Robb
Councilwoman Marcia Johnson
Councilwoman Peggy Lehmann
Denver Health Medical Center
Denver Water
 FRESC (Front Range Economic Strategy Center)
 Gertie Grant
 Hilltop
 Historic Denver Inc.
 League of Women Voters of Denver
 LoDo District Inc.
 Morrison Road Business Association of Denver
 Neighborhood Resource Center
 Pam Schenkein
 The Greens @ Pinehurst HOA
Xcel Energy



Denver Neighborhood Connection

Denver Neighborhood Connection
 is published monthly by

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation
 (a coalition of Denver neighborhoods)

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

Subscriptions are free. INC organiza-
 tions should send changes to their or-
 ganization 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.

Minutes of July 17th Executive Committee Meeting

By Karen Cuthbertson, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 p.m. by Chair Dave Webster. In attendance were Executive Committee (EC) members Karen Cuthbertson, Loretta Galla, Charles Howard, Bill Johnston, Monique Lovato, and Anthony Thomas. Also in attendance were Standing/Special Committee Chairs Billie Bramhall, Cathee Fisher, Michael Henry, and Steve Nissen. The June minutes were approved. The Treasurer's report was accepted. Education Committee Report: Billie Bramhall presented the Committee's initial recommendations and short-term tasks. In particular, Billie would like to see higher RNO participation with their neighborhood schools and would like INC to take a more active role helping that happen as well as be more of a conduit to getting DPS-related information out to RNOs. The EC recommended that Billie submit an article for the newsletter (see page 1). The EC also recommended that the Committee urge DPS to take more of a role in making contact with individual RNOs. Dave mentioned that Dollar Dictionary was a great way to make a connection. Dollar Dictionary Co-Chair Cathee Fisher brought up that she needs help from each RNO to make delivering books to schools a community event. Dave suggested that INC make personal entreaties to RNOs.

The new Neighborhood Liaison, Amber Callender, introduced herself and spoke a little about what she understood her new role to be and heard a little about what INC would like to see.

The EC reviewed meeting dates and topics.

Neighborhood Handbook: Karen submitted the printer's invoice and her request for payment.

Anthony invited the EC and Committee Chairs to the Curtis Park community picnic, August 19th, City of Nairobi Park, 35th & Madison, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Committee Reports:

- * Audit: none. AI is to schedule a meeting of the Committee.
- * Dollar Dictionary: 16,032 books ordered. Labeling will be at Rocky Mountain SER in August.
- * Education Committee: Pursuing ways to get INC members more involved with tutoring and trying to identify goals that the committee should focus on.
- * Membership: none

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Minutes of July 8th Delegates Meeting

By Karen Cuthbertson, Secretary

Councilwoman Elbra Wedgeworth welcomed the attendees and noted some walking tours and other activities of note in the area.

Denver Police Chief Gerry Whitman presented preliminary year-to-date crime statistics. Crimes against persons and crimes against property are down except for District 5 where there was a four-percent increase in crimes against persons. The Chief also reported that the Records Management System was being implemented and will improve record keeping, enable faster identification of trends, and increase accuracy of the data in reports and analyses. In addition, the crime lab is going over some 300 cold cases using advanced DNA analysis techniques and DPD is expanding into collecting DNA evidence at property crime scenes. The Chief was proud of the 300 to 400 citizen-participants in Denver's Volunteers in Policing program that is internationally recognized as the best in the business. DPD and the City Attorney are currently finalizing video surveillance policy and DPD is purchasing 12 cameras to surveil "hot spots." The Chief would like residents to identify known problem areas. Chief Whitman reported that 510 Officers are trained in Crisis Intervention Techniques and are proving effective at diffusing crises such as attempted suicides.

Committee Reports:

- ▶ Zoning and Planning: Committee chair Michael Henry reported on the progress of the Zoning Code Task Force that will have public meetings in August. He encouraged all to attend to learn about and comment on the consultants' report diagnosing the many problems with the 1956 zoning code. In early fall, there will be another series of public workshops to help develop tools to stabilize neighborhoods.
- ▶ Dollar Dictionary - Steve Nissan reported about a dictionary fund-raising effort in coordination with the new Macy's opening at Northfield.
- ▶ Membership - Ken Beaudrie welcomed 3 new members.
- ▶ Safety - no report.
- ▶ Education - no report.
- ▶ Transportation - Harriet thanked everyone for their input. The committee will start meeting.

Elana Nuñez from Colorado for Clean Government passed a petition in support of a state constitutional amendment regarding ethics in government. For more

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Zoning and Planning Committee Report

By Diana Helper, Member

Nearly fifty INC members and guests attended the July 22nd meeting of the INC Zoning and Planning (ZAP) Committee. Notices of the coming informational/public input meetings of Denver's Zoning Code Task Force (ZCTF) were distributed and attendance urged.

A copy of the newly printed Neighborhood Handbook was passed around. This update of INC's 1999 edition was facilitated in great part by Karen Cuthbertson. Each Registered Neighborhood Organization (RNO) will receive a copy and others will be for sale for \$20 through the city and at future INC Delegates meetings. The book also will be on city and INC websites.

