

## Thanks Ken!

For the past six years, Ken Beaudrie has been a one-man Communications Committee. He has produced the INC Connections newsletter, and also has sent out email news blasts of pertinent items to INC subscribers during the week. Ken resigned from this post effective November 1. We wish to thank Ken for his wonderful contributions to INC and his dedication to getting information out to members in a timely and sensitive manner. We are happy to say he has agreed to remain as our Membership Chair!

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## INC Meets With Denver's New Mayor

Several INC members had an audience with Denver's new mayor, Michael B. Hancock, on October 10 at the CHUN offices. INC Chair, Steve Nissen, began the meeting by presenting a brief overview of INC as a representative of 100 member RNOs. An INC planning committee had presented a short agenda to the Mayor prior to the meeting. The agenda covered three broad areas.

**1.** The discussion of bottom-up vs. top-down participation by INC and RNO members in City programs, projects and plans for more cost effective, efficient and overall better outcomes.

Steve introduced the communication topic by saying we are very encouraged by the philosophy as stated in

the campaign that discussion and planning starts at the bottom within the community and it goes up.

INC has a broad base of community involvement. There has been an erosion of neighborhood representation to City board, committees and task forces. INC would like to see appointments of community representatives to these areas; specifically appointments from INC or as an alternative, the appointees are given the directive to report back to INC and gather information from the INC.

There was also a discussion of City department managers meeting with INC committee chairs to discuss issues and concerns. Decisions are often made before citizens are engaged

*continued on PG 2*



DENVER  
INC

CONNECTION

**November 2011**

[www.denverINC.org](http://www.denverINC.org)

## INC Meets With The New Mayor cont.

### IN THE PICTURE

*Left to right:  
Mayor Hancock, Andrew  
Schurger, Steve Nissen,  
Cindy Johnstone.  
Not pictured: Anthony  
Thomas. Back: Michael  
Sapp, Director of Neighbor-  
hood Relations*

*Photo: by Anthony Thomas*

in planning and design. INC would like to be involved in the early stages.

The INC representatives who met with the Mayor felt he supported this concept regarding more community representation.

Mayor Hancock advised he had appointed Derek Okubo as the director of Human Rights and Community Partnership (HRCP) Office and that Derek will take a greater role in working with the RNOs. Currently, the community connection is more through Community Planning and Development.

It has not evolved as the original intent. We talked about the frustrations and problems related to getting contact information for key individuals in departments, getting through to 311 lines and getting resolution through this system. Michael Sapp was looking into make the process more efficient and also how to track calls logged in to 311. Mayor Hancock agreed there are inefficiencies with 311 and suggested budget restraints related to having enough staff may be a factor impacting efficiencies. The Mayor reinforced that the City employees work for the people, and they are responsible to work with the citizens.

**3.** Work in partnership with the city to facilitate Neighborhood Conferences.

The Mayor and Michael Sapp shared their plan for staging community forums. The Mayor will bring department heads to these forums to present a few topics and also take questions from those attending in order to open

forums beyond the planned topics. The forums will also include breakout sessions to encourage dialogs that matter.

The Mayor is also going to require his Cabinet to spend a day in different locations in the community to meet, work and answer questions from individuals in the community.



Derek. Okubo will come to a future EC meeting to be determined. Anthony Aragon is the director of boards and commissions.

**2.** Review of 311 and citizen/city communication to eliminate distance, facilitate interaction and create better access, efficiency and good will.

## An open letter from Denver Water

Water is a precious resource here in the West, much too precious to use just once.

Denver Water is charged with securing water for our customers now and in the future. To help ensure a reliable supply, we have a three-pronged approach in place to meet those needs: conservation, supply development and recycled water.

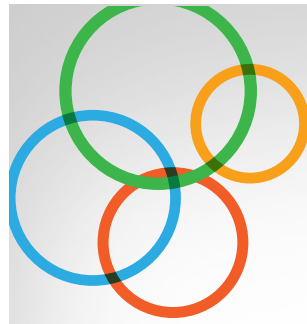
Our nationally recognized conservation program continues to thrive, and we have put in place a number of small-scale supply projects to help develop additional supply. But a lesser-known part of Denver Water's commitment to using water efficiently is our recycled water system.

Denver Water operates the largest recycled water system in Colorado. Our system treats used water and reuses it for irrigation and industrial purposes, freeing up potable water for households and businesses throughout the city. Various places around Denver, including the Denver Zoo, Xcel Energy, golf courses and parks use recycled water.

