



DENVER

INCONNECTION

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

February 2015

*Neighborhoods work better when they work together*



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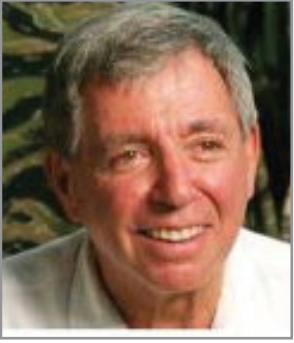
**Special Program this Saturday -  
Short Term Rentals**

**When:** Saturday, February 14th 2015 | 9:00am

**Where:** Denver Water will be hosting our meeting this month.

It will be held in the Cheesman Room at the Three Stone Buildings. Those attending the meeting will need to check in with the guard. The security gate and entrance is at 1600 West 12th Avenue.

## From the President



The INC Annual Awards Dinner and Silent Auction turned out to be particularly special this past January 28. Made possible by the generosity of Visit Denver, it is our opportunity to get together socially with other neighborhood activists and with City officials with whom we interact throughout the year. I kind of think of neighborhood and City folks breaking bread together as a

bit like the Washington Press Corp Dinner where the powerful in Washington and the 4th estate, the press, are able to laugh with and at each other. Visit Denver has been forthcoming in sponsoring the Dinner for a number of years now, because, they know that vibrant neighborhoods are reasons for people to visit Denver, to keep coming back and recognize RNO members provide the stewardship that makes this true.

The Silent Auction is a fun way to raise money for the INC organization and support our charitable works while providing some real bargains for those attending the Dinner. This year, INC members to the time and effort to solicit more than 60 auction items which were readily gobbled up. I and the INC Executive Committee team cannot thank you enough for stepping up when you were asked and giving the organization this kind of support.

The Dinner is also and primarily INC's opportunity to present awards and celebrate with recognition those individuals, teams and groups who have, without concern for getting, practice giving, purely for the civic good. This year we had the pleasure

of awarding eleven Neighborhood Stars, three Memorial Awards and a Lifetime Achievement Award. It is worth noting that these teams and individuals are, by no means, the only efforts taking place in Denver's neighborhoods worthy of recognition. They are probably the tip of the iceberg as to the good deeds and great accomplishments being made by neighbors all over town.

We are only made aware of these deeds as a result of the time and effort that INC and/or RNO members take to make these nominations for recognition. So, I wish to take this opportunity to thank those of you who were caring enough to make these nominations. As we move through the year 2015, I am hopeful we will all take note the of great things that are happening in our neck of the woods so that next year's dinner will feature as many or more award recipients!

The Awards, names of recipients and their accomplishments are noted elsewhere in this INConnection Newsletter so please take the time to read their stories. I think those who were fortunate to attend the Dinner were mightily impressed. That our city officials attending the dinner were able to hear and acknowledge the extent of the volunteer efforts that exists in our neighborhoods, that INC takes the time to recognize it and Visit Denver acknowledges this good work, all becomes a bit more right in the world.



### MEMBERSHIP BENEFIT

#### Free Survey Monkey Access for INC RNO Members

INC subscribes to Survey Monkey, an online survey tool. We make this available to all member RNO's to use for their neighborhood surveys. This package we have will permit unlimited responses, unlimited questions and storage of your surveys.

For information, please contact Jane Lorimer at 303.388.9224 or [membership@denverinc.org](mailto:membership@denverinc.org)





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## Calendar of Events February



### INC Education Committee Meeting

Wednesday, February 4, 2015  
430 S Newport WY  
Denver, CO 80224  
6:00 – 7:30 pm



### INC Exec Committee Meeting

Monday, February 9, 2015  
Daniels Foundation Building  
101 Monroe St  
6:00 – 8:30 pm



### INC Delegate Meeting

Saturday, February 14, 2015  
Denver Water  
1600 West 12th Avenue  
8:30 – 11:00 am



### INC Parks & Recreation Meeting

Tuesday, February 17, 2015  
Brookdale University Park  
2020 S Monroe St  
6:00 – 8:00 pm



### INC Zoning and Planning

Saturday, February 28, 2015  
1201 Williams St  
19th Floor  
9:30 – 11:30 am

## Calendar of Events March



### INC Education Committee Meeting

Wednesday, March 4, 2015  
*Light Snacks provided*  
430 South Newport Way  
6 - 7:30 pm

[View map](#)



### INC Transportation Meeting

Thursday, March 12, 2015  
1201 Williams St  
19th Floor  
6 - 8 pm





# INC Awards Winners

<http://denverinc.org/inc-2015-award-winners/>



## Here are the Winners of our other INC Awards

**Arkady Shimonov**

### Outstanding INC Delegate - The Walt Kembel Award

- Beth Trudgeon
- Virginia Village/Ellis Community Association

### Public Safety – The Bill Gross Award

- David Matthews
- West Washington Park Neighborhood Association

### INC Neighborhood Person of the Year

#### - The Virginia Oredsen Award

- Charlotte Winzenburg
- West Washington Park Neighborhood Association

### The President's Award

- StopCityLoop

### Life Time Achievement Award

- Michael Henry



## Here are the Winners of the INC Neighborhood Star Awards

### Alyson Crabtree

- La Alma Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association

### Ronnie Crawford

- Overland Park Neighborhood Association

### Juan Peña

- Clayton Civic Association

### Teller Elementary Backpack Friends Program

- Sandy Parker, Jim Shively, Dóna Dobson
- South City Park Neighborhood Association

### Rosedale Lantern Festival Committee

- Doug and Suzanne Baity
- Rosedale Harvard Gulch Neighborhood Association

### Traci Samaras

- University Park Community Council

### Olivia Sanchez

- Harvey Park Improvement Association

### Hallsi Vinson

- Southmoor Park South Neighborhood Association

### Kathleen Wells

- Friends and Neighbors for Cheesman Park

### Brad Cameron

- Capitol Hill United Neighbors

### The Body Shop

- Arkady Shimonov

# Annual Awards Dinner

This year the INC Annual Neighborhood Awards Dinner, made possible by the generous support of our Presenting Sponsor, Visit Denver.



## The 2015 INC Dinner Song

**Diana Helper** (Univ. Park INC Delegate)  
**Presented by the INC FAB\* Folkzingers\***  
(FearlessAndBrave)  
(Tune “Toora-loora-loora”)

Here in Denver City,  
Many years ago,  
The neighborhoods were grumbling  
In tones Not sweet Or low !  
So they banded all together,  
And decided to agree  
To present a stronger voice-  
They called it: I. N. C.

Oh- Traffic! Parks! and Zoning!  
Safety! Schools! - we move  
With ways things can improve!  
We're smart and we are witty!  
To temper all our moaning  
And aim- as you can see-  
To make a Neighborly city!  
That's the I.N.C. Melody!

# Annual Awards Dinner







## Neighborhood Spotlight



Jane Lorimer

By Gayle Rodgers

Jane Lorimer has had a lasting impact on INC. It's been a joy getting to know her the last three years. Last year, when I was co-chair of the Dinner committee, her advice was very helpful. Summer 2013, I took over as newsletter editor and Jane was a great help to me since I had never done anything like that before. That is why I

wanted to have her in the spotlight this month.

### ***How long have you lived in Denver?***

Jane moved to Denver in the late 1960's from Texas. Although she was in and out of Denver with job assignments (Grand Junction, Salt Lake, Chicago), she always returned to Denver. Occasionally she regrets not moving back to her 'heart home' in Texas. Over the years, Jane's lived in Capitol Hill, Montbello, SW Denver, and at her Winston Downs location for about 25 years.

### ***What is your education background?***

Jane received her undergrad degree at CU and her MBA came some years later through an Executive MBA program at CU with the support of her employer, Coors. She holds professional certifications within the convention industry, and was even a certified forklift operator when with Coors. Years ago she taught beginning sign language, but has found that with the marvel of modern technology, that's not really a needed skill these days.

