



DENVER  
INