

# DENVER INC CONNECTION

www.denverINC.org

August 2014

Neighborhoods work better when they work together

## Meeting Of Delegates & Neighborhood Leaders

When: Saturday, August 9 Where: District 1 Police Station Community Room,  
1311 W 46th Ave (west of I-25 and south of I-70)

Agenda:

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

9:00am Business Meeting

10:15am Special Program – Emily Snyder, Senior City Planner with Denver Public Works -  
Updating the city-wide Denver Moves bicycle facility plan to incorporate new  
“protected bike lanes”, which provide increased safety and comfort to attract riders  
of all ages and abilities.

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

## 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.

## CALENDAR

### INC Delegate Meeting

Saturday, August 9  
District 1 Police Station  
Community Room,  
1311 W 46th Ave  
8:30 – 11:00 am

### INC Exec Committee Meeting

Monday, August 11  
1201 Williams St, 19th Floor  
6:00 – 8:30 pm

### INC Parks & Rec Committee Meeting

Tuesday, August 12  
Heritage Club, 2020 S Monroe St  
6 – 8 pm

### INC Transportation Meeting

Thursday, September 11  
1201 Williams St, 19th Floor  
6:00 pm

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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

By Geneva Hooten, Co-Chair Transportation Committee

The INC Transportation Committee met on July 10, 2014 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the top-floor "party room" at 1201 Williams Street. Many thanks to Michael Henry for the use of this wonderful space!



Golden Triangle Neighborhood Plan's Vision for Lincoln/Broadway -- Chris Gleissner and Sarah Showalter, Senior City Planners (above), Denver Community Planning and Development

Denver's area plans (also called neighborhood plans, station area plans, or small 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 released the first draft of the new Golden Triangle Neighborhood Plan for review. The draft plan serves as an update to the 1998 neighborhood plan and is supported by other planning reports and direction from City Council and the City's strategic framework.

This plan has been "built by the community" and included surveys, public involvement, and special stakeholder meetings to develop a visionary yet feasible set of recommendations. The Golden Triangle Neighborhood Plan develops vision elements under four headings:

broadway at 11th avenue: existing view - looking south



broadway at 11th avenue: photosimulation of potential improvements



eclectic, connected, creative, and livable. The vision for a connected Golden Triangle relates directly to transportation improvements that provide robust mobility, grand boulevards, and dynamic parking.

The idea of Grand Boulevards for the borders of Golden Triangle (Broadway and Lincoln, Colfax and Speer), has gained significant traction within the community. As they stand, the current borders of the Golden Triangle act as barriers to neighborhood connections, rather than as seams to stitch them together. 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. As outlined in the Plan, the goals for Broadway and Lincoln include:

- Increasing person trip capacity (that is, getting more people through, not just cars)
- Increasing safety
- Improving service to neighborhoods
- Creating a strong sense of identity and entry (that is, the sense that you came to these streets purposefully and want to stay there)

Broadway was the main focus of Chris and Sarah's presentation. As a grand boulevard, Broadway would include:

- Enhanced transit through exclusive transit lanes that include "super stops" with branded

amenities and more frequent service.

- Street trees, furniture, and a better activation of its wide sidewalks
- Two-way bike facility protected by on-street parking
- Parklets in strategic locations (parklets are on-street parking spaces converted into patios or other uses that bring life and commerce to the streets).
- Curb bulbouts making pedestrian crossing distances shorter

Other mobility recommendations for the neighborhood's internal street network include an Arts and Culture Trail -- a branded economic development tool to link people between galleries, downtown, and the Santa Fe Arts District. The Trail would include a wide bicycle and pedestrian mixed-use path, public art, and branding.

For more information about the Golden Triangle Neighborhood Plan process, draft, and next steps, see Denver's Golden Triangle Neighborhood Plan page.



Denver Bike Sharing -- Nick Bohnenkamp (above), Executive Director Four years since bringing the B-cycle technology to Denver, the program has grown to include over 700 iconic red bikes at 83 bike share stations around central Denver. The system covers 12.5 square miles and is typically used for short trips less than 2 miles in length. The system focuses on solving the first-mile / last mile component of multimodal transportation (for instance, getting between a bus or light rail stop and a destination).