### ***What occupations have you had?***

"Name it and I've done it!" Teletype operator, airline reservation agent, hotel sales, territory manager with Coors, then moved up to lead a group that addressed negative issues at Coors and that eventually led her into the convention and trade show industry. As the second president and CEO of Trade Show Bureau, Jane paved the way for many women to enter executive roles usually held by men. Since 2001, she has run her own consulting business which specializes in business development, strategic planning and research. Recently, Jane was featured as one of the Top Ten Legends in her industry segment.

### ***How have you supported your neighborhood?***

Originally, Jane got involved with the RNO by leading a Neighborhood Pride movement (trash, graffiti, know your neighbors), something she still supports. She served on the neighborhood board for seven years and is involved in a couple of on-going projects with them.

### ***When did you get involved with INC?***

About 10 years ago, she became a RNO delegate. She served on INC's Board for two different one-year terms – 2011 and 2013. Starting in 2010, she was appointed as budget chair and the following year, she was appointed membership chair and also took on being the community news editor, website content writer and newsletter editor. If that wasn't enough, that year she also introduced a standing rules document; conducted a member perception survey and established the award dinner sponsorship program. She received the Walt Kimbel Award in 2012 for "outstanding INC delegate." She was the annual awards dinner chair for 2012 and in fact, Jane has worked on the awards dinner committee for eight years and also established the first silent auction in 2012 at Larry Ambrose's suggestion.

Recently, she passed the baton on membership and communications and is focusing on grants and the charitable works task force.

### ***What are some of the highlights that have happened during your involvement?***

Jane has enjoyed getting to know City leaders, understanding both sides of issues better, meeting with and learning from other neighborhood leaders and most importantly, developing relationships with people that she will cherish always.

### ***What are some changes you would like to see for INC?***

Getting a paid staff person so operations committee chairs have time to focus on growth and improvement rather than clerical execution. We've not been successful in gaining grant funding for this, something we'll hit harder in 2015.

Setting measurable goals and objectives at the Board level, and then comparing those to year-end results. Having a Board focused on INC business matters is what drives growth.

### ***What do you think is the best reason for neighborhoods to join INC?***

To gain understanding about how City planning impacts all neighborhoods and unite with a stronger voice for those issues (positive and negative) that impact neighborhoods – like the AirBnB, developer-driven growth v. smart growth and so forth.

To learn about best practices within other neighborhoods on everything from doing a better newsletter, to influencing City decisions to generating a sense of community within the RNO itself.

It has been a joy to know Jane Lorimer. I'd like to say, "Thank You for all your years of service to this organization." If we had more members like Jane, think what we could accomplish!

# Committee Corner - Delegate Meeting



## INC Delegate Meeting

**1/10/2014** | Studios at Overland Crossing  
Hosted by: Overland Park Neighborhood Association

**Submitted by: Thad Jacobs, Secretary**  
Quorum established: 49 members present

Call to order: 9:05am

**Welcome Remarks & Introductions:** Larry Ambrose introduced Councilman Chris Nevitt to welcome the delegation to the neighborhood. Councilman talked about the South Platte River rehabilitation and redesign. Councilman Nevitt introduced Mara Owen, President of Overland Park Neighborhood Association, to welcome the delegation to the neighborhood.

Larry asked the officers and board members to introduce themselves, and reminded the delegation that the INC Committees are open to any member of our RNOs, not just the INC delegate members.

**Motion:** to approve the minutes of the November Delegate meeting made by Ray Ehrenstein, 2nd by Al Habercorn, passed as submitted.

### Financial Treasurer's Report

CDs: \$12,072.33  
Savings: \$11,517.29  
\$\$ Dictionary: \$1,695.34  
Checking: \$1,288.72  
Balance: \$26,573.68 all accounts through end of 12/31/14

## Committee Reports

### Dinner Committee: Larry Ambrose & Jane Potts

- 1/28/15 Wednesday night, Location Wellshire Inn
- Silent Auction – still need auction items for the dinner
- Need volunteers for the night of the dinner

### GDP Working Group Update

- GDP (General Development Plans) put into 2010 Zoning code,
- INC ZAP thought the code had some flaws, passed several resolutions
- 5 reps from INC are on the GDP review Committee
- Brad Buchanan setup process for GDP review with INC and other City members

### Communications: JJ Niemann

- Worked on email content and format for communications via FB page and INC Website
- Submitted 2015 budget request for Communications

### Parks and Rec: Katie Fisher and Maggie Price

- Next meeting on 1/20/15 Heritage Club
- Suggesting that neighborhoods form a Friends of X Park in their neighborhood
- PRAB meeting parks and rec will be looking at rules and regulation review
- INC will have members on the rules review board
- PRAB will vote in February on Washington Park rules

changes this will be the only public meeting on the topic. The rules changes can be found on the Denver City website.

### Education: Meg Schomp

- Working to get more members involved in the Education Committee
- Meetings are the first Wednesday of the month
- Several issues will be before the State Legislature this session around testing, K-12 funding, etc.
- 2012 Bond Oversight with what funds are left over and will be reviewed with the DPS School Board

### Transportation: Joel Noble

- Meeting this past Thursday with a packed house. Speakers Exec Director Public Works Jose Cornejo – Councilwoman Mary Beth Susman (Private Mass Transit)
- Transportation Committee is in the process of developing an official platform with a draft by March to the Committee and then after to the delegation.

### Public Safety: Merce Lea

- Public Safety Expo will take place later this year at East High School, more details to come.

### ZAP: Margie Valdez & Greg Kerwin (Michael Henry updated)

- Resolution – Entertainment Districts
- Allows Liquor License establishments to band together in a specific geographical area to all patrons to carry their beverages from one establishment to another, and to extend the hours beyond the 2am current closing time.
- Katie Fisher made the motion to adopt the ZAP committee Entertainment District resolution, Cindy Johnston 2nd Vote: For 35, 11 Against, 3 Abstain, motion passed

### New Business

- INC will be again co-sponsoring the series of Election Forums in conjunction with the League of Women voters, Channel 8, and Historic Denver – calendar of events forthcoming
- Mayor's next Cabinet in the Community will be 2/7/15 at the Police Protective Association facility
- Warm Cookies of the Revolution – try to get community involved, typically those not all involved in civic activities.
  - Trying to promote a year-long neighborhood Olympics type event for move monthly events around the city.
  - As part of each event there would be information about neighborhood the event is taking place in.

### Guest Speaker – Kelly Leid, North Denver Cornerstone Collaborative (NDCC)

- In 2013 Mayor Hancock announced the founding of the NDCC, 6 projects that are converging on one area of the City for physical infrastructure projects
- There are 6 major projects as part of the NDCC
- National Western Stock Show (NWSS) Master Plan
- Monthly Newsletter that can be signed up for
- NWSS plan will be a jump off for the Globeville/Swansea plans
- More year around use for the complex will be possible

### Next Meeting

- Next meeting: February 14, 2015
- Topic: Short Term Rentals
- Adjourned: 11:25am

# Committee Corner - INC Executive Committee



## INC Executive Committee Minutes - January 12, 2015

By Greg Kerwin, Co-chair Zoning and Planning Committee

The INC Executive Committee met on January 12, 2015 from 6:00 pm to approximately 8:15 pm at the Daniels Fund building, 101 Monroe Street.

Board members present: Larry Ambrose, Ray Ehrenstein Katie Fisher, JJ Niemann, Steve Nissen, Gayle Rodgers, David Stauffer.

Committee chairs present: Jane Lorimer, Maggie Price, Joel Noble, Margie Valdez, Greg Kerwin. Also present: Karen Taylor.

**1. The December 8, 2014, Executive Committee Minutes** were approved with one correction concerning the vote on parks. The version of the minutes in the newsletter is correct.

### **2. Financial: Treasurer's Report: Steve Nissen**

- Account balances as of December 31, 2014:
- CDs: \$10,072.33
- Savings: \$11,517.29
- Dollar Dictionary Account: \$1,695.34
- Checking: \$1,288.72
- Balance for all accounts: \$26,573.68

**3. Neighborhood Awards:** The EC discussed the candidates for the awards to be presented at the annual dinner in January and approved the final group of award recipients. The EC discussed the standards that have applied in past years for award nominations and agreed to form a committee to clarify those standards for future years.

**4. Election Forums.** Any committee can pose questions for the candidate forums. JJ Niemann will publicize information on the upcoming forums.

**5. 2015 Charitable Giving Discussion.** Jane Lorimer presented a written report for the task force on charitable giving. The members of Charitable Works Task Force were: Jane Lorimer, Bibi Alexander, Joanne Kuemmerlin, Steve Nissen, Meg Schomp, and Dave Stauffer.

The Task Force report concludes: No one has agreed to lead the Dollar Dictionary program, and the program's cost/benefit was not effective in terms of effort, manpower and funds needed or perceived value to schools. The Task Force discussed other possible INC charitable efforts but further work is necessary to reach a consensus on possible next steps.

Joanne Kuemmerlin agreed to co-chair a committee to work on this issue. An additional co-chair is needed for the committee.

The EC discussed possible other INC charitable projects but did not reach a consensus.

Larry and Jane will work to present a decision on this issue to the delegation.

**6. 2015 Budget.** Jane Lorimer presented a preliminary budget for 2015 that the EC discussed.

The EC agreed to continue discussion of the budget at the February meeting and to work on strategic plans for each of the committees.

The EC discussed the budget line item of \$1,840 for the 2015 newsletters and the Board voted unanimously to approve \$520 at this time for the 2015 newsletter template and first issue. The EC will review the newsletter budget for the rest of the year at a future meeting.

**7. Dinner Update.** Larry Ambrose presented an update on planning for the INC annual dinner on January 28, 2015, including music for the silent auction and dancing, neighborhood seed packets from Kenny Be for centerpieces, and improvements for lighting and the sound system.

**Committee Reports.** Steve Nissen moved to have INC pay as a corporate expense, rather than a committee expense, the \$220 cost in 2014 of the annual bulk mail permit. This will avoid charging that expense against the Dollar Dictionary program. The Board approved this motion.

The February 2015 Delegate Meeting will include a discussion of short-term rentals. The probable location will be the Denver Water.

## Committee Corner - Parks & Rec

*Submitted by Diana Helper, PARC member*

INC PARC (Park and Recreation Committee) met January 20 at 6 p.m. at Brookdale University Park (formerly called Heritage Club), 2020 S. Monroe Street. Present were co-chairs Maggie Price and Katie Fisher, Steve Fisher, Hank Boots, Nancy Francis, George Mayl, Kathleen Wells, Patty Ortiz, Sonia John, Cindy Johnstone, Marlene Johnson, Ronnie Crawford, Susan Bardwell, Greg Sorensen, Bridget Walsh, Louis Plachowski, Kathleen Rust, Jay Rust, Diana Helper.

Katie reported that at PRAB (Parks and Recreation Advisory Board), DPR asked for two reps from INC PARC, and two from PRAB, to be on a committee working to add to DPR rules and regulations items requested by the Park Rangers. Other items may be requested dealing with sound, wildlife, trees, safety, etc. Discussion centered on need to know this committee's process, and need to have a series of work-sessions with feedback. PARC will send a letter to DPR's Jeff Green asking for clarification. Hank and Cindy offered to attend a first meeting.



PRAB also talked about new mountain bike sites at Ruby Hill and elsewhere, the need of more bathrooms in parks, and the hours parks might be open to the public.

Cindy presented a statement on Washington Park Passive Recreation Use Areas Amendment to Park Use Rules and Regulations and Administrative Citation Rules and Regulations. This will be on the PRAB agenda February 12, and groups from RNOs are encouraged to attend and speak to this request that there be marked park areas for sports, and for general (passive) use by the public, especially at the park's busiest times. If this is accepted, residents near other parks will have a precedent to request as well. Those present decided that there was not time to draft a motion, vote, and get it to the full INC membership for vote before the next PRAB meeting. To speak at PRAB, one must sign in at 5:15 p.m. Comments then will be on record at PRAB. Proposed regulations can be found here [http://denverinc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/PRUA\\_Regulation\\_12-18-14.pdf](http://denverinc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/PRUA_Regulation_12-18-14.pdf)

Jay stated the need for a complete study of the Park Ranger program, including which parks may be under-served, and the likely need for a larger number of Rangers.

