



# DENVER INC CONNECTION

www.denverINC.org

July 2014

Neighborhoods work better when they work together

## Meeting Of Delegates And Neighborhood Leaders

When: July 12, 2014

Where: Montclair Recreation Center,  
729 Ulster Way in the Lowry Area.  
It is north of 6th Ave. and about 4  
blocks east of Quebec.

Agenda:

8:30am Networking with your fellow RNO  
members, coffee, continental  
breakfast

9:00am Business Meeting

10:15am Special Program – a smorgasbord  
of speakers from around the City including the  
DA's office.

All INC meetings are open to the public. Please feel  
welcome to bring your neighbors and friends

## Voting Matter For Meeting

See Page 6 for the full explanation on this matter.

## DDD Event is Fast Approaching

By Blake DiMeo

For the past 18 years, INC's Dollar Dictionary Drive has succeeded in providing a free dictionary and thesaurus to each third-grade student in every Denver Public Elementary School. About 7,000 dictionaries and thesauruses are distributed annually. INC believes this important educational gift to our youth helps make a stronger community—neighborhoods and schools working together for improved literacy. We are still accepting donations at the website: [www.denverinc.org/1-dictionary-drive/](http://www.denverinc.org/1-dictionary-drive/)

Come help us label and pack the books:  
August 13th and 14th  
9am to 5pm  
Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
915 E 9th Ave. Denver, CO 80218.

We will be labeling all our books and packing them up according to the designated schools. This is a fun event that always has a wonderful amount of participants. Feel free to bring friends and family members along as many hands make light work! Please email Blake DiMeo at [blakedimeo@yahoo.com](mailto:blakedimeo@yahoo.com) to RSVP if you can participate. See you soon, keep reading!

## CALENDAR

### INC Transportation Meeting

Thursday, July 10  
1201 Williams St, 19th Floor  
6:00 pm

### INC Delegate Meeting

Saturday, June 14, 2014  
Montclair Recreation Center  
729 Ulster Way  
8:30 – 11:00 am

### INC Exec Committee Meeting

Monday, July 14, 2014  
1201 Williams St, 19th Floor  
6:00 – 8:30 pm

### INC Parks & Rec Committee Meeting

Tuesday, July 15, 2014  
Heritage Club, 2020 S Monroe St  
6 – 8 pm

### INC Zoning and Planning Committee Meeting

Saturday, July 26, 2014  
1201 Williams St, 19th Floor  
9:30 to 11:30 am

## INC Board and ZAP Chair Nominations Open

Nominations for a vacancy on the INC Board of Directors as an "At-Large" Member are being taken by the President. The position of Chair of the Zoning and Planning Committee is also open due to the resignation Michael Henry. Please submit your nominations to [Larry.Ambrose@DenverINC.org](mailto:Larry.Ambrose@DenverINC.org) by July 15.

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For up-to-the-minute news,  
please visit INC'S website:

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

[www.facebook.com/DenverINC](https://www.facebook.com/DenverINC)

# 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 the calendar of meetings.

## INC Transportation Committee

The next INC Transportation Committee will be on Thursday, July 10th, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at 1201 Williams Street, 19th Floor.

We hope your neighborhood can send a representative to the committee as we discuss a range of transportation, transit, and streets topics, build connections with the agencies and organizations involved, and ensure that neighborhood input is included in plans at all levels! Attendees do not need to be INC delegates -- all are welcome. Even if your neighborhood organization is not a member of INC, you are welcome to participate. Please pass this on to anyone who might be interested in joining the committee - write to [transportation@denverinc.org](mailto:transportation@denverinc.org) to be added to our growing e-mail list!

We have three topics for our July 10th meeting:

**Denver Bike Sharing** -- Nick Bohnenkamp, Executive Director. Four years since bringing the B-cycle technology to Denver, the B-cycle program has grown to include over 700 iconic red bikes at 83 bike share stations around central Denver. The system focuses on solving the first-mile / last mile component of multimodal transportation, and in 2013 alone, users took 263,000 rides. To continue to ingrain itself as a reliable mobility option, B-cycle provided winter service (December 2013 - March 2014), and continues to grow its operations and maintenance team to ensure that there are B-cycles and station spaces available at all times. Through Nick's efforts, Denver's bike sharing has become a legitimate form of transportation for Denver residents and tourists alike. Learn about B-cycle's goals this year and how bike sharing fits into the multimodal vision for Denver.