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## Let's Blow Our Own Horn!

INC wants to know all those neat things your RNO has done over the last five years. We know that you have had and are having a positive impact on your neighborhood because you care about the people around you. You know what it is that makes your neighborhood a great place to live and how your RNO has been involved in keeping it the best it can be.

INC wants to know because we want to let the City know how important our RNOs are to our neighborhoods and the City. Lots of times we are doing things we don't even think are important enough to mention. Newsletters, organized clean ups of yards, alleys, July 4th Celebration, collecting can goods for food banks, and there are many more things that RNOs have done over the past years to strengthen their neighborhoods and make Denver a great place to live.

INC will be sending out a survey soon asking some questions about your RNO and asking for you to reply with things you have done. You may need to ask some of the past RNO board members, look through your minutes, and definitely take some time at your board meeting to create the list. We will share this with the City and also your list will be on our website with all the other RNOs. Lets show our pride! Look for the INC survey, make sure you sit down with the other dedicated neighborhood members and let us know what you do.

# From The President

## A Positive Response from the City on Big Development Issue

I have covered development topics for the past few months, such as the importance of early neighborhood involvement in the development planning process, how much density the new Denver zoning code can really accommodate and whether the new zoning code was really protecting the character of our City. I have also written in the past about General Development Plans (GDPs) which is a tool used by Community Planning and Development (CPD) to put in place a site plan for developments of 10 acres or more. This is important to our neighborhoods because GDPs plan for streets and streetscapes, infrastructure, open space and building heights and obviously, new projects of this size have huge impacts on Denver's traffic, schools, parks, water, sewage, sunlight, housing and amenities. There now would seem to be hope on the horizon for a new working relationship with CPD to address some of these issues especially the flaws in the GDP guidelines.

INC has had concerns with GDPs and how they are applied under the new zoning code. In fact, INC passed a resolution in February 2013, which asked that the City set up a process to reassess how open space is calculated in GDPs and how the City is involved in public meetings and how final approvals are made. As a result of the St. Anthony's GDP process, many of the surrounding neighborhoods and residents felt they had been rolled over. There were similar concerns expressed from the Lowry neighborhood in regard to the Buckley Annex GDP.

After his appointment as Executive Director of CPD, Brad Buchanan was prepared to ignore INC's concerns about GDPs and move forward in presenting text amendments regarding GDP's open space allow-

ance to City Council. However, at INC's request, I am happy to report and in a show of good faith Mr. Buchanan has put these amendments on hold and agreed to set up a working group process to address a number of concerns regarding GDPs. In fact, in preliminary discussions, he has agreed to go beyond the questions raised by INC and examine the GDP ordinance and process in greater depth.

For example, under the "new zoning code" CPD staff recommends that the site plan come before any possible needed rezoning might come to City Council. Developers and CPD staff, determine the density, size of streets, amount of open space, building footprints and heights and have it officially approved by the Mayor-appointed Planning Board before City Council has a chance to weigh in. Giving approval to a site plan, which includes the infrastructure for density, raises the question as to whether City Council or CPD and the Planning Board actually determine zoning in GDPs. The amount of publicly accessible private open space and proximity to existing parks as an alternative to providing such private open space is addressed in GDP rules and regulations which have not been updated since the passage of the new zoning code. These GDP rules and regulations and other issues surrounding the impact of large developments on the adequacy of park space will be discussed as well.

We may not always get zoning outcomes to the liking of our neighborhoods. But process often seems to be the crux of most of the frustration and certainly affects the outcomes. We are hopeful that the working group review process that is being set up to improve the process of at least this one development, zoning code issue, General Development Plans, will result in better, more transparent and responsive City government. If we are really lucky, it may even set the tone for better working relationships between neighborhoods and the City. That would be really nice.



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

## Committee Corner<sup>cont.</sup>

B-cycles are used for commuting, for social events, and for accessing restaurants and bars. Stations are roughly 3 to 6 blocks apart, which instills reliability through its redundancy. With a 50% expansion in 2013, B-cycle saw an increase of 30% in trips, 47% in annual membership, and 29% in walk-up usage. On July 5, 2014, B-cycle experienced its highest day of use with over 2,000 rides on the system!

### Insights: Our Market



The map from Nick's presentation shows that you don't need to live right by a station to find value in the system. It illustrates where annual members live, demonstrating that people who live beyond central Denver still find the system worthwhile when they work or play in the city.

B-cycle service was expanded to include winter service (starting this past winter, from 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. Their focus is now to ensure that the system is balanced (both bikes and empty spots at every station, all the time), since reliability is key to retaining annual members.

In the coming year, Nick and his team will focus on reliability, funding (the system is funded through fares, user fees, and sponsorships), and addressing accessibility for low-income users.

You can find a map of Denver B-Cycle stations, find out about how B-Cycle works, sign up for membership, and see all the other cities where a B-Cycle membership also lets you ride at <http://denver.bcycle.com/>. Riders with smart phones are encouraged to download the B-Cycle Now app that shows the number of bikes at every station in real time. Denver B-Cycle is operated by Denver Bike Sharing, a non-profit 501(c)3. No tax dollars support the program -- Denver Bike Sharing receives its funds through grants, sponsorships, memberships, and transaction fees.

**Neighborhood Slow Zones to Reduce Accidents & Fatalities** -- Anne Lindsey (below) (Golden Triangle Association)

Transportation-related deaths are often considered an unfortunate cost of traveling that

*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.*



## Committee Corner cont.



cannot be avoided (crashes will happen, people will die). Although riding bikes and walking are not inherently dangerous, we see that cyclists and pedestrians die in traffic accidents disproportionately. What if we decided that transportation-related injuries and deaths didn't have to happen? New York City has laid out their plan for "Vision Zero" under the basic premise that people should not have to risk dying, or killing others, while getting from point A to point B.

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 presented one key approach to increasing traffic safety in neighborhoods called "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 much safer are slower speeds? Anne presented a chart of National Highway Safety Administration's data showing the severity of damage to pedestrians when hit by a car going at 40, 30, and 20 miles per hour. At 40mph,

impacts are fatal to pedestrians 85% of the time (red), and cause serious injury 15% of the time (yellow). At 20mph, impacts are rarely fatal at 5% of impacts, serious injury occurs 65% of the time, and no injury due to the impact is seen 30% of the time (green). In addition to the lowered impact consequences, accidents are greatly reduced in frequency at slower speeds, as all parties have more time to react.

Slow Zones should be primarily residential, and surrounded by clear, easily defined boundaries (typically arterial streets such as Colfax, Broadway, and Federal in Denver). Successful slow zones in London are demarcated with blue slow zone signs, street marking, and speed tables. These were shown to be most effective in areas with high fatalities prior to implementation. In New York City, the first neighborhood slow zone was implemented in 2011 and slow zones cover 65 miles of city streets. Observed speeds have fallen by 20% in slow zones with a 14% reduction in crashes with injuries.

Is Denver ready for slow zones? Are we ready to see the end to unnecessary deaths and injuries? Anne believes that the necessary legal structure is in place, in the Denver Revised Municipal Code, Chapter 54 where the allowances for "Safety Zones" are made. Implementing slow zones would require strong neighborhood, City, and Council support.

Learn more about what New York City is doing with Neighborhood Slow Zones at the New York City Department of Transportation web site. For a look at the actions planned for 2014 in support of New York's Vision Zero program, see the 2014 NYC Vision Zero Action Plan, which declares that "No level of fatality on City streets is inevitable or acceptable."

### 2014 Meeting Schedule

The INC Transportation Committee's 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.

Do you have suggestions for future topics for the INC Transportation Committee? Please send them to co-chairs Geneva Hooten and Joel Noble at [transportation@denverinc.org](mailto:transportation@denverinc.org)!