Although there have been allegations that recycled water is unsafe, in 2002 the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency conclusively disproved these allegations. You can learn more about this topic at Denver Recycled Water

Here are the facts about our recycled water system, the water and its uses:

- Recycled water is regulated by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and ours meets the requirements for the highest quality class in the state. Denver Water has never violated any of these standards.



## FROM THE CHAIR

We have had some changes at INC lately as you can see from this newsletter. Ken Beaudrie resigned as editor after six-plus years of faithfully compiling The Connection. A generous thank-you is extended to Ken from all of us at INC for all those years of dedication. He has committed to continue as our Membership Chair. Jane Lorimer, At-Large Executive Committee Member, has generously stepped forward to serve as Editor on an interim basis.

Please note the story on P.O. Box change. We no longer find it feasible to have two P.O. boxes. The new P.O. Box number is 300684 with the same zip code of 80218.

The Executive Committee recently arranged for a meeting with Mayor Hancock and representatives met with him on October 10. INC expressed the critical need in having greater participation of citizens and RNOs in having their rightful place at the table when making public policy. The mayor committed to working with INC in facilitating Neighborhood Conferences. He expressed his respect for neighborhoods and the value of citizen contribution in his

efforts as he forges ahead to make Denver even a greater city. Our sincere exchange with the mayor offers greater participation in the democratic process in Denver and promises renewed opportunities for INC and neighborhoods.

I trust those of you who attended the Mayor's Community Forum on October 22 found it to be helpful. Our appreciation is extended to the mayor for this grassroots opportunity of involvement. The mayor has indicated there will be more such forums. I trust all will step up to this great opportunity and participate as this is a great place to address issues affecting your neighborhood, and neighborhoods citywide.

At the Delegation Meeting on November 12 we will have Julie Carlton of the Denver Energy Challenge presenting information on outreach, education and assistance programs available in Denver. Participants in the program save energy and money while reducing greenhouse gases. This information could be helpful to many during this economic squeeze.

- Steve J. Nissen, Chair INC

- Denver Water's recycled water comes from the Metro Wastewater Reclamation District's treatment plant. This water is treated again at Denver Water's recycling plant before it is distributed through separate pipes used specifically for recycled water to keep it from contacting your drinking water.

- Our recycled water must meet internal and customer standards that are more stringent than what regulations dictate, so we treat this water above and beyond what is required.

- Denver Water plays an active role nationally in recycled water research and innovation.

Recycled water is the right water for the right use and will enable us to serve the growing water needs in Denver. Information about Denver Water's recycled water system is enclosed. For more information visit: [www.denverwater.org/waterquality/recycledwater](http://www.denverwater.org/waterquality/recycledwater) or call 303-628-7010.

*Note: INC has provided this voice as a public service. INC neither endorses nor validates this statement provided by Denver Water. INC encourages the public to do their own research on the issue.*

### INC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Steve Nissen, Chair & DDD Chair  
303-733-8524 pennissen@cs.com  
Alamo Placita Neighbors Assn.

Larry Ambrose, Vice-Chair  
Co-chair of Parks and Rec. Cmte  
303-571-1744 lida@earthnet.net  
Sloan's Lake N. A.

Randle Loeb, Secretary  
303-620-1999 msg,  
720-292-0757 cell  
randleloeb@gmail.com  
Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods

Jennifer Tomeny, Treasurer  
303-777-7514  
tomenycivi@gmail.com  
Rosedale Harvard Gulch N.A.

William Cornell Delegate-at-large  
Co-chair Education Committee  
Co-chair Communications Cmte.  
303-295-1149  
william.cornell@northcitypark.com  
North City Park Civic Assn.

Cathy Donohue, Delegate-at-large  
303-860-8053  
cathdonohue@aol.com  
Neighbors and Friends  
for Cheesman Park

Cindy Johnstone,  
Delegate-at-large  
303-733-6570

Cindy.johnstone@comcast.net  
Friends and Neighbors of  
Washington Park

Jane Lorimer, Delegate-at-large  
Budget Committee Chair,  
Dinner Chair  
303-388-9224 ejlorimer@aol.com  
George Washington H.O.A.