**Golden Triangle Plan Vision for Lincoln/Broadway** -- Chris Gleissner and Sarah Showalter, Senior City Planners, Denver Community Planning and Development. Denver's area plans establish the vision for land use and transportation that inform future changes and investment. Working closely with the community for a year, CPD has created the first draft of the new Golden Triangle Plan, which was just posted for review. The plan includes a vision for Lincoln and Broadway as Grand Boulevards that accommodate all travel modes, beautify the streets, and bolster the retail environment. Learn about the key ideas for evolving these important arterials as "great places" while improving transit capacity and operations, and enhancing the environment for pedestrians and bicycles. The presentation will also include a brief overview of mobility

recommendations for the neighborhood's internal street network.

**Neighborhood Slow Zones to Reduce Accidents & Fatalities** -- Anne Lindsey. What can be done to reduce traffic accidents and dramatically reduce the consequences of accidents when they do happen? In cities throughout the world where safety is a priority, speed reduction has been shown to be a key strategy to improve safety for those in cars, on bikes, and on foot. Anne Lindsey will share an overview of key research, and a review of what other cities have been doing to establish "Neighborhood Slow Zones", which New York's program describes as: "a community-based program that reduces the speed limit from 30 mph to 20 mph and adds safety measures within a select area in order to change driver behavior. The ultimate goal of the Neighborhood Slow Zone program is to lower the incidence and severity of crashes. Slow Zones also seek to enhance quality of life by reducing cut-through traffic and traffic noise in residential neighborhoods." How could these ideas be applied in Denver's neighborhoods?

**2014 Meeting Schedule** Here is our meeting schedule for the remainder of the year will be (all at 1201 Williams St., 19th Floor): Thu. Sept. 11th, 6-8 p.m. Thu. Nov. 13th, 6-8 p.m.

## Please Support WalkDenver Petition

The INC Delegation in June voted unanimously that INC send a letter to the Mayor, City Council, and WalkDenver supporting the two key requests from WalkDenver's petition, consistent with INC's adopted Sidewalk Position Statement:

- Form a Pedestrian Advisory Committee whose role will be to advise city officials, city agencies, and the office of the Mayor on policies, procedures, and infrastructure improvements needed to make Denver a great city for walking
- Establish Denver Moves Pedestrians, a parallel implementation plan to the bicycle-focused Denver Moves plan, so that the City has a clear path forward for improving the pedestrian environment in Denver.

In addition to letters from organizations like INC, WalkDenver is looking to gather 1,000 signatures on their online petition at [www.change.org/petitions/walkdenver](http://www.change.org/petitions/walkdenver) -- Please consider seeking signatures from your neighborhood and your personal network!

**Call for Topic Suggestions** Do you have a topic you'd like the INC Transportation Committee to consider or to find a speaker to discuss with us? Please send your ideas to [transportation@denverinc.org](mailto:transportation@denverinc.org)!

## INC PARC Committee

By Diana Helper, PARC member June 17, 2014

INC PARC (Parks and Recreation Committee) met June 17 at 6 p.m. at the Heritage Club,

2020 S. Monroe St. Present were co-chair Maggie Price, James Sample, Ray Ehrenstein, Ronnie Crawford, Judy Case, Renee Lewis, Paula Kauffman, Marlene Johnson, Cindy Johnstone, Nancy Francis, and Diana Helper. Present from DPR were Yolanda Quesada and Jeff Green.

Jeff introduced Yolanda (Yoli) who is now the contact person for neighborhoods. Her email address is [Yolanda.Quesada@denvergov.org](mailto:Yolanda.Quesada@denvergov.org). Jeff explained that Angela Casias is now developing a public education program for the Forestry dept. regarding the threat to Denver's ash trees. Cindy asked for information about the status of DPR's plan to assess trees and begin work to protect them, urging a start as soon as possible. Also needed is a plan to care for Denver's parkway and Right-of-Way (ROW) trees, and a way to assess needs for trees on private property. Jeff referred PARC to Forester Rob Davis. Jeff said water is not to be rationed for trees in parks. PARC asked that watering new trees for the first 4-5 years be a job for park maintenance. Norway maples along Buchtel Blvd. west of S. Univ., and other such trees, should have been wrapped, and are now damaged from sun and may need replacement, an expensive oversight. Significant damage to trees by mowing machines has been seen in Washington Park. Cindy took photos and will send to Jeff. Marlene verified that damage to several benches in Rosemond Park has occurred because of mowing. She asked that the benches be repaired by Parks and Rec. Jeff agreed and will take it back as an action item.

PARC asked for an update on the SEAP (Special Events and Planning) Committee, and was referred to Fred Weiss. PARC asked how citizen involvement is included on the Downtown Parks committee, which is formed by DPR, Downtown Denver Partnership, and a group of consultants (not yet hired). PARC wants representation in the earliest stages of this committee's work rather than after the selection process has begun. Cindy requested that RNOs be included in any review of Washington Park permits, fees, balance of summer park use.

When asked about the "Loop" regional "playground", Jeff said DPR is looking at other sites possibly in the Westwood/Barnum area. Cindy asked that INC be involved in needed restructuring to re-fit a new site, including budget and usage.

There was a brief discussion about the status of a portion of Gates Crescent park and if it had been sold yet and if so for what amount. Jeff didn't have info on that portion of Gates Crescent parkland to be used by Children's Museum.

Also: Designation of parks continues with round 4 and 5. PARC asked that the list of parks designated so far and to be done appear on the DPR website. INC reps to this committee urge addition of parks in the Westerly Creek area and elsewhere. Judy reported that the Friends

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## Getting the Best Elected Officials

Running as a candidate for a national, state or local position takes commitment, stamina and a desire to serve, a sense of humor doesn't hurt. Having recently seen the the completion of political party primaries, we will continue to be inundated with campaign literature through fall until the November elections for State and Congressional elections. Following the November election will be a sometimes neglected and dismissed but very important Denver City election for Mayor, Auditor, Clerk and Recorder and thirteen City Council representatives. Only 10 months away, it will be held on May 5, 2015.

As I have posited before, people just don't pay as much attention to city affairs as they do to the machinations of state and national politics. In the last May 2011 general municipal election there were approximately 200,000 Denverites registered to vote out of which, only about 64,000 or 38% voted. Compare this to the November 2012 election with 380,000 registered voters and a turnout of 114,000 or 64%. Registered voters tend to be apathetic and even more so when voting for local officials that impact their daily life.

Even though cynicism about Congress is legend and I suspect to the many of us who devote the majority of our civic involvement to our local neighborhoods, the lack of interest in matters closest to home has resulted in government which less transparent, less accountable and in my opinion less democratic. Political people also take less interest in local government because our political parties play almost no role in local politics. Denver's election system is non-partisan. Let me first say, that I am not opposed to non-partisan elections at the municipal level. A large number of municipal issues are not partisan in nature. Nonetheless, there are some downsides, not the least of which is that unlike our traditional party system, candidates do not go through a process of vetting.

What we see prior to state and national elections is a process wherein there is a threshold for nomination for offices within the party system and then there are party primaries at which time one candidate from a party is selected to run against the selected candidates from one or more other parties. The rank and file voters of each party are, therefore, over a period of time, able to more closely examine the qualifications of the candidates.

In our non-partisan city elections, candidates can self-nominate and enter what is basically a free-for-all in which most voters know only what they can discern from campaign advertising and literature. Then, if no one candidate gets more than 50% of the vote, there is a runoff between the top two vote-getters. So, because advertising is so important to city elections, money plays

a very important role. And because there is not a party designation or party platform to which those elected are held accountable, our elected officials pretty much do what they want for their four years until they must run again. By that time, name recognition and special interest money that flows to incumbency gives them a strong advantage for re election.

I have written before about how important the neighborhood movement (INC and RNOs) has become to the democratic process and its role to insist on transparency and to hold elected officials accountable to neighborhood concerns. But this will only happen when responsive and sincere elected officials come to recognize this reasonable obligation and the neighborhood movement becomes involved early in our local elections asking the critical questions of the candidates.

So what can we do to change this state of affairs, balance the effect of special money interests and have a more pronounced influence on the outcome of city elections? Although, INC and RNOs cannot and should not make endorsements of candidates, we should increasingly play the role that political parties play in developing platforms on issues of importance, measure candidates based on their conformity to these platforms and inform the thousands of RNO members around the city of their positions.

Just before the 2011 city election, INC adopted a "Platform for Denver's Urban Parks" that was developed by the Parks and Recreation Committee. From this Platform a questionnaire was developed and every candidate was asked to respond to it. Many candidates ignored it but the Platform served to educate those that took the time to read it and respond to the neighborhood ideas for the future of Denver's park system. Although, at the time INC's means of disseminating the candidates' responses were limited, it set an important precedent in that it also gave INC the opportunity to inform its membership about the candidates position on these issues.

So, in order to be more effective in regard to informing candidates and voters alike, I will be asking INC committees to begin the process of identifying the issues of most concern to our constituent RNOs and to outline these concerns in the form of broadly based principles about which our delegates can agree and to which candidates for city office can respond. Please feel free to participate in these committees and bring your own ideas to the table. When we get the candidate responses, we will be asking our membership to widely disseminate these candidates' answers. Elections are a most serious matter. It is in the best interest of democracy that our neighborhoods be taken seriously in the process.



Responses to ideas and opinions expressed in this column can be sent to [excomm@denverinc.org](mailto:excomm@denverinc.org)

of Denver Parks lawsuit is going forward. The school at Hentzell Park is now to be a theme-based public school. PRAB showed the capital improvement budget has many needs, slim funds.