### INC PARC Committee

By Diana Helper, PARC member July 15, 2014

INC PARC (Parks and Recreation Committee) met July 15, 2014, at 6 p.m. at the Heritage Club, 2020 South Monroe Street. Present were: Co-Chair Maggie Price, Larry Ambrose, Ray Ehrenstein, James Sample, Linda Dowlen, John Van Sciver, Hank Bootz, Tracey MacDermott, Nancy Francis, John Joseph Niemann, Ronnie Crawford, Diana Helper, and DPR guests Michael Bouchard, Scott Gilmore, and Samantha Gilmore, and Denver Post reporter Joe Vaccarelli who was interested in the "City Loop" discussion in particular.

Mr. Bouchard presented preliminary ideas regarding the former City Loop project, titled "Re-Imagine Play - New Site." Supporters and stakeholders had heard this talk July 9 in the Paco Sanchez Park neighborhood. It showed features such as an undulating soccer field, shapes for creative play for all ages, DPR staff to facilitate spontaneity. Councilman Paul Lopez is interested in this project for 10 of Sanchez Park's 26 acres. There was lengthy comment from PARC and Scott Gilmore, PARC emphasizing the need to work from the beginning with the needs and wants of the people this park serves, in planning any major project, and public funding. Mr. Gilmore stated that nothing definite has been decided yet. A meeting with the entire community (and all interested) will be held later this summer.

A group of citizens from City Park West, Park Hill, Congress Park, and South City Park, has written a letter to Mr. Gilmore, which Nancy Francis presented, with questions regarding the large, for-profit Chive Fest Event scheduled to be held in City Park in August. Questions concerned parking, traffic, public transportation, facilities, finances, public access, tailgate parties, noise, safety, and recovery. The group believes City Park is not a proper venue for such a huge, 10-hour event, with two stages for bands, because of its impact not only on the neighborhood, but especially upon the Denver Zoo animals. Mr. Gilmore said if a permit applicant agrees to all terms, DPR must grant the permit. The event is to be stopped if the agreement is not followed, but it is unclear how such an event can be shut down mid-event.

PARC agreed to send a letter of concern to DPR regarding the Chive Fest.

PARC reiterated the urgency to have a Festival Park, in the best interest of the city and its citizens. [ See related Your Hub article dated July 31, 2014- [click here](#) ]

PARC asked DPR to inform police when a large park event is scheduled in their District. A note from the Golden Triangle neighborhood said that its new Small Area Plan includes parks and park connections within its area. Mr. Gilmore spoke about "200 acres of open space" DPR is going to be managing between Pena Blvd. and Rocky Mt. Arsenal. Other sites DPR is working on are 61st and Pena Blvd (new light rail station) and 38th and Holly. He also distributed copies of the Park Designation process Rounds 4 and 5, and said any PARC members with comments should email him any time.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10. Next meeting is August 12.

### INC ZAP Committee

By Michael Henry July 26, 2014

Laura Brudzynski, aide to City Councilwoman-at-large Robin Kniech, briefed the committee about proposed amendments to the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance (IHO), which

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will probably have a public hearing at City Council on August 18. The amendments to the ordinance, originally passed in 2002, are designed to create more affordable housing opportunities for moderate-income families and to address the different economic conditions in different parts of the city.



Caryn Champine (above) and David Gaspers of the Community Planning and Development Department discussed with the committee the final draft of the Transit Oriented Development (TOD) Strategic Plan, available at [www.denvergov.org/tod](http://www.denvergov.org/tod). There are or will be 41 light-rail stations in Denver, which the plan categorizes and prioritizes for development and infrastructure improvements surrounding the stations in the next 5 years.

Committee members Michael Henry, Keith Howard, Anne Lindsey, Don Tressler and Margie Valdez shared with the committee a discussion of the Draft Denver Housing Plan they had on July 18 with representatives of the Denver Office of Economic Development, including newly appointed Housing Director Rick Padilla. The committee passed the following motion by unanimous consensus.