Andrew Schurger,  
Delegate-at-large  
720-563-7875  
aschurger@gmail.com  
Stapleton United Neighbors

### IN THE PICTURE

Left to right: Happy Haynes, Roger Kilgore,  
John Daniels, Jacqueline Shurmway, Frank  
Deserino, Moderator, Tamara Banks

Photo: Ray Ehrenstein

## INC Co-sponsors School Board Candidate Forums

In October, INC coordinated two election forums in preparation for the November 1 election in sponsorship with Denver Decides, a non-profit organization committed to accessible, transparent elections.

Denver Decides is a partnership composed of the Denver League of Women Voters, Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation, and Denver 8 TV. Denver Decides and Denver 8 TV bring voters information about the Denver election process and the candidates through community events and access through [www.denverdecides.org](http://www.denverdecides.org) website and on television. Partnership members include the League of Women Voters of Denver and the Inter-

The October 1 forum was held at Denver Community Church on S. Washington Street in Denver and was also co-hosted by INC members West Washington Park Neighborhood Association and Capitol Hill United Neighbors. The October 12 forum took place at Merritt Memorial United Methodist Church and was co-hosted by Sloan's Lake Citizens Group.

Denver 8 TV, a service of the City & County of Denver's Technology Servic-

es Department, reaches every cable television subscriber in the City. Denver 8 TV features these forums nightly at 8 p.m. and week days at 4 p.m.



## SAVE THE DATE

INC Annual Neighborhood Awards Dinner will take place Thursday, January 19, 2012 at Doubletree Stapleton Hotel at S. Quebec/MLK Blvd. If you would like to nominate an individual or group, please see the list of categories in October Connections. Award nominations are open from now until December 30. Please submit these to Jane Lorimer, care of INC, P.O. Box 300684, Denver CO 80218 or by email: [ejlorimer@aol.com](mailto:ejlorimer@aol.com).



## DELEGATE MEETING AGENDA : NOVEMBER 12

8:30 am Coffee and Chat

9:00 am Welcome by  
Cory/Merrill N.A.  
Councilman Charlie Brown

9:15 am INC Business  
Committee Reports

10:00 am Break

10:45 - 11:15, **Derek Okubo,**  
**Mayor's Director of Human**  
**Rights and Community**  
**Relations**

10:15 am Julie Carlton  
Denver Energy Challenge

Adjournment

## EC Meeting Recap October 2011 By Randle Loeb, Secretary

All Executive Committee members were present. Committee Chairs present: Anthony Thomas (Safety), Katie Fisher (Parks & Rec), Karen Taylor (Education).

- Minutes and treasurer report were approved. Treasury balance all accounts: \$14,893.
- A review of the special meeting INC & Mayor Meeting with Mayor Hancock that preceded the EC Meeting: See story on page 1.
- EC discussed and reviewed the success of Denver Decides forums.

**Membership:** There are 78 regular members, 18 patron RNO's for a total of 96. There 23 Associate members, 8 patron associate members for a total of 31 Associate members. Total membership: 127

## INC Membership

In case you missed it, membership dues were increased for 2012 to \$40.00 for RNO members and \$25.00 for Associate Members. Patron membership for both categories remains at \$75 a year. At mid-year, the dues are lowered by 50%.

This increase was made to accommodate rising costs to manage the operations, dinner and other activities that INC supports.

**Annual Dinner:** The President's Dinner will be on January 19. Sponsorship pledges are \$1750 thus far which will help offset the cost of the dinner. The goal is to sell \$3000 in sponsorships.

**Newsletter:** Ken Beaudrie has stepped down from producing and editing the newsletter. Jane Lorimer has agreed to fulfill the responsibilities on an interim basis. Michael Smilanic, Randle Loeb and Chris Citron agreed to assist.

**Committee Reports:** See Committee Corner, page 6.

## Delegate Meeting Recap October 2011

In place of the monthly Delegate meeting, INC partnered with Denver Decides to conduct election forums on October 1 and October 12.

We used to have all of the City Councilpersons as members of INC. This year, we have only two: Councilwoman Jeanne Robb and Councilwoman Peggy Lehmann. We'd like to ask RNO's to encourage their City Council representatives to become Associate Members.

**Membership Changes:** Please send changes for member, president or delegate data to the membership chair, Ken Beaudrie, by email to [kbeaudrie@totalspeed.net](mailto:kbeaudrie@totalspeed.net)

# INC CALENDAR

## DELEGATE MEETING

### Saturday, November 12

Bonnie Brae Church  
201 S. Steele St.  
Hosted by Cory/Merrill  
Neighborhood Association

Major Intersections:  
E. Mississippi Ave between S. University & S. Colorado Blvd.

## EC Meeting

Monday, November 14 7:00PM  
120 Williams St., 19th Floor

## COMING UP

### December Delegate Meeting

No Delegate meeting in  
December in honor of holidays

### EC Meeting

Monday, December 12 – 7:00PM

## 2012

January EC Meeting  
Monday, January 9 – 7:00PM

January - Delegate Meeting  
Saturday, January 14 – TBD

2012 INC Annual Neighborhood Awards  
Dinner & Silent Auction  
Thursday, January 19 – Doubletree Stapleton Hotel

February Delegate Meeting  
Saturday, February 11, 2012 – TBD

February - EC Meeting  
Monday, February 13 – 7:00PM

March– Annual Delegate Meeting  
Saturday, March 10 –  
Election of new officers

March EC Meeting  
Monday, March 12, 2012 7:00PM

## Committee Corner

INC has many special interest committees who meet to address areas of specific importance to the Denver community. The following reports were submitted for recent activities. Please see [www.denverinc.org](http://www.denverinc.org) for committee postings and calendar of meetings.

**DDD:** Dollar Dictionary Drive has about \$1,000.00 remaining funds after buying the books and supplies for distribution. Macy's Community Shopping Day is on November 12. See Steve for the Macy coupons which are selling for \$10 (we keep that money). A survey was distributed to all of the schools concerning the use and effectiveness of the Dollar Dictionary Drive. Twenty-six schools responded. See publicity concerning the survey on our website.

**Website/Communications** There are technical issues with the web site that are being addressed and the INC banner will be updated to reflect approved logo changes.

**Library Committee** is on hold.

**Safety Committee** The City Detention Center is a model program that has received numerous awards. There are interesting opportunities to learn about the work of law enforcement through the Citizen's Academy and Ride Along programs.

**Transportation** has been working on the I-70 corridor which involves federal highways and CDOT. INC is not taking a stance on this issue because it involves Federal funding.

### Zoning & Planning Committee

The INC ZAP Committee met on October 15. Tom Downey, who has been the Director of the Excise and Licenses Department since July, met for the second time with the Committee. He indicated that his top priority was to provide good service to customers and stakeholders, including neighborhood groups. The Department deals with 183 types of licenses. Those that most affect neighborhoods are licenses for liquor establishments, cabarets and medical marijuana facilities. He indicated that the Department's workload has skyrocketed during the last 2 years due to medical marijuana.

He took considerable time to explain his proposed policy changes, which are still evolving, related to boundaries for the "designated neighborhood," within which residents and owners and managers of businesses are allowed to sign petitions and testify at hearings and within which registered neighborhood organizations must be notified of hearings. He is consulting with technical city people to devise boundaries, probably circular, that can be administered easily through the city's Geographic Information System. He hopes that this will address numerous problems regarding deficient notifications that have been called to his attention. Many ZAP members encouraged him not to make the boundaries much wider, which would enable paid petitioners for applicants to obtain more signatures from people who do not live close to proposed establishments. Mr. Downey also said that he hopes to have all licensing processes web-

enabled within a year, so that applicants for licenses do not have to come downtown. He also said that he thinks Good Neighbor Agreements are important and he will attach conditions to licenses if they are clear and enforceable. He is working internally to review all liquor policies and will put them back on the Department's website when finalized. He also said that City Council is considering whether the ownership and location of medical marijuana facilities should be transferable.

Michael Sapp, the Mayor's Neighborhood Liaison, encouraged ZAP members to attend the Mayor's Community Conference on October 22 at West High School.

Savannah Jameson, staff for the Landmark Preservation Commission, and Alice Gilbertson of Historic Denver updated the Committee about their citywide survey of historic resources, called Discover Denver. A pilot project to identify and survey 2 neighborhoods and one theme (for example, streetcar suburbs), is just getting underway, funded by a grant from the State Historic Fund. - Michael Henry

### Parks & Recreation

Larry shared the PARC Mission Statement, and was distributed to PARC members and to candidates for office last year. It will be distributed to RNOs and sent to those elected and to new mayoral appointees and new members of PRAB.

Naomi Lopez, aide to Councilwoman at large Robin Kneach reported that

## Committee Corner

### Parks & Recreation cont.

Robin is not satisfied with the status quo in some matters of administrative policy. It was cited by the PARC Committee that Denver Parks and Recreation Notification and Civic engagement ("public engagement") is a major concern.