Diana mentioned the major Prairie Park project undertaken by University Park Community Council. Nancy talked about a plan devised by citizens, for redoing City Park playground. Paula spoke of the fund raising needed for the improvements at Cheesman Park. RNOs need a plan, and a supportive Planner. All these projects point to the need of a process at DPR whereby neighborhoods can do park projects, raising money for specific work that DPR will OK and carry through. Development of such a process could be a goal for PARC.

At the June Delegate Meeting a discussion was held by the attendees about the Committees and several suggestions were given. Cindy who chaired that meeting asked that PARC choose several goals for the coming year from the list. Also suggested were a continued call for a Festival Park, a review and possible revision of the Park Platform to include density and open space, and questions for City Council candidates to aid in electing supportive new councilpersons.

The meeting adjourned at 8 p.m. Next meeting July 15.

## INC Zoning And Planning Committee

By Michael Henry, Committee Chair June 28, 2014

Stacie Loucks, the Director of the Denver Department of Excise and Licenses, who was appointed by the Mayor in March and has just returned from maternity leave, introduced herself to the committee members. She is a 5th-generation Denverite and previously worked on the legislative staff of Mayors Hickenlooper, Vidal and Hancock, including working intensively on marijuana-related issues. Members of the committee explained several neighborhood concerns to her, including:

1. Well-managed liquor and cabaret licenses are assets to most neighborhoods; however, when such establishments go bad, they can have ruinous effects on neighborhoods.
2. Excise and Licenses should provide better training to hearing officers, particularly to encourage more consistency in evidentiary rulings and recommendations for decisions
3. Excise and Licenses should notify registered neighborhood organizations about show-cause and revocation hearings and allow RNO representatives and other residents to testify at such hearings.
4. Excise and Licenses should include active telephone numbers, e-mail addresses, ZIP codes for the locations and printed names of the applicant's signatures for all applicants so that RNOs can communicate with applicants well in advance of hearings.
5. Excise and Licenses should send floor plans and maps of designated areas to RNOs for all liquor, cabaret and marijuana applications.
6. Excise and Licenses needs to have sufficient budget for adequate staff to handle all of the licenses that it deals with and to enforce against

> continued on PG 4



## Committee Corner cont.

violations. Very long waiting lines at the counter are difficult for all concerned.

7. All Excise and Licenses staff need to be adequately trained about all liquor, cabaret and marijuana policies, procedures, regulations and notifications.

8. Excise and Licenses should accept the offer of Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation to provide some computer-expert INC members to test-drive the Acella software program before it is implemented for liquor, cabaret and marijuana applications.

9. Problems with patios for liquor-serving establishments.

10. Problems with temporary permits.

11. Excise and Licenses should set up a customer liaison group including neighborhood and industry representatives.

Stacie informed the committee that the long-promised citywide Acella software communication program will be implemented internally for Excise and Licenses on July 1 and the records will be available to the public by December 31 of 2014. In the next 3 years, 17 city departments will all be interconnected.

She also said that, under state and local legislation, any grandfathered medical marijuana dispensaries which have not yet obtained local licenses by July 1, 2014 will face criminal charges if they continue to operate.

**Bryce Carter and James Hennessy of the Colorado Sierra Club** spoke to the committee about their efforts to urge the Denver City Council and the Colorado Public Utilities Commission to reject a petition by Xcel Energy to reduce the credit on their utility bills for rooftop solar customers. If anyone would like more specific information about this issue they can visit **Colorado Solar Net Metering 101** or contact Jodi Jones of the Sierra Club at 720-412-5618 to invite someone to attend a neighborhood meeting.

**Kirk Scheitler, Denver Community Relations Manager for Xcel Energy**, spoke about Xcel's almost-completed program to upgrade aging 4-kilovolt electric transmission lines in Denver's 5 remaining neighborhoods to now-standard 13-kilovolt lines. He stressed that Xcel has an obligation to maintain the health and reliability of the electric grid. He also explained the Denver Public Works Department's policy to implement the section of the 2007 franchise agreement (which needs to be passed every 20 years by a vote of the people) regarding use and prioritization of the 1% of gross electric revenue in Denver to put electric lines underground. The policy emphasizes that undergrounding should be done in conjunction with other city projects and must be done within the public right-of-way.

The committee agreed that this is an important issue for neighborhoods and neighbors should be involved and informed about the program. The committee passed a motion, printed below for consideration by the INC Delegation on July 12 regarding public awareness and

neighborhood engagement in these issues, as the aesthetics of power lines affect all neighborhoods.