Delegates should be prepared to vote on this at the INC Delegation meeting on August 9:

*Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation strongly urges the Mayor, the Office of Economic Development, the Denver Housing Director, the Housing Advisory Council and the City Council that 1) Registered Neighborhood Organizations and other citizens must be meaningfully engaged in the development and implementation of the Housing Plan, including the location of affordable housing developments; 2) serious consideration must be given to not further encouraging over-concentration of lower-income housing units in any Denver neighborhoods and 3) OED must develop tools to measure the concentration of lower-income housing units in Denver neighborhoods.*

Committee member Stephen Griffin reported

that an advisory committee, including neighborhood representatives, is being formed to recommend new rules and processes for General Development Plans, including, but not limited to, open space requirements in GDPs.

After adjournment, a number of committee members discussed possibilities for reconfiguring the leadership of the ZAP Committee, in light of Michael Henry's resignation as committee chair. Anyone who wishes to comment or volunteer should contact INC President Larry Ambrose, [Ida@earthnet.net](mailto:Ida@earthnet.net).

## INC EC Minutes

7/14/2014

Submitted by: Thad Jacobs, Secretary

Board Present: Larry Ambrose, Karen Taylor, Thad Jacobs, Michael Henry, Steve Nissen, Gayle Rodgers, Joel Noble, Cindy Johnston, Jane Lorimer, JJ Niemann, Maggie Price

Quorum established. Call to order: 6:08pm

Approval of INC June Exec Committee Meeting Minutes: Motion made to approve by Cindy Johnstone, 2nd by Gayle Rodgers – approved as submitted

### Financial Treasurer's Report

See details in the Delegate Meeting Minutes

### Budget Report

- Unknowns are over budget by \$1,281, but all expenses were pre-approved by exec committee
- Several grant applications are out and under consideration no responses yet

### Dollar Dictionary

- \$16,500 available today \$3,800 short with just giving a Dictionary (no thesaurus) and packing Dictionary price is \$2.50 per book, 7524 books needed
- Need to send another blast to solicit RNOs for additional funds for the Dollar Dictionary
- Need to look at Dollar Dictionary Program for 2015 in October to determine if and how the program continues going forward.

**Motion:** JJ Niemann made a motion that INC cover the additional cost needed to support the purchase of the one dictionary book from what is on hand in the Dollar Dictionary fund, 2nd by Thad Jacobs – passed unanimously

### Future Space Needs

- EC Committee, Zoning and Planning, Transportation need meeting space
- Need to look at permanent space for INC, funded space
- Steve will get information on Shift Spaces as possible options and provide information to Cindy
- Delegation Meeting for August will be at DPD District 1

### Board Vacancy and Committee Chairmanships

- Larry will cut off nominations by 7/20 for board members and committee chairs/co-chairs
- EC recommended co-chairs for committees
- Need to ratify JJ Niemann as Membership Chair

appointment at the August Delegate meeting

### Giving Back to the Community/RNO

- How are our RNOs giving back to their communities/RNOs? Put together a survey to solicit what RNO groups are doing.
- City proclamation recognizing RNO, communities

### Sierra Club: Xcel PUC Rooftop Solar

- We can pass the information to the delegation members
- INC EC cannot pass a motion on this, it has to go to the delegation

### Old Business

Current banners are needed by JJ Niemann to start to design a new banner.

Larry will setup meeting with Communication Committee to discuss newsletter, website, banners etc.

### New Business

- Discussion on delegate meeting smorgasbord of speakers and how it worked, didn't work
- Do we want to look at the speakers as more of a way to give a taste to the delegation so that the delegates want to contact and take those speakers back to their RNOs?
- Maybe look at November meeting for another smorgasbord of speakers meeting.
- E • lection Forums are co-sponsored by INC, the League of Women Voters of Denver and Denver8TV. We have \$500 allocated in the budget for the forum costs. Michael Henry will compose a letter or email on all the details. Legislative candidate forums will be in September and October and the ballot issue forum will be at the INC Delegation meeting on Saturday, October 11, at the District 3 Police Station at 1625 South University.
- Need to find a chair for the Dinner Committee to have an INC Dinner. Larry will contact Visit Denver to see if they will sponsor the Dinner again.
- City is looking to move the City Loop program to Paco Sanchez Park

Adjourn: 7:53pm

## INC Delegation Meeting

7/12/2014

Hosted by Lowery United Neighborhoods Montclair Recreation Center

Submitted by: Thad Jacobs, Secretary

Quorum established: 29 members present

Call to order: 9:04am

**Welcome Remarks & Introductions:** Cindy Johnstone called the meeting to order, and Sally Kurtzman gave a welcome and thank you to the delegation. The delegation did brief introductions around the room.