Naomi reported that she does not track Robin's issues, but that Robin is not satisfied with the status quo in some matters of administrative policy. We discussed how PARC and INC can interface best with Robin. We cited Denver Parks and Recreation Notification and Civic engagement ("public engagement") as a major concern, and gave background information on attempts to create policy which includes community participation from the instigation of DPR projects and policies that affect neighborhoods. We hope that the new administration of DPR will recognize and respect the considerable, insight, experience and knowledge RNO participants can share.

Jerry Trumbule shared his educational, academic and professional background and his association with Adrienne Anderson in her work regarding water pollution stemming from the former Superfund Site, the Lowry Landfill. He encouraged reading "Lowdown on Lowry" at Scribd.com, and visiting his blog, <http://denverdirect.blogspot.com/> where information about Ms. Anderson is archived. He distributed a number of reports to PARC members. By regulation the recycled water used

cont.

in some Denver parks should have signage that it is non potable, and it should not be sprayed, come in contact with structures, etc. However, because recycled water is dumped into the open Denver Ditch after dechlorination at a plant near South High School, regulations regarding signage have been circumvented. (this was confirmed by Denver Water at our September meeting). Mr. Trumble is of the opinion, as was Ms. Anderson, that little can be done to amend the procedure of mixing Lowry Landfill waste into the sewage and, consequently, recycled water. The problem is that Metro Waste Water has indemnified all polluters against liability and the City of Denver, which owns the landfill, could be bankrupted by any requirement to clean up the most toxic waste dump. Therefore, it seems that if there ever is to be a "solution", it would require federal government intervention. Such help could include construction of new treatment facility for Denver not unlike that built by Aurora. In the mean time, a reasonable alternative would be to plug the emission pipe from the Lowry site. The polluted water there is "never to be moved from the site" so the problem then would be how to contain it there without seepage into the ground and contamination of the surrounding countryside. It may be the role of the INC PARC to further study this serious situation and the policies that contributed to it, as well as make people aware of it and continue to promote ways in which our water can be safer, and the public more informed. --Diana Helper, PARC member

**PLEASE MAKE NOTE:** We have a new address: Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation, P. O. Box 300684, Denver, CO 80218.

## Trustees award \$1.7 million to aid South Platte

DENVER — The Natural Resource Trustees of Colorado announced today that they have awarded \$1.7 million in natural resource damage funds to the Greenway Foundation on behalf of the Overland Park Neighborhood Association to help restore water quality, habitat and riparian areas along a two-mile stretch of the South Platte River in south Denver.

The award of the funds will be contingent on the Greenway Foundation procuring matching funds for its projects at Grant Frontier Park, Pasquinel's Landing and Overland Park. The projects are expected to start in roughly two years time.

Photo: Ray Ehrenstein



"The Overland Park Neighborhood Association deserves much of the credit for working to put together a plan to restore the section of the South Platte River."

Colorado received \$1.5 million when it settled its natural resource damages case against the Shattuck Chemical Company in 2002. Since that time, the money has earned nearly \$200,000 in interest, bringing the total amount available for restoring natural resources near the Shattuck site to \$1.7 million.

continued on PG 8

*The newsletter of Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation*

### **South Platte River (cont.)**

"Although the Shattuck site had a significant impact on the neighborhood, the Overland Park Neighborhood Association never gave up on its goal of reclaiming the natural heritage of the South Platte River," said Martha Rudolph, environmental programs director of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment. "We commend them for their vision, persistence and patience."

The Colorado Natural Resource Trustees are the Attorney General, the executive director of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, and the executive director of the Colorado De-

partment of Natural Resources or their designees. The trustees are responsible for litigation of the state's natural resource damages claims under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA or the Superfund law) and administering funds received from such litigation. Source: Mike Saccone, Communications Director -Office of the Attorney General 303-866-5632

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Subscriptions are free. Subscription requests and changes of address should be e-mailed to [newsletter@denverinc.org](mailto:newsletter@denverinc.org)

To submit articles and photos please send submissions by e-mail to [DenverIncNews@aol.com](mailto:DenverIncNews@aol.com) by the 20th of the month to guarantee inclusion. RNOs are welcome to reprint the articles in their own newsletters. Please cite INC as the source unless otherwise noted.

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