Also passed around was a "Pattern Book" from Norfolk, VA, brought by the Platt Park Peoples' Association to show an approach to maintaining and emulating historic homes to fit into stable neighborhoods. A petition regarding Ethics and Government also was circulated.

Amber Callender, newly-appointed liaison to neighborhoods from the Mayor, was present and welcomed. Amber has been an aide to Councilman-at-Large Doug Linkhart and before that to Councilwoman Kathleen MacKenzie. She will attend INC meetings regularly.

Councilman Rick Garcia spoke on Chicago's Historic Bungalow Association that creates valuable incentives to save 1/4 to 1/3 of these historic homes in special districts. Rick will share this information also with the Landmark Commission, ZCTF, and others. Rick is chairman of a new City Council committee for Neighborhood and Community Development and Revitalization that will include concerns regarding Neighborhood Inspection Services, maintenance, improvement, and other issues that bring RNO agendas to Council level.

Larry Ambrose of Sloan's Lake spoke briefly about the RNO's position regarding promotion of appropriate development without down-zoning. They are looking to the Planning Office for leadership.

Peter Park, Manager of Denver Community Planning and Development (CPD) Department, spoke about the reorganization and range of activities of the CPD planning staff, many of whom were in attendance at this meeting. They introduced themselves. ZAP members were most appreciative that they were present. A chart (revised 6/6/06) for CPD Planning Services and Permit and Inspection Services was distributed. Planning is now divided into Comprehensive Planning (staff who will assist

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Athmar Park N.A. – Very effective "broken windows" policing in the Westwood neighborhood seems to have driven tag and graffiti vandals into Athmar Park resulting in a dramatic increase in graffiti, car break-ins, and other "petty" crimes that aren't generally reported but are distinctly felt by residents. A new retail development is underway at Kentucky Avenue and Federal Boulevard. Houston Lake, which earlier this summer was at the lowest water level in recent memory and had algae blooming across the lowered surface, has now been filled to almost brim-full (the lake is fed by Sanderson Gulch, whose waters had been diverted to other recipients until recently). Many thanks to Denver's Parks and Recreation for helping to ensure that Athmar Park's crown jewel will shine again.

Ball Park N.A. – Hoping to break ground on construction of Triangle Park. We're working on design review guidelines for new development.

Berkeley-Regis United Neighbors – BRUN is one of INC's newest members and is glad to be a part of this organization. Some of the current hot issues that we seek guidance on include cell-tower installation and graffiti. Particularly regarding the cell-tower installation, BRUN asks what other RNOs have done around agreements with cell phone companies as well as working with local businesses and residents. Please contact us with any information about your efforts:

Ben Hamilton – btodd74@comcast.net.

Cherry Creek North – On Wednesday, August 2nd, at 6 p.m., a public meeting will be held on business improvement district design improvements that includes Fillmore Plaza. This "Garden District" concept will provide enhanced landscaping, traffic signals, pedestrian amenities, and other improvements. 1st Avenue safety issues will also be addressed. The meeting will be held at Good Shepherd School at 6th Avenue and Elizabeth Street.

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Recyclers' Corner

Solid Waste Management (SWM) goes full throttle with recycling cart deliveries. Denver Recycles has completed cart deliveries to approximately 60% of participating customers in Denver (more than 38,000 carts) and is thrilled that plans are to complete implementation of recycling carts to all customers by the end of 2006. Carts deliveries were completed for Phases 1 in October of 2005 and Phase 2 and 3 in June and July. The final two phases (Phases 4 and 5) are scheduled for cart deliveries in the fall.



Residents in Phases 4 and 5 can assist in the cart delivery process by keeping an eye in the mail for an informational postcard that will be mailed a few weeks prior to cart delivery. The postcard will state the date (either the week or specific day) when carts will be delivered to your home and include instructions on how to ensure that you receive a cart. Residents may check their scheduled delivery day on-line at www.DenverGov.org/DenverRecycles.

The cart delivery schedule is arranged to allow for efficient routing of the recycle trucks and not by neighborhood. SWM will be working with customers to make the delivery of the new recycling carts in 2006 as smooth as possible. Due to the sheer number of carts scheduled for delivery, they do expect to run into a problem or two. Hence, they ask for your patience as they work to correct any issues that may arise.

To get a cart, residents must be a current participant in the recycling program and have recyclables set-out on collection days in order for us to exchange the current smaller bins with a new larger, wheeled recycling cart. **During scheduled cart delivery days, alley or backdoor collection customers will need to set their recycling bins out for collection at the curb, in front of their home.** This is a one time change only for alley and backdoor customers. After the cart delivery day is completed, customers may resume setting their recycling cart in their normal assigned locations on their scheduled day.

Residents in Phases 1, 2, or 3 who missed their scheduled cart delivery day need to contact Denver Recycles at 311 (or 720-913-1311 if dialing outside of Denver) to be added to a delivery list. Residents must have a cart to continue participating in the recycling program. Also, please note that once a cart is delivered to your home it should be brought onto your property. Carts may not be left at the curb or in the alley during non-collection days. Carts left in the alley or at the curb on non-collection days may be removed.

If you do not currently participate in the program but would like to start, please call Denver Recycles at 311 (or 720-913-1311 if dialing outside of Denver).

Jury Duty Scam

Most of us take those summonses for jury duty seriously but enough people skip out on their civic duty that a new and ominous kind of scam has surfaced. Fall for it and your identity could be stolen, reports CBS. In this con, someone calls pretending to be a court official who threateningly says a warrant has been issued for your arrest because you didn't show up for jury duty. The caller claims to be a jury coordinator. If you protest that you never received a summons for jury duty, the scammer asks you for your social security number and date of birth so he or she can verify the information and cancel the arrest warrant. Sometimes they even ask for credit card numbers. Give out any of this information and bingo, your identity just got stolen! The scam has been reported in Colorado. This scam is particularly insidious because they use intimidation over the phone to try to bully people into giving information by pretending they're with the court system.

Denver Handbook

Hot off the press! INC is proud to publish the 2006 Denver Neighborhood Handbook and provide each RNO with a copy. This Handbook is intended to empower neighborhoods to accomplish crucial steps quickly and effectively. It's also available on the INC and denvergov websites.

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

Denver League Kicks-Off Season

The general public is invited to attend the fall Kick-Off Meeting of the League of Women Voters of Denver being held on **Monday, September 11 at 5:30 p.m.** in the Fellowships Hall at **Calvary Baptist Church** located on the corner of **Hampden Avenue** and **Monaco Parkway**. The meeting will feature a panel engaging the audience in a lively discussion of several topics of interest related to voting in the November 7th election. There will be updates and discussion on the STATUS OF THE DENVER ELECTION COMMISSION, some of the PROPOSED CHANGES TO DENVER VOTING METHODS, the USE OF THE NEW VOTING CENTERS, and the NEW VOTING MACHINES all led by League committee members who have been researching and following these issues for some time.

The panel will begin at 6:00 p.m. but, prior to the panel at 5:30 p.m., the League is offering a special opportunity for all attendees to view a special women's history timeline exhibit while enjoying light refreshments. Come and meet author Charlotte Waisman who, with co-author Jill Tietjen, has written a unique book titled *Weaving Her Story into History* whose format is a timeline of the significant accomplishments of outstanding women throughout history. From the book, the authors have developed a women's history timeline exhibit that is being displayed across the country to wonderful reviews. It was well received in Denver last March at the Webb Building in honor of Women's History Month. This riveting, spell-binding exhibit leaves viewers transfixed and silently moving along the display.

The League of Women Voters was formed in 1920 but is no longer for women only as many men are now counted among the members. For 86 years one of the League's reasons for being has been to educate not only themselves but also the general public. The League has earned a national reputation for honest research resulting in excellent materials that have been made available for all people. Before elections, the Denver LWV publishes a pro and con pamphlet on issues copies of which are then widely distributed. In addition, non-partisan forums are organized and moderated by LWV and are presented throughout the city. After local elections, LWV updates the Denver City Directory and it is then available for use. The League has taken positions on many topics such as city government, justice, housing, education, and health. Further information on these and other topics can be found at www.lwvDenver.org or by calling 303-321-7571.

Camp Rollandet

The acquisition of Camp Rollandet (5161 Sheridan Boulevard) in the Inspiration Point Park neighborhood by the City and County of Denver as open space started in 2002 with then District 1 Councilman Dennis Gallagher. The owner at that time was Camp Fire Girls and Boys. Camp Fire's national organization decided to sell the seven acres at 52nd and Sheridan so it was listed with Stew Mosko of Fuller Real Estate. Mr. Mosko's first and initial thrust marketing the property was to the City and County of Denver.

However the first buyer that was introduced to the neighborhood was Sheridan Glen Housing (52nd and Benton) owner Brothers Redevelopment Corporation who planned to leave most of the site intact. This fell through. While recently elected Councilman Rick Garcia was chairing these meetings with Brothers, neighborhood residents Ralph Fischer and Joe Piro suggested using lottery money for a purchase as open space. Over the next couple years, Councilman Garcia facilitated bringing all parties together for the successful sale to the City as open space.

Although Stew had at least 12 qualified commercial buyers wanting to build on the site, he graciously heard the concerns of the neighborhood regarding such a development. Mr. Mosko indicated it took a great deal of patience, trust, and courage on the part of Camp Fire to wait for the government process to percolate through its protocol.

At this time IPNA, on behalf of Mr. Mosko, would like to recognize The Camp Fire organization, for without their courageous cooperation this hugely important piece of preservation on such a beautiful piece of property with such an outstanding location would not have taken place.

The purchase amount of \$753,000 was assembled for closing (Great Outdoors Colorado: \$450,000, City and County of Denver: \$300,000, IPNA: \$3,100 from 53 donors). The neighborhood is indebted to The Camp Fire organization, the work of State Representative Jerry Franigas who was instrumental in obtaining the GOCO money, Councilman Rick Garcia for his commitment in making the sale of Camp Rollandet a success within the City, and IPNA Past President Bob Lorenz for leading the neighborhood effort.

City Council approved the purchase contract April 19, 2005. The sale was closed in October.

IPNA Past President Bob Lorenz, Susan Baird, and Jude O'Connor of Denver Parks and Recreation received Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation (INC) Neighborhood Stars "Denver Good Neighbor Awards" for their efforts in

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Dial 311

Need to schedule a building inspection? Apply for a marriage license? Report a pothole or a malfunctioning traffic signal? Now the City of Denver has an easy, free way for you to get the answers you need regarding all City-related business: just pick up the phone and dial three numbers: 311.

Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper announced the activation of Denver's 311 system on Friday, July 7th. "311 is the City's non-emergency information number. It will revolutionize Denver's approach to customer service by providing our residents and businesses with the ability to make 'one call to City Hall' for all of their City-related questions," said Mayor Hickenlooper. "From reporting a pothole or purchasing a park permit to starting a new business or getting a marriage license, 311 will handle it all."

Gone are the days of sifting through the 1,200 listings for City of Denver services in the "blue pages" section of the phone book. Folks in Denver can now simply call 311 and take care of City business with one phone call. Citizens can also utilize the 311 City information system by e-mailing City-related questions or concerns to 311@ci.denver.co.us, faxing to 720-913-8490, or by walking in to the 311 center for in-person contact at the Webb Municipal Building at 201 West Colfax in Downtown Denver. There is never any charge for using the 311 system.

Callers to 311 will not be passed around from department to department or have to endure long waits for assistance. Trained 311 customer service agents will either answer questions on the spot or they will assign a tracking number to the inquiry if a special service is requested such as fixing a broken streetlight. The tracking number allows citizens to follow their requests for service through the City system online at www.denvergov.org.

311 users can also find out the status of a specific request or add more information or comments by referring to their specific 311 tracking number by phone, email, or fax. Because of the tracking numbers, questions and requests will not "get lost in the system" and will receive guaranteed follow-up quickly. Since tracking numbers are assigned to each question and request the City will also be able to better evaluate how effectively the City provides services.

The 311 Call Center is initially open seven days a week from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. with limited coverage on holidays. However, citizens can go to www.denvergov.org for the status of service requests made through 311 and even submit new requests any hour of the day or night. The City is researching the potential to ultimately run the operation 24 hours a day, seven days a week. There are 30 customer service agents taking calls that are anticipated to be around 800,000 the first year of operation. 311 is a multi-lingual service with the ability to communicate with callers in 182 different languages. In addition, 311 serves the deaf and hearing-impaired community through a TTY line.

311 also improves safety by reducing the number of non-emergency calls to 911 and providing another communication tool in a crisis. Other cities have found that as much as 40% of

their 911 calls have been non-emergency in nature. Denver has invested around \$3.5 million in the 311 system compared to much higher start-up costs in other cities. For example, New York spent \$25 million on their 311 system. Denver's annual operation costs are expected to be about \$1.5 million. Right now, 311 is available to only those calling from the City of Denver. However, surrounding cities have shown interest in the 311 system and are exploring how the system might work within their city boundaries.

Downtown Forum

Please join Downtown Denver Partnership for a Member Forum on Thursday, August 17th, at the magnificent new Ellie Caulkins Opera House. Downtown Denver is home to many of the top attractions visited most often by visitors to Denver. Join us for a panel discussion of why Denver's cultural attractions are drawing national and international attention and how that will positively impact Downtown Denver. Hear firsthand about some of the exciting developments and learn more about the wealth of cultural and entertainment options in Downtown Denver.

Please join us **Thursday, August 17th** in the **Ellie Caulkins Opera House** for the **7:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast** and at the **8:00 to 9:00 a.m. Member Forum**

Co-Hosted by Centerplate and Theatres and Arenas.

Please note: Because food and beverages may not be taken into the Opera House, the continental breakfast will be served from 7:30 to 8:00 a.m. only.

Moderator: Sharon Linhart, President, Linhart McClain Finlon Public Relations

Panelists:

- Jack Finlaw, Director, Theatres and Arenas
 - Lewis Sharp, Director, Denver Art Museum
 - Erin Trapp, Director, Denver Office of Cultural Affairs
- R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, August 15th, to 303-571-8207**

This Member Forum is free to members of the Downtown Denver Partnership. Non-members are welcome to attend for a fee of \$25.

Good-bye from Tamara

Greetings Neighbors!

I hope your summer is filled with block parties, picnics, and pool activities at Denver's Parks and Recreation centers and long evening strolls through great neighborhoods! I want to take this opportunity to thank you for allowing me to work with you. I am leaving the Mayor's office to pursue new adventures in civic engagement, journalism, and political leadership. I would not be able

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School Partners Program

You are invited to join us to learn more about how you can support Denver Public Schools and the School Partners Program, the first step in achieving and maintaining academic success for students. Denver Public Schools, in an effort to close reported academic achievement gaps for students, has developed the Denver Plan, a strategic district educational revitalization plan. One goal of this plan is to engage the business community in supporting DPS schools.