**Motion:** to approve the minutes of the June Delegate meeting made by, Jim Sample 2nd by Anthony Thomas, passed as submitted

### Financial Treasurer's Report – Steve Nissen

CDs: \$11,945.53

Savings: \$12,815.37

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\$\$ Dictionary: \$15,586.35  
Checking: \$3,522.41  
Balance: \$43,869.66 all accounts through end of 06/30/14

#### **Committee Overviews and Updates:**

##### **PARC** Maggie Price

- Yolanda Quesada is now the contact for Parks and Rec



Pictured above: Sally Kurtzman

- City Loop Project proposed to be moved to Paco Sanchez Park (12th and Perry), another meeting 6/29/14 at 6pm location TBD
- DESIGNATION OF PARKS continues with rounds 4 and 5
- Hentzel Park lawsuit still moving forward no new news to report

##### **Transportation** Joel Noble

- Meet on Thursday had 3 speakers, Golden Triangle, B-Cycle, and Ann Lindsey presented on Neighborhood slow zones research
- Next Meeting 9/11/14 6pm 1201 Williams Street

##### **ZAP** Michael Henry

- Met two weeks ago, had good meeting with new Excise and Licensing Director, Stacie Loucks
- Next meeting 7/26 930am, 1201 Williams Street, discussion will be on Transit Oriented Development, and inclusionary housing measure
- Michael talked about his resignation as a delegate and ZAP Committee Chair

#### **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 administers 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.*

Moved by Michael Henry, 2nd by Dave Felice 28 For, 0 Against, 1 Abstention

Comments: Larry Coffey looking to meet with Public Works to allow for public input and comment into the process

##### **Education** Karen Taylor

- Met with committee and DPS
- DPS planning to hold regional meetings around the City, we will get information out
- DPS Strategic Regional Analysis

##### **Dollar Dictionary** Steve Nissen

- Only have enough money for one book this year
- Need to order next week
- Will need help on 8/13-8/14 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church to sort and label books for schools

##### **Public Safety** Cindy Johnston

- Public Safety Expo will coincide with our September meeting, Saturday 9/13, at South High School
- Cindy Johnstone will work with Merce Lea to get the information out to the delegation

##### **New Business**

Bryce Carter (Sierra Club) and Ray Ehrenstein discussed – asking cities to pass a non-binding agreement on the value of rooftop solar around net metering so customers get credit for what they produce.

DPS SW Turnaround process will be beginning; community and RNOs need to get involved in the process. Thad Jacobs will work with Karen Taylor and Meg Schomp to help get details and information out to the delegation.

**Next Meeting:** August 11, 2014 Topic: Protective Bicycle Lanes Location: TBD

Adjourned: 11:38am

## **Guest Speakers from July Meeting**

By Thad Jacobs, Secretary

**Doug Linkhart** – Denver Environmental Health, Animal Care and Control

- Improved animal live release rate to 90%, up from 51% 10-12 years ago
- They are being more proactive now in educating the public and law advisement vs. going right to

issuing a ticket

- New program for animals of concern
- Cat program to trap, spay/neuter, and return to avoid further feral cat population increase in neighborhoods. If they don't return the cat to the same location, there will be five new ones to take over that territory.