PARC's draft of Questions for City Council Candidates was presented. PARC members are asked to rank questions by order of importance, adding other questions as well, and email to Cindy by end of weekend. Maggie will send out separate email to INC PARC regarding the questions. Feedback must be received by the weekend of Jan. 24. Greg offered to help chart the replies when they have been received. Proposed questions can be

found here [http://denverinc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/DRAFT\\_2015\\_park\\_questions.pdf](http://denverinc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/DRAFT_2015_park_questions.pdf)

Hank stated that City Park Friends and Neighbors have found the support of PARC very helpful. A neighborhood advisory committee is being planned with neighbors of the park, zoo and museum reps. There are many questions regarding the zoo's gasification project, which appears to be an industrial use in a park zone. Bridget and Nancy have troubling information, and Bridget has filmed a short program which can be seen on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?x-yt-ts=1421782837&v=s-2LfLeMmVg&x-yt-cl=84359240> or on the front page of [denverinc.org](http://denverinc.org). PARC will reach out to the Zoo and ask them to provide speakers again on this topic for a future meeting (March)

PARC members agree that park water is an important topic to continue to study, and are urged to email other major topics to consider this year to Maggie and Katie.

Jay said Park Designation is in Phase 6, to conclude by April, and mentioned a number of ways in which the PARC members of this DPR committee have greatly helped with the process.

Susan spoke about Emerald Ash Borer disease in parkways and private property. This is also a parks topic as Forestry is under DPR. Her next EA meeting is in Feb. For info visit [www.denvergov.org/forestry](http://www.denvergov.org/forestry).

*Next PARC meeting Feb. 17, with Katy Strascina Executive Director, Office of Special Events*

## Committee Corner - Transportation

### Meeting Notes - January 8, 2015

*By Joel Noble*

At our meeting on January 8th from 6 to 8 p.m., we had a very full audience in the wonderful party room at 1201 Williams Street. Thank you for extending your hospitality to our committee, Michael Henry!

#### **Denver Public Works Transportation Philosophy, 2014 Accomplishments and 2015 Programs and Plans -- Jose Cornejo, Executive Director**

Our first presenter was Jose Cornejo, Executive Director of Denver Public Works. Mr. Cornejo last spoke to the INC Transportation Committee when the committee was just starting in its current form, which was also just as he began in his position. Joining Jose was Director of Transportation Crissy Fanganello, City Traffic Engineer Michael Finochio, Parking Program Manager Cindy Patton, Director of Traffic Operations Steve Hersey, and Director of Street Maintenance Kelly Duffy.

Mr. Cornejo first set the stage with some of Public Works' philosophy. He said that having a planner as Director of

Transportation with the Director of Traffic Operations, an engineer, report to her reflects an intention to keep a broad focus on quality of life in making mobility investments and decisions on how our limited right-of-way is allocated. Public Works believes the right-of-way design and planning has to be multi-modal, has to be a reflection of the community values, and has to create places that are safe, efficient, and reliable for all regardless of age, income, and personal abilities. The goal is to create a healthier and more livable city. By bringing the skills of planners into leadership in the traditionally engineering-led department, Public Works can go beyond applying standards like AASHTO and instead look at the human dimension when facing the challenges of a growing city.

The philosophy of Public Works is reflected in SMART Denver - a strategic action plan published late last year, which will be updated again in 2015. It serves as a guidebook for Public Works, and a key communications document with the public. SMART Denver includes two-year action plans across all Public Works areas.

[Click Here For the Full Meeting Minutes](#)

# Committee Corner - Zoning & Planing



By Greg Kerwin, Co-chair of the committee

The INC ZAP (Zoning and Planning Committee) met on January 24, 2015 from 9:35 am to approximately noon at 1201 Williams meeting room. CPD Deputy Director, Jill Jennings Golich, attended the meeting.

The Committee discussed the following topics: Denver Housing update, the electrical grid, the Sloan's Lake/St. Anthony's zoning change proposal, and a brief update on planning for the INC forum in February on short-term rentals.

## Denver Housing

Rick Padilla, Director of Denver Housing discussed current work by his agency, including the Mayor's Five Year Plan and the Inclusionary Housing Ordinance (IHO).

## Electric grid

Cody Wertz and Jim Carpenter with Coloradans for Reliable Electricity (CRE) discussed its work in promoting awareness of the electric grid and the need for long-term infrastructure improvements. Their group's goal is to promote education and information sharing about the importance of the electric grid to neighborhoods and economic development.

## Sloan's Lake Zoning Issues

Representatives from EFG (the property developer) and neighborhoods presented information about the proposed rezoning for one block of the St. Anthony's Hospital site along the south side of Sloan's Lake, which is scheduled for a public hearing before the City Council on February 17, 2015.

Cameron Bertron with the developer EFG (EnviroFinance Group) described the proposed development and the reasons EFG would like to place its tall buildings (12 stories and possibly higher) along 17th Avenue, next to Sloan's Lake. They prefer to avoid casting shade from buildings on other buildings and have oriented their proposed buildings to run north-south to cast less shade on Sloan's Lake Park.

Sloan's Lake neighborhood representatives Larry Ambrose, Shirley Schley, and Jude Aiello presented their view that EFG's proposed development does not conform to the small area plan for the area, and that the West Colfax Plan small area plan and St. Anthony's Task Force recommendations require that the tallest buildings to be placed toward West Colfax, and not along 17th Avenue. Neighborhood representatives challenge the developer's reliance on a General Development Plan ("GDP"), noting that a GDP is not approved by the City Council and is not an approved plan for rezoning purposes.

Jill Jennings Golich of CPD stated CPD's position on EFG's proposed zoning change. CPD believes EFG's proposal is consistent with the West Colfax Plan and will provide intensity and energize the area.

Ben Stetler, President of the West Colfax Association of Neighbors, which covers the area between Federal and Sheridan, and 12th and 17th, said his group has mixed viewpoints, but the majority of his residents support EFG's proposed zoning change. They believe density will help improve the neighborhood. Their RNO's view is that while the project is not perfect, it is very good. They view it as a net positive. He believes his group would be okay with placing the taller buildings further south on the St. Anthony's site, but they do not see this as a reason to block EFG's proposal.

The Committee then voted on, and approved, the following motion in the context of the proposed St. Anthony's zoning changes:

*The INC Zoning and Planning Committee urges INC delegates to communicate to City Council:*

- (1) that a GDP does not constitute grounds upon which zoning changes should be granted, does not undergo an approval process which has the integrity and scrutiny of a zoning change process, does not receive Council approval, and does not have the effect of law as to its conformance to small area plans; and
- (2) zoning changes which would violate the clear intent and language of small area plans set a dangerous precedent for zoning changes city-wide, which must conform by law to officially adopted small area plans.

The Committee approved this motion with the following votes by committee members: 26 in favor, 0 against, and 3 abstaining.

## Next ZAP meeting:

The next ZAP meeting will be on Saturday, February 28, 2015 at the meeting room at 1201 Williams Street, 19th floor.

[Click Here For the Full Meeting Minutes](#)

# Committee Corner - Education

By Meg Schomp

The Education Committee will meet next on Wednesday, February 4 at 6 pm in the George Washington neighborhood. Contact Meg Schomp ([mmschomp@gmail.com](mailto:mmschomp@gmail.com)) for further information and to RSVP or for location information. We will be solidifying a platform for our committee to be guided by in 2015. One goal is to increase involvement by delegates on our committee. Come join us the FIRST WEDNESDAY EVENING AT 6 PM. If you know of appropriate locations for future meetings in your community, please contact us. We want to know how to increase your neighborhoods' knowledge of and involvement what's going on with the schools in your community. We welcome your ideas!

The most recent DPS Special Board meeting was in the final days of January, focusing on the redesign of the Trevista middle school program in Northwest Denver. You can find information here regarding this issue relating to this historic old building and school assisting English Language Learners.