For the 2006/2007 school year, the Denver Public School Foundation will launch a pilot of the School Partners Program. Twenty schools have been selected to participate many of which predominately serve students of color. The School Partners Program will cultivate, sustain, and nurture tailor-made partnerships between local businesses and DPS schools. Partners can contribute volunteer time, in-kind contributions, and financial donations that meet the needs of their school. No contribution is too small and all contributions will make a difference.

It is imperative that the business community support the School Partners Program. By supporting this program, the desired goal of increasing academic achievement among students can be met.

To learn more about how you and your business can participate in the School Partners Program, the BUDS (Businesses United for Denver Schools) group will be hosting an information session on August 11th from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m. at the Downtown Denver Partnership boardroom, 511 16th Street, Suite 200, in Denver.

Please R.S.V.P. to Ciandra Jackson, Program Assistant, at 303.894.8246 or ciandra@coronaresearch.com.

The business community must invest and take pride in Denver Public Schools. The time is now and the action begins with participating in the School Partners Program.

Cultural Council Opening

Denver City Councilwoman Peggy Lehmann, Chair of the Council's Public Amenities Committee, has announced that application forms are available for citizens interested in filling two vacancies on the Denver County Cultural Council (DCCC), a board authorized by the State and by City Council to distribute Scientific and Cultural Facilities District Tier III revenues to qualifying cultural organizations.

In filling these vacancies, City Council is looking for individuals with active community involvement at the neighborhood level and professional, volunteer, or advocacy experience in arts, cultural, scientific, or historical organizations. Councilwoman Lehmann indicated that

applicants should have a citywide perspective and be willing to commit at least 15 to 20 hours per month to DCCC. The workload peaks during the annual grant application review period of March through June.

The Denver County Cultural Council is comprised of eleven voting members. Three are ex-officio representing citywide organizations and eight are community representatives selected from interested applicants. Applicants should be able to serve a three-year term renewable for an additional two years by mutual agreement. The appointments will be made by resolution of the Denver City Council. Applicants must be:

- Denver residents;
- at least 21 years of age;
- not currently a volunteer or paid staff of any organization applying for Tier III funding; and
- be willing to disclose any conflict of interest.

Application forms are available at [www.denvergov.org/City Council](http://www.denvergov.org/CityCouncil) or at the Denver City Council Office, City and County Building Room 451, 1437 Bannock Street, Denver, CO 80202. Completed applications should be returned **by 5:00 p.m. on July 28, 2006**, to Gretchen Williams at gretchen.williams@ci.denver.co.us, the above postal address, or faxed to 720-865-9540.

Learn to Compost Free

Learn to turn your garbage into quality organic growing material by signing up for one of this year's remaining free "Learn to Compost" classes or neighborhood seminars. To sign up for a free, hands-on, 2-hour backyard composting class at the Denver Backyard Composting Demonstration Site or a Neighborhood Compost Seminar, call **720-865-6810** or e-mail DenverRecycles@ci.denver.co.us. All classes are free but participants must register at least one week before the desired class to ensure proper staffing. Seminars to take place on Saturdays from 10 a.m. until noon as follows:

- **August 19th** - at the Curtis Park Community Garden, located at 2890 Curtis Street. This is in the Curtis Park neighborhood.
- **September 16th** - at the Rosedale Community Garden, 2332 S. Sherman Street. This is in the Harvard Gulch neighborhood.

Remaining 2006 dates for "Learn to Compost" classes. These classes will be held at the Denver Backyard Composting Demonstration Site in Denver Urban Gardens' Gove Community Garden located at 13th Avenue and Colorado Boulevard:

- **July 23rd** (2 - 4 PM)

(Continued on page 12)

(Continued from page 4, Zoning and Planning)

with neighborhood plans) and Plan Implementation (special projects, staff assigned to various large city sections). A map of these assignments also was distributed. A new manager is to be hired for Comprehensive Planning.

Tyler Gibbs, Manager for Plan Implementation, explained that these services have a more direct process now with planners receiving and processing zoning applications and working with the neighborhoods involved. You may contact him for information or check the city's website.

Steve Gordon, CPD Development and Planning Supervisor, spoke about ongoing neighborhood plans and assessments. The Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Strategic Plan is posted on the city website.

Current concerns were voiced by ZAP members from many Denver RNOs. These included word of a new "Standards for Construction" document by the Denver Homebuilders Association to urge strict compliance with existing regulations, zoning concerns near Louisiana Station and University Station, several historic designation issues, a new group "Denver History Forum" for sharing information, renewed talks about "Country Club Gardens" site on South Downing, the need for broader scope for the South Broadway/Lincoln National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) study, West Colfax Avenue issues, height limits for Golden Triangle, public transit to the mountains, Main Street zoning, affordable housing, and much more.