### **Motion on Possible Revisions to City Policy on 1% Undergrounding Fund**

Whereas the Franchise Agreement between Xcel Energy and the City and County of Denver provides that 1% of all revenue collected from the citizens of Denver for electric utility service go into an "Electric Utility Undergrounding Fund" for the relocation of existing overhead electric utilities, and

Whereas, the City and County of Denver through the Department of Public Works administrates and decides how and where these funds are expended, and

Whereas, the Department of Public Works has promulgated a policy and criteria for such expenditures through the "Policy and Criteria for the Use of the Undergrounding Fund for Capital Improvements in the City and County of Denver", and

Whereas, this policy was developed without public involvement or input from the citizens of the City and County of Denver, and is implemented and enforced without a public process,

Now therefore, Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation (INC) calls for a timely review of this public policy involving citizens of the City and County of Denver, from Denver RNOs and INC, who it most effects and benefits, and requests that the Manager of Public Works make any revisions to the policy based upon recommendations which may evolve from this public process.

The committee congratulated committee member **Joel Noble**, president of Curtis Park Neighbors and chair of the INC Transportation Committee on **his appointment by Mayor Hancock as a member of the Denver Planning Board**.

**Committee Chair Michael Henry** announced as follows: I need to **resign as a delegate to INC from Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods, as a member of the INC Executive Committee and also as Chair of the Zoning and Planning Committee**. This was a joint decision by the Denver Board of Ethics and me due to tension between my responsibilities as Director of the Board of Ethics and my neighborhood responsibilities. This resignation will be effective after the ZAP meeting on July 26. I will continue to be an active citizen and close observer of city and neighborhood activities and will join as an Associate INC member. I will probably attend ZAP meetings for awhile after July 26, but will not preside, although I will be glad to help whoever INC Chair Larry Ambrose selects as chair or co-chairs. I strongly encourage all leaders and members of INC

- to be civil and respectful to government and developer representatives;
- to pay close attention to city, state and national

issues and development activities that affect Denver neighborhoods;

- to foster collaboration among Denver registered neighborhood organizations and to educate RNOs about city processes;

- not to take positions without trying to learn different sides of a controversial issue;

- to work hard to include geographic, ethnic, age and income diversity in INC members, delegates and members of the Executive Committee and other committees.

I have thoroughly enjoyed and thrived on helping to build INC and the ZAP Committee and working with all of you and hope that we can keep in touch.

The next meeting of the Zoning and Planning Committee will be on Saturday July 26 from 9:30 to 11:30am at 1201 Williams Street in the 19th-floor party room. All are welcome to attend.

## INC EC Minutes

Submitted by: Dave Stauffer, At-Large Board Member 6/9/2014

Board Present: Larry Ambrose, Cindy Johnstone, David Stauffer, Katie Fischer, Michael Henry, Steve Nissen, Gayle Rodgers, Joel Noble, JJ Niemen, Maggie Price Quorum established

Approval of INC May Exec Committee Meeting Minutes: Motion made to approve by Cindy Johnstone, 2nd by Katie Fischer— approved as submitted

### **Financial Treasurer's Report**

Details are in the Delegate Meeting Minutes

### **Discussion Formats for EC meetings**

A discussion on agenda setting, action items, and efficiency of committee reports at both EC and Delegate meetings.

**Motion:** Committee Reports should be reserved for Delegate meetings, or at the request of committee chair(s) can be added to EC agenda—passed unanimously

**Motion:** Only EC Board Member need attend for the first 15 minutes of EC meeting to approve treasurer report and any administrative items—Opposition to motion lead to further discussion on strategy and goals

**Motion:** Next EC meeting will focus on Goals—passed unanimously. Larry Ambrose will pull prior work on goals

### **Discussion of INC Policy on Speech**

Larry Ambrose began discussion with his historical perspective on sharing or advocating for a personal opinion without an expressed INC delegation position statement

- Further discussion on a disclaimer on the "From the President" column

**Motion:** President's column disclaimer to be placed at the end, and read: "responses to ideas and opinions expressed in this column can be sent to [excecomm@denverinc.org](mailto:excecomm@denverinc.org)

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# INC EC Minutes cont.

## Discussion of Retreat Outcomes

Deadlines for Committees- Platform- 1 year, statement of purpose and goals- Aug EC meeting  
By-law change to reflect work from retreat: Motion to be published in July newsletter voted on at Aug delegate meeting

## Old Business

JJ Neimann shared research on purchasing a banner for INC to use at various meetings and events

**Motion:** Follow up next month with proposal to include 3 sizes within \$500 budget

**RNO Toolbox-** Maggie Price reported that a database of documents has been created on Google Drive for various documents relating to liquor, cabaret and marijuana licenses. These documents were created so that neighborhoods can learn from other RNOs, but we still need to establish permission policy/procedures.

## New Business

Cindy Johnstone and Larry Ambrose reported on their meeting with Brad Buchanan, Director of Community Planning and Development September will see the start of a Workgroup on the General Development Plan. The 20-person group will be comprised of various stakeholders with neighborhood interests included. INC will have approval of an impartial facilitator.

# INC Delegate Meeting

Submitted by: Gayle Rodgers, INC Board Member  
6/14/2014 Location: Police Protective Association Quorum established: approx. 35 members

## Welcome Remarks & Introductions:

Cindy Johnstone welcomed the delegation. Delegation introductions were done around the room

Motion of approval for the March delegate-meeting minutes approved as submitted.

## Financial Treasurer's Report – Steve Nissen

CDs: \$11,943.74  
Savings: \$12,815.05  
\$\$ Dictionary: \$13,467.29  
Checking: \$3,491.65  
Balance: \$41,717.73 all accounts through 05/31/14

## Committee Overviews and Updates:

(More detailed information can be found in the June INC newsletter)

## Parks and Recreation Committee (Katie Fisher and Maggie Price were not at the meeting)

Next meeting will be Tuesday, June 17 at the Heritage Club, 2020 S Monroe St. from 6:00 to 8:00 pm.

## Transportation Committee (Joel Noble)

July 10, 6pm next meeting 1201 Williams St, 19th floor

B-Cycle Executive Director will be at the meeting Joel requested approval of the following motion:

- That INC send a letter to the Mayor, City Council, and WalkDenver supporting the two key requests from WalkDenver's petition, which is consistent with INC's adopted Sidewalk Position Statement:
- Form a Pedestrian Advisory Committee whose role will be to advise city officials, city agencies, and the office of the Mayor on policies, procedures, and infrastructure improvements needed

to make Denver a great city for walking. Establish Denver Moves Pedestrians, a parallel implementation plan to the bicycle-focused Denver Moves plan, so that the City has a clear path forward for improving the pedestrian environment in Denver.

Joel Noble moved and Meg Schomp seconded the above motion. 27 voted for the motion. No one opposed it.

They will push to have neighborhood representatives on the advisory board. Ray Ehrenstien would like to be on the committee.

**Zoning and Planning Committee** (Michael Henry)  
Next meeting is June 28th from 9:30 – 11:30am, 1201 Williams St, 19th floor

Mary Beth Susman spoke to the committee on May 17 about the "sharing economy" bringing up the ride sharing car companies.

Then she talked about home, apartment or room-rental websites where they promote short stays of less than 30-days, which is illegal under the Denver zoning code. There is also sharing of tools and chores/errands.

Brad Buchanan, our speaker from April, announced that Community Planning and Development will send out rezoning notices shortly after applications are received. Joel Noble warned us that we will get notices for things that will never happen. In the past some rezoning was negotiated, dismissed and not sent out. Now all notices will get sent out.

**Education Committee** (Meg Schomp)  
Hentzell Park School will be an Expeditionary School run by the district.

The Denver School Board just approved 14 new schools: 12 charter schools and 2 district run. Kepner Middle School in SW Denver will have two schools in the same building – a district and charter school.

East and Manual High Schools

- Combined 9th grade at Manual starting in 2016
- Principal from Hill Middle School will be at Manual
- In 10th grade the students could choose to go to Manual or East
- Manual will be a Bio Technical College = STEM program
- George Washington HS
- Will have the IB program for 11th and 12th graders

- Will no longer have the pre IB program
- They will increase the honors and Advanced Placement programs
- C3 is outgrowing the Merrill Middle school building. Where will it go?
- Amber Callender is a new community outreach employee of the school district.

## Dollar Dictionary (Steve Nissen)

Blake DiMeo had a Beer Booth at the People's Fair on rainy Sunday. Even though they didn't make as much money as planned we will still make the minimum - \$600

- Concerts for Kid's – May 24th Fundraiser raised \$620
- Steve Nissen won the 2014 Mustang!!!
- Goal for Dollar Dictionary for this year is \$30,000. We are only about halfway there.
- Marlene Johnson from Hutchinson Hills said their association is donating \$400 today

## Public Safety (Cindy Johnstone)

- Safety Expo will be Saturday September 13th at South HS. Cindy will try to get the INC Del-

egation meeting to take place at South HS since they are on the same day.

## Executive Committee Retreat

- A productive retreat in May with the emphasis on roles and responsibilities of INC Committees
- The current committees were divided into two categories
- The purpose of the Operational Support Committees is to manage the activities that support INC.

• Those committees are: Audit, Budget, Membership and Communications/Website. Authority: Committees must submit action plans with budgets for Board approval.

• The purpose of the Interest Committees is to convene and support RNOs through education, collaboration and advocacy on specific topics and by working with relevant organizations and agencies.