**Maro Casparian** – Consumer Protection, DA's Office Director of Consumer Fraud

- Identity theft, scams, etc. all scams promise riches and making money fast
- Ponzi schemes: the highly educated, white, 55+ males are the most targeted demographic
- ID theft is the most prominent way theft is occurring in Denver and elsewhere
- Medicaid / Medicare cards have SSN# on them. TIP: copy card and cross through all but the last four digits and copy again so they can't read what you crossed out. You only need the last 4 digits.
- Pull credit reports for you and your children
- Check all your bank and credit card statements for all charges



**Clay Vigoda (above)/Kelsey Yamasaki** - Denver Auditor's Office, Police Response Time Audit

- Slide show showing 911 response time from when operator picks up call to officer arriving on scene (total time)
- Hand out of the slide show was given to the delegation



**Ayn Fox/Terry Hershey/Jack Unruh**, Compassionate Denver (Pictured above)

- Compassionate neighborhood initiative, over 240 cities globally working through initiatives of compassion
- Conference of Mayors passed an initiative supporting cities doing things of compassion within their cities
- LoDo became the first neighborhood to be recognized as a compassionate neighborhood

For more information, please visit [www.denvergov.org](http://www.denvergov.org)

## DDD Packing Event is Fast Approaching

By Blake DiMeo

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 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! Lunch will be provided. Please email Blake DiMeo at [blakedimeo@yahoo.com](mailto:blakedimeo@yahoo.com) to RSVP if you can participate.

## Build Neighborhood Connections: Host A Party For Denver Days

By Laura Maresca

Between August 2 - 10 Denver will once again celebrate "Denver Days." All across the city neighbors will get together for things like block parties and service projects such as alley clean ups. But Denver Days also provides an opportunity to connect on a smaller level. Last year, I hosted a tea party for the women who live on my block. We had some neighbors who have lived here for 30 years and some who just moved in. As a result of the tea party, I got to know neighbors I hadn't met before - even though they live only a few doors down. The older guests had us all laughing with some great stories about what the neighborhood was like "back in the day" and we all felt a greater sense of belonging and connection. So, even if you don't have the time or ability to plan a big block party, you can still benefit from hosting a smaller Denver Days gathering. For more information about Denver Days and to register your event go to: [www.denvergov.org/denverdays](http://www.denvergov.org/denverdays). I hope you will find a way to celebrate Denver Days that is meaningful to you and your neighbors!

## Using our Fasttraks

In 1902, the police at Denver Union Station started enforcing a "no kissing" rule on platforms because it slowed down the trains. Wonder if that will be re-visited :).

## INC's Dictionary Program Needs Your Help

For the past 18 years, INC has supported placing free dictionaries into the hands of every third grade student enrolled within Denver Public Schools. This past year, donation efforts have not raised the required funds to provide the 7,500 books needed. In fact, we are short \$3,600.

We'd like to ask you to help us raise these extra dollars through your RNO, your friends and neighbors and even consider a neighborhood fundraiser during Denver Days.

Contributions may be made by check to INC (mark the check as "for DDD"), P.O. Box 300684, Denver, CO 80218 or online by [CLICKING HERE](#). For more information: [www.denvergov.org](http://www.denvergov.org) and look under DOLLAR DICTIONARY DRIVE

## New City Council Committee Structure

Congratulations to new Council President Christopher Herndon and Council President Pro-Tem Judy Montero. President Herndon has created six new committees and committee appointments for the 2014-2015 Council year. The six standing committees and committee appointments are:

- **The Finance and Services** committee will meet every other Tuesday of each month at 10:30am. The committee appointments are: Councilwoman Kniech (Chair), Councilman Brown (Vice-Chair), Councilman Nevitt, Councilwoman Faatz, Councilwoman Montero and Councilwoman Ortega.
- **The Technology and Governance** committee will meet every other Tuesday of each month at 1:30pm. The committee appointments are: Councilwoman Ortega (Chair), Councilwoman Robb (Vice-Chair), Councilwoman Kniech, Councilman Lopez, Councilwoman Shepherd and Councilwoman Susman.
- **The Infrastructure and Culture** committee will meet every other Wednesday of each month at 10:30am. The committee appointments are: Councilwoman Shepherd (Chair), Councilwoman Lehmann (Vice-Chair), Councilman Brown, Councilman Lopez, Councilwoman Montero and Councilwoman Robb. The Business Development committee will meet every other Tuesday of each month at 10:30am. The committee appointments are: Councilman Nevitt (Chair), Councilman Brooks (Vice-Chair), Councilwoman Faatz, Councilwoman Lehmann, Councilman Brown and Councilwoman Ortega.