Theresa Lucero of CPD spoke about the ZCTF. Its diagnostic report is on the city website. The group is identifying neighborhood typologies and refining its look at various types of structures.

Peter Park stated that Waivers and Conditions are still in use. CPD is looking at how they are being used and how Blueprint Denver directs that they should be used.

Molly Urbina, CPD Deputy Manager, said that the Development, Review, and Permitting update will be completed in the fall. The November 2005 document to the city from INC detailing a number of residential construction issues which need priority attention has been received by all City Councilpersons and further implementation must be continued.

Councilman Doug Linkhart addressed the issue of the placement of Bus Stop Billboards (Kiosks). He and Councilwoman Kathleen MacKenzie are sponsoring an ordinance proposed to include notification of adjacent property owners, to prohibit kiosks from residential areas (even those along arterials) and all parkways, and to detail an exit strategy for this program. Kathleen will request formally that INC support this ordinance. Doug distributed a list of 200 more sites to receive kiosks and urged

RNOs and individuals to contact their Councilpersons quickly with regard to sites deemed inappropriate for such billboards.

Mary Myers reported that the City Council Public Works committee has a presentation of the new sidewalk policy on its agenda for August 9th. ZAP members were urged to contact Councilpersons regarding the need for sidewalks at all new construction. This policy has not yet been made available to the public. When this agenda is confirmed, ZAP members will be notified.

The meeting adjourned at 12:20. The next ZAP meeting will be Saturday, August 19, a week earlier than usual so that members will be free to attend the Downtown Area planning meeting the following Saturday.

You're Invited. End of Report.

Additional Zoning information follows:

The Denver Zoning Code Update is hosting diagnostic report presentations as they implement Blueprint Denver. Please attend the session most convenient for you.

Wednesday, August 9th, Two Options:

4:00 to 5:30 p.m. at the Colorado History Museum,
1300 Broadway.

6:30-8:30 p.m. at SWIC, 1000 S. Lowell Blvd.

Tuesday, August 15th, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Johnson and
Wales University, 7150 Montview.

Wednesday, August 16th, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Centura
Senior Life Center, 1601 Lowell Blvd.

Thursday, August 17th, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Police Dis-
trict 3 Substation, 1625 S. University Blvd.

(Continued from page 4, Around the City)

Cory-Merrill – Issues include: lack of sidewalks, traffic speeds, and compliance by builders with zoning codes and ordinances. Our new website, www.corymerrill.org, and quarterly newsletter have been redesigned.

Curtis Park – The Curtis Park neighborhood will be working with Historic Denver to host the 2007 Historic Denver Home Tour during the first week after Labor Day in 2007. An 1880 home at the corner of 28th and Stout Street was demolished on July 7th. There was no neighborhood notification. The lot will be the site of contemporary town homes. Chris Martinez, our RTD board director, joined our monthly meeting for a great two-hour discussion on RTD service, safety, and FasTracks. The Curtis Park web page, curtisspark.com, has many new features for publishing information and archiving neighborhood information.

Denver Solid Waste Management – When purchasing trash containers for servicing by Denver Solid Waste Management, be aware that the maximum serviceable size is 32 gallons (50 pounds when filled).

Greater Mar Lee – Issues include: excessive fireworks,

(Continued on page 11)

(Continued from page 1, Education Committee)

- DPS ranks 93rd out of 151 school districts in CSAP gains since 1997. The average scores of Anglo, African-American, and Hispanic students in DPS are lower than the state average in reading, writing, and mathematics.
- In last year's High School Reading CSAP, 71% of Anglo students, 34% of African-American students and 24% of Hispanic students scored proficient or higher. In the High School Mathematics CSAP, 37% of Anglo students, 5% of African-American students, and 5% of Hispanic students scored proficient or higher.
- Over the past few years, CSAP scores have remained flat for most groups in Grade 4 reading and writing. In Grade 8, the achievement gap has remained constant or grown in reading, writing, and mathematics. In Grade 10, the achievement gap between Anglo and Hispanic students has grown in reading, writing, and mathematics.

The Challenges

- Finances: The drop in enrollment is so great that the school district will have to close some schools to balance the budget. An increase in funding will be necessary to support the ambitious plan the district is embarking on to close the gap. DPS needs to work with the community – school staff and students, parents, churches, neighborhood organizations, and other concerned groups – in deciding which schools to close. The process should be scheduled, transparent, and fair.
- The Gap: Closing the gap will require a decreasing dropout rate and involve new policies on enrollment, special educational programs, cultural enrichment programs, and neighborhood celebration and cooperation in many schools.
- Dropouts: Major educational changes in the district's instructional program and organized community intervention will be required to keep children in school and prepare them for college and other post-graduate learning and training.

What Roles Should INC and Neighborhood Associations Play in Transforming Our Schools?

The INC Education Committee believes that INC and neighborhood associations have an important role to play in the transformation of our schools. Public schools historically have been essential for neighborhood stability – as important as crime, traffic and zoning, for example. We agree with Denver Post Columnist Pius Kamas' statement: "we cannot protest the closure of our kids' schools and the failure of our children, if we are not part of the process of rescuing them."