• Those committees are: Education, Parks & Recreation, Safety, Transportation, and Zoning & Planning.

## New Business

Denver Decides – Channel 8 TV, INC, Historic Denver, and the Denver League of Women Voters will put on 5 to 6 election forums across the city starting in September. One of the forums will be at the INC Delegation meeting on Saturday, October 11 to cover selected ballot issues. The others will be candidate debates for the State House and Senate elections. INC member groups will be asked to help co-sponsor.

Cindy Johnstone divided us into groups of 6. We put down our concerns about the following topics: Education, Parks and Recreation, Public Safety, Transportation, Zoning and Planning. We were also to come up with whom we would like to speak at future meetings.

There were some similarities between what some of the groups came up with for concerns. Here are a few listed:

- Transparency
- Homelessness
- Cop shops – we need more plus we need more volunteers
- Have the police enforce laws, such as the camping ban
- Allow people to speak at the Mayor's community meetings
- Better communication with the public
- RTD presentations
- Accountability
- Openness
- Authentic Communication and engagement

## Motion:

After looking at common concerns there was discussion that the Neighborhood Liaison from The Mayor's Office has not attended our INC Delegate meetings for some time. A motion was made that a letter be sent to Mayor Hancock and Michael Sapp to request a representative of the Mayor's Office attend the INC Delegate Monthly Meetings to build better communications between the Mayor's Office and the Community. Moved by David Brown, Seconded by Valery Brown. Passed – unanimous

## Next INC Meeting:

Next meeting - July 12, 2014 - Location: Montclair Rec Center

Adjourned: 11:30am

## Voting Matter For August Meeting

Rationale: Language proposed to be added to INC bylaws Article X to identify the purpose and authority of committees. Sections A, B, C, and D are unchanged.

A. A committee shall normally consist of two or more individuals. However, a single person may Chair a committee when additional persons are not available.

B. A Committee Chair should be a Delegate. Any individual of a Member Organization may serve on a committee; however, the INC President may appoint any resident of the City of Denver to fill these positions with majority approval of the Board of Directors.

C. Standing Committees shall be: Audit, Budget, Education, Membership, Communications, Parks and Recreation, Public Safety, Transportation, and Zoning and Planning.

D. Special Committees. The President may appoint special committees as the need arises, with the approval of the Delegation.

### The Following Bylaw Changes Proposed

E. Committees are defined as either **Operational Support** or **Interest** committees.

1. The purpose of the **Operational Support Committees** is to manage the activities that support INC. Those committees are: Audit, Budget, Membership and Communications.

Authority: Committees must submit action plans with budgets for Board approval.

2. The purpose of the **Interest Committees** is to convene and support Registered Neighborhood Organizations through education, collaboration and advocacy on specific topics and by working with relevant organizations and agencies. Those committees are: Education, Parks & Recreation, Safety, Transportation, and Zoning and Planning.

Authority: Committees may present motions and position statements to INC Delegates for voting if they are consistent with established Committee platforms already approved by the Delegation. All voting matters are to be reviewed by the Executive Committee prior to Delegate presentation to ensure wording meets standards deemed appropriate by the Executive Committee.

*INC's registered neighborhood organization's represent some 47,000 members, and their geographical boundaries include over 280,000 households - a diverse population comprised of both owners and renters.*

## The Meeting-goer's Lament

By Diana Helper, in the Univ. Park Column of the June 2014 Washington Park Profile

(Tune: The Cowboy's Lament – Streets of Laredo)

Oh, Summertime's here, and the livin' is lazy,  
If we skipped some meetings, would you think we're crazy?  
We know they go on and on, all through the summer—  
If we didn't go, would we be that much dumber?

If we were all rich, and decided to travel  
Would anyone bitch? Would the city unravel?  
Zoning would zone, and the parking would park,  
Whether or not we went off on a lark!

Nothing would come with a screech to a stop—  
This neighborhood runs like a jolly old top  
'cause everyone joins in community labor  
And everyone here tries to be a good neighbor!

So why not goof off, and let others do meetings,  
Fight fights and sweat tears, maybe take a few beatings?  
Spend warm summer evenings on worklike addenda,  
Becoming a regular Pris'ner-of-Agenda!

But sometimes these meetings result in a change  
That truly is good for our home on the range,  
And then you feel good and so glad that you went  
And maybe improved on some plan or event...

It seems it's worth while – it's not such a bummer –  
What could we otherwise do with our summer?

## Denver Days : August 2-10

By Gayle Rodgers, Denver Days Ambassador

Denver Days is a citywide summer tradition started last year to connect neighbors to neighborhoods. It will take place August 2 - 10 to coincide with another well-established event, National Night Out that occurs on August 5 (first Tuesday in August). National Night Out is a crime prevention program that encourages people to have block parties as a way to meet your neighbors. When neighbors know neighbors, crime goes down, people have less fear, and they are happier.