• **The Safety and Wellbeing** committee will meet every other Tuesday of each month at 1:30pm. The committee appointments are: Councilman Lopez (Chair), Councilwoman Faatz (Vice-Chair), Councilman Brooks, Councilwoman Kniech, Councilwoman Lehmann and Councilwoman Susman.

• **The Neighborhoods and Planning** committee will meet every other Wednesday of each month at 10:30am. The committee appointments are: Councilwoman Susman (Chair), Councilwoman Montero (Vice-Chair), Councilman Brooks, Councilman Nevitt,



### The purpose of INC shall be to:

- A.) Bring together the independent neighborhood organizations of Denver in a coalition to represent the interests of neighborhoods and to collectively address issues of common interest, especially those which may have citywide impact;
- B.) Increase autonomy, diversity, and power for neighborhoods, and to offer assistance when aid is requested and applicable;
- C.) Provide information to neighborhoods concerning organizing, registering with the city, and dealing effectively with city agencies;
- D.) Adhere to the principles of democracy and openness, and encourage member neighborhoods to do likewise;
- E.) Nominate neighborhood representatives to serve on public commissions, boards, and task forces; and
- F.) Take an active role in working with city government and others in shaping Denver's future.

# Steps You Can Take To Improve Your Neighborhood

Why might you want to improve your neighborhood? Your home and neighborhood affect your mental health and your level of happiness. How neighbors maintain their property affects your property value and the vibrancy of your neighborhood. Here are a few suggestions for improvement.

1. Get involved with your neighborhood association. Volunteer for a committee or the board. Take a leadership role. Help create a vision for the future of your neighborhood. Set an example to motivate your neighbors.

2. If you have a neighbor who is not maintaining their property, you can research the regulations in the area. Does the neighborhood have covenants regarding the appearance of property? If not, the city might have rules and standards that people must maintain. Find out what they are.

3. How can you help people in your area? Could you bring a meal to someone who just got home from the hospital? Could you shovel a senior citizen's driveway? Could you help a single mother by watching her children while she runs to the grocery store? Maybe you have a skill that you could teach others?

4. Take an interest in Inter Neighborhood Cooperation (INC). They look out for the Registered Neighborhoods in Denver. Staying informed about Park, Zoning, Transportation, and Education issues are important as they can affect your neighborhood.

5. Get to know neighborhoods around you. Build coalitions that could join forces if the city wants to make a change you don't want.

6. Plant flowers and pay attention to your landscaping. Keep your house fixed up. Other people will follow. It's like keeping up with the Jones.

7. Clean up graffiti. I had a business in a commercial building. We seldom had graffiti on our building and if we did, we would remove it immediately. The business next door did not. They had lots of graffiti on their building. I suggested they remove the graffiti to discourage the graffiti artists. Once they cleaned it off, it stayed clean. People tend to take care of things that look good.

8. Plan ways to get to know your neighbors. Plan a block party at a neighbor's house or block off the street. Hopefully you are doing this during Denver Days. Organize a service project. Invite a few neighbors over to watch a football game or for a BBQ. When people know their neighbors, they look out for each other. Crime goes down.

9. Pay attention to the schools in your area. Find ways to support them. People often move into or out of a neighborhood because of the schools. The quality of the schools definitely affects the property values.

10. How does your neighborhood stay informed? Find ways to build connections. Does your neighborhood have a newsletter? How many email addresses does the Association have? Is there a neighborhood website?

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

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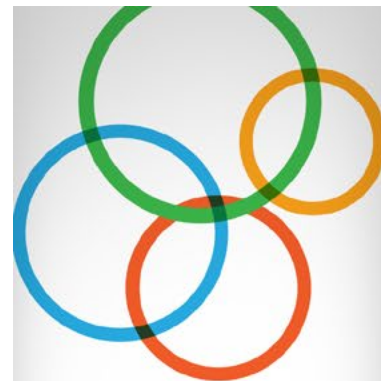
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