Neighborhood Associations could:

- Develop an understanding of why change in DPS schools is necessary and the process that is unfolding to implement that change
- Participate in the process of choosing neighborhood schools to close (Michael Henry pointed out that a number of years ago when DPS had to close schools because of a drop in enrollment there was no neighborhood input initially and most of the schools selected for closing were in Denver's old inner city neighborhoods. After a contentious interchange between DPS and neighborhoods, the list was modified. Meaningful neighborhood participation in the process can be helpful in resolving closure issues.).
- Monitor the instructional programs and student achievement of the elementary, middle, and high schools that serve their association's neighborhoods.
- Encourage association members to support their neighborhood schools by serving on Parent/Teacher Organizations and Collaborative School Councils and by mentoring and tutoring students

We hope that INC will:

- Participate in the broad discussion that DPS is initiating on closing the gap and fixing structural problems in the school district's budget including school closings
- Provide information and sources of information on local schools to INC member organizations to help them in fulfilling their role.

Let the committee know if you want to get more involved. DPS wants INC's participation and has asked INC to submit names to them. The INC board has agreed to Education as a major agenda item at the September meeting. We can provide you with a copy of DPS' Goals, Components and Objectives from the DPS Denver Plan.

(Continued from page 3, Executive Committee Minutes)

- * Newsletter: none
- * Public Relations: Monique ready to send out the PR release for the Neighborhood Handbook. Monique will give the copies of the Handbook to the DPL. Monique's editorial on fireworks didn't seem to get any print coverage.
- * Public Safety: John Riley resigned as Chair. Karen will get the Committee together and see if they can get another Chair.
- * Transportation: none.
- * Zoning and Planning: Zoning Code update moving forward and public hearings have been scheduled.

The meeting adjourned at 8:29pm.

(Continued from page 3, Delegates Meeting Minutes)

information, visit www.bangifts.org or call 303-292-2163.

Representatives from Colorado for Fairness and Equality passed a petition supporting Referendum I. For more information visit www.fairnessandequality.org or call 303- 860-7325.

Rachael Coels, Office of Emergency Preparedness, gave a well-presented report regarding the potential pandemic of Asian Influenza ("bird flu") including some preventive measures should wildfowl near you become infected. Rachael reported that there have been very few cases of humans contracting the virus and that, so far, the bird flu virus has not spread from person to person, i.e., an infected person has not transmitted the virus to another person, and that bird flu has not been identified among animals or humans in the United States. Rachael made a handout available that identified sources of additional information.

Mary Meyers and Charles Howard reported on the University Park Sidewalk Committee's frustration at getting Denver to adopt a comprehensive plan regarding the installation and maintenance of sidewalks. Denver currently requires the homeowner to install and maintain sidewalks. Mary reported that she spent two months trying to get a \$70,000 grant to install four blocks worth of sidewalks. Clearly the homeowner doesn't have the resources to accomplish this task. It was suggested that the developer be required to pay for and install sidewalks as part of their development plan. It was also suggested that the very few residents who don't want sidewalks be able to "opt out" of the citywide plan (that is still under development). Jason Longsdorf, Denver Public Works, reported that the Denver City Charter gives the Manager of Public Works final authority regarding sidewalk location and installation. Jason provided some sidewalk statistics from the 2001 Pedestrian Master Plan including that Denver has 2,700 miles of "curb face" (with 500 of those 2,700 miles in non-compliance) and 200 miles where there are no sidewalks. Jason further reported that work started in March of 2005 to develop a sidewalk policy, that 9 locations have been identified around the City where having no sidewalks might be acceptable, and that only two developers have been let "off the hook" regarding the installation of sidewalks. Councilwoman Carol Boigon noted that there is a disconnect when Public Works believes that developers are installing sidewalks and yet so many developments are going in without sidewalks being installed (e.g., some 25% of Cory Merrill's existing homes have been scraped and new homes built but only rarely have sidewalks been installed) and suggested that residents could help identify areas of concern to Jason. Jason spoke about "fee in lieu," a proposed way to fund installation and maintenance in which homeown-

ers would pay into a pooled fund that would be used to tackle both large areas in need of installation as well as the repair of individual sidewalks. Jason reported that the proposed sidewalk policy will be presented to City Council on August 9th and that there would be a public hearing accepting plans with waivers and conditions for mixed use zone districts.

Charles Howard reported that Planning Director Peter Park will no longer be accepting plans with certain types of waivers and conditions for mixed use zone districts. Waivers and conditions have been a primary tool that residents have used to help make large developments abutting single family neighborhoods more neighborhood-friendly and there was comment that this is a move to limit public participation. It was suggested that further discussions with Peter might help residents better understand this approach. (Editors note: See too the ZAP Committee Report, page 9, third paragraph from the bottom.)

(Continued from page 9, Around the City)

poor zoning code compliance, the turn signal on Sheridan Boulevard and Jewell Avenue, the burned-out lights at Sanderson Gulch (and the length of time to repair/replace), and the speeding on Jewell Avenue and Florida Street.