You might be wondering how you can get involved. You could throw a block party or a larger social community event or get people together for a service project. Our block is having a block party and our neighborhood is having our 5th Annual Summer Fest picnic where we invite nearby neighborhoods to join us. You could host a backyard BBQ, organize a happy hour at a neighborhood bar, convene

a clean up on your block or alley, hold a graffiti paint-a-thon or paint a seniors house, plan a garden tour, etc. Come up with fun ideas to meet your neighbors!

The advantage of having an event during Denver Days is that the city is waiving the permit fees. If you need barricades to block off the street, the city will provide them at no cost and insurance will be optional. For a large event like our Summer Fest picnic in a neighborhood park, the insurance is not waived. Planning your event during Denver Days will cost you less and be easier to organize.

To get started, go to: [www.denvergov.org/denverdays](http://www.denvergov.org/denverdays). You will find a tool kit that will help you organize your event. You can register for the event and then apply for a permit. If you have questions, call 720-965-9092.





*Bryce Carter and James Hennessy of the Colorado Sierra Club*



*From the June INC Delegate Meeting*



*From the June ZAP Meeting*



*Serious fun and brainstorming welcome here!*



# 7 Tips for Getting To Know Your Neighbors

Did you know that getting to know your neighbors is the easiest way to reduce crime in your neighborhood? You look out for neighbors when you know them and learn their routines. Here are some easy ways to meet more neighbors.

**1. Organize a Block Party or Service Project** This is perfect for the summer with warm weather. As a way to build up Denver neighborhoods, Mayor Hancock started Denver Days last year. This year it is from August 2nd – 10th. The website ([www.denvergov.org/denverdays/](http://www.denvergov.org/denverdays/)) gives you ideas for planning a block party or service project. You can register your event on the site. The City is waiving permit fees and other expenses if you do it during these dates. You could be the catalyst and bring in other neighbors to help.

**2. Get Involved in Your Neighborhood Organization** Serve on the board or on a committee for an event in your neighborhood. Five years ago the neighborhood board decided to have a neighborhood picnic that we call Summer Fest. It's been great getting to know many of my neighbors by organizing that event. We have expanded it to include nearby neighborhoods. This year we had a community golf tournament to support our four schools. We have a vision statement for what we want our neighborhood to look like in 2020. All of these attract neighbors for you to meet.

**3. Bring a Gift to a Neighbor** This is especially good to do with new neighbors moving in as it takes a while to unpack. I'm sure a plant, cookies or a meal would be welcome. I give extra vegetables from my garden to some neighbors.

**4. Go for a Walk** As you walk around the neighborhood, you will begin to see some familiar faces and it will be easy to start talking, especially if you have a dog. At the same time, walking is one of the best exercises you can do. It's a great way to

learn the streets in your neighborhood.

**5. Hold a Garage Sale** Our neighborhood is lucky because Renee Cohen of Coldwell Banker organizes a neighborhood garage sale each year. Garage sales often attract people from the area. I had so much fun meeting neighbors at my garage sale and found it easy to introduce myself. Best to do when you first move into the neighborhood instead of waiting until you need to clean out before you move.

**6. Invite a Neighbor Over** Asking someone over is a great way to get to know them better. You could invite them over to watch a Bronco game. In the summer you could have them over for drinks and appetizers or a BBQ.

**7. Form a Club** You could start a running group, walking group, cycling club, photography club, genealogy group, book club, or a game night. Our neighborhood started a running group, two book clubs, and a Bunco group by putting the word out on our neighborhood social media site, [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com). Finding people with similar interests is easy on this site.

After moving into our neighborhood, I met lots of neighbors by joining a babysitting cooperative. We traded sitting services within the group and kept track of hours we babysat and used it. We had quarterly meetings, which helped establish our relationships even more. A few of us in the babysitting group formed a playgroup for five 2-year-olds. One of the boys in that playgroup was in my son's wedding in Scotland years later.

You can form lasting friendships if you make a little effort. My parents went to a New Years Eve party in their 'old' neighborhood for at least thirty years after they moved. You can find people with similar interests when you take the time to introduce yourself and get involved.

Submitted by Gayle Rodgers, founder of Vibrant Neighborhoods and author of the forthcoming book, *How to Turn Your Neighborhood into a Community*. She is President of Southmoor Park South Neighborhood Association and is on the INC Board.

## INC Efficiency Proposals for Denver Excise and Licenses

To view the INC letter to Stacie Loucks, Director of the Department of Excise and Licenses, [please click here](#).

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