<http://www.northdenvertribune.com/2015/01/trevista-closure-expected/>

[http://www.boarddocs.com/co/dpsk12/Board.nsf/files/9T5NAY5E118B/\\$file/BOE-Trevista-1%2029%2015-Final.pdf](http://www.boarddocs.com/co/dpsk12/Board.nsf/files/9T5NAY5E118B/$file/BOE-Trevista-1%2029%2015-Final.pdf)

The State Board of Education has also been busy making decisions about the prevalence of Common Core standards and testing in our schools, as has the State Legislature. You can read more in either of these articles, or the opinion piece from as far away as Durango on this controversial issue:

<http://co.chalkbeat.org/2015/01/30/state-board-endorses-anti-common-core-bill/#.VM9CYJ3F9IE>

<http://co.chalkbeat.org/2015/01/28/testing-task-force-report-recommendations-released/#.VM9Cxp3F9IE>

<http://co.chalkbeat.org/2015/01/28/task-force-report-kicks-off-legislative-testing-debates/#.VM9CoJ3F9IE>

<http://www.durangoherald.com/article/20141206/OPINION02/141209705/>

And finally, if you want an update to the many other education issues in the state Legislature, keep tuned to the following Bill Tracker:

<http://co.chalkbeat.org/education-bill-tracker-2015/>

**Have you seen an interesting education related article? Send it along. If you need hard copies, feel free to contact us (303.931.8658), or better yet, attend our meetings each month (First Wednesday of each month, 6 pm, light refreshments served).**

## Cessation of Dollar Dictionary Drive



For the past 19 years, INC, through its award winning Dollar Dictionary Drive, has provided dictionaries and, when possible, thesauruses to every third grader in the Denver Public Schools. Last year, INC distributed 7, 500 dictionaries to students in over 100 Denver schools. Through grants and the generous donations of hundreds of caring folk during the nineteen years of the project, \$400,000 was raised to provide 300,000 of INC's "Gift of Words" to over 135,000 third graders.

In 1996 the late Cathy Fisher conceived the idea of INC taking on sponsorship of providing a dictionary to every third grader in Denver Public Schools. She was inspired by the effort of "The Dictionary Project," which with local sponsors provides dictionaries for third graders in 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, Puerto Rico, 9 Canadian provinces, and more than 15 countries around the world.

INC provided 5,800 DPS third graders with dictionaries the first year. A stalwart supporter of the DDD, Sarah Bradley of Alamo Placita Neighbors, compiled details into an application for a national award. Our DDD project won first place in the 1996 national "Neighborhood USA" program and Cathy was honored to go to Albany, New York to receive the award on behalf of INC. Later, Steve Nissen volunteered to co-chair the project with Cathy, and received multiple community awards for his work. Hundreds of dedicated citizens and members from RNOs across the city annually helped label every book with INC's

logo and hustled thousands of heavy boxes of books during the project's many successful years. Thesauruses were added to the endeavor, and for many years two books were provided to all third graders. Additionally, many times RNO members from across the city went into the schools to personally hand out the books to the students. Cathy died unexpectedly in July 2011 and Steve stayed on to continue the project.

It has been a wonderful project! And it has served students well in the past. However, the time has come to look to the future and to determine what services and resources will best help our students and neighborhoods now...and looking forward. Based on feedback we have received about changing student needs in an era of technology, we have concluded that a major project funding print dictionaries is no longer as helpful as it was in the past. We have concluded that INC's charitable efforts involving children's education and the neighborhoods in which they live would be better served by rethinking overall neighborhood needs and resources – and directing INC's charitable focus toward those.

Many, many thanks – more than we can say - to all of you who have supported INC's Dollar Dictionary Drive so strongly and so loyally throughout the years! Stay with us as we move forward and to our next phase in our goal of making Denver – and your neighborhood – a wonderful place to live!

Visit <http://denvering.org/1-dictionary-drive> for more information and pictures





## Special Thanks to our Sponsors who made the Dinner possible

*Presenting sponsor, INC, would like to thank them for their on-going, generous sponsorship of this event.*

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**INC Membership List** can be viewed on our website at <http://denverinc.org/neighborhoods/2013-inc-members/>

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