Hampden South N.A. – Landscaping is in progress on the north side of the Hampden and I-25 bridge. A long-vacant coffee shop is being remodeled and should open the end of July. There is a very dangerous condition of standing water on the north side of Denver Water's Hillcrest Facility on Happy Canyon Road north of Quincy. Standing water has remained for years making wintertime icy and dangerous. HSNA requests immediate repair.

Inspiration Point – We have had some home break-ins and robberies including the home of the IP Delegate, Joan Rutherford, where the deadbolt on a solid front door was broken on June 19th. Joan thanks the Police for giving IP more patrols in the neighborhood.

Ivy Street Neighbors – Our annual Night Out will be held on Tuesday, August 1st, 6 p.m. on the lawns in the block of 3615–3625 Ivy Street. Food, fun, and school supplies for our area children will be available. You are invited.

Lowry – Plans are rolling for Glory Days in September. The new tavern opened giving us one more fun place for families as well as a night club. The expansion of Quebec at Alameda is half-finished making entrance easier at rush hour. Building continues in both high-end and affordable housing.

Overland N.A. – ONA is still looking forward to September for the final finish work at the Shattuck Superfund

(Continued on page 12)

acquiring Camp Rollandet as open space at INC's Presidents Dinner on January 25th, 2006.

Denver Parks and Recreation is planning a “grand opening” ceremony Thursday, August 24th, from 4 to 6 p. m. to celebrate its acquisition of Camp Rollandet as open space. At this event, Camp Rollandet will be officially designated as a Natural Area.

The neighborhood has indicated in the past it wants Camp Rollandet in the name. To ensure the name does not get changed in the future, the neighborhood is participating in a formal Naming Ordinance via petition. Thank you to Susan for writing the petition for the neighborhood. The petition states the name will be Camp Rollandet Natural Area.

- **August 12th & 27th** (9 – 11 AM)
- **September 9^{th*} & 23rd** (9 - 11 AM)
- **October 7th & 14th** (9 - 11 AM)

Site. Our illustrious President, Jack Unruh, who is a design consultant, has designed some “banner” prototypes to place around our neighborhood to establish Overland as a destination. These – hopefully – will be in conjunction with the BARD development. ONA is considering going back to our “old” name of Overland Park Neighborhood.

Platt Park Peoples Assoc – PPPA has created a pattern book showcasing the architecture of Platt Park to guide developers in the area to help preserve the character of the neighborhood. The book will be available online at www.3pa.org in August.

to set off on this course without the lessons I learned from each of you, neighbors who are committed to ensuring your quality of life here in the Mile High City. Your passion for your neighborhood and this city is one that is unmatched around the country. I hope our paths cross again in the future.

Thank you again for the support, knowledge and passion you've shared with me!

A detailed map of the area around 3555 Pecos St. The map shows a grid of streets including W 36th Ave, W 35th Ave, W 33rd Ave, W 32nd Ave, W 31st Ave, W 30th Ave, Erie St, Erie St N, 17th St, Boulder St, Central St, Kensing Ct, 16th St, Pecos St, Osage St, Navajo St, Kalamath St, Manposa St, and Little Raven St. A red star marks the location of 3555 Pecos St. A black arrow points from the star to the text "3555 Pecos St". Another black arrow points from the star to the text "<- 1 mi to Federal". A vertical white box with black text reads "1.75 mi to I-70 ->". A red line with arrows indicates a route from 3555 Pecos St, south along Pecos St, then east along Central St, and finally south along Rockmont Dr. A green box with white text "212C" is located near the intersection of Central St and Rockmont Dr. Another green box with white text "212C" is located near the intersection of Rockmont Dr and Little Raven St. A blue line represents a river or creek flowing through the area. A green area labeled "Hirshorn Park" is located near the intersection of Erie St and Central St. A scale bar in the top right corner indicates distances of 0, 100m, and 300ft. The copyright notice "© 2006 MapQuest, Inc." is visible in the bottom left corner, and "©2006 NAVTEQ" is visible in the bottom right corner.

is the 20th of each month. Submit
articles, letters, etc. to the editor at
kbeaudrie@totalspeed.net

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation (INC)

2006 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.

Join as a voting neighborhood organization: Regular Member (\$35) ☐ Patron (\$75) ☐

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. Patron names are listed in bold in our newsletter.

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 for to an INC meeting or mail to: Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation
PO Box 181009
Denver, CO 80218-1009

Next Meeting

**Saturday
August 12th**

Rocky Mountain SER

3555 Pecos St

See map on page 12

AGENDA

8:45

Coffee and Chat

9:00

Welcome and
Introductions

9:15

Lisa Curtis
Exploitation of Seniors

9:45

Chantal Unfug
Vacancies on Boards
and Commissions

10:15

Steve Nissen
Macy's Fundraiser

10:45

Dictionary Labeling

Noon Adjournment

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation

P.O. Box 181009

Denver, CO 80218-1009

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Charles Howard, Vice-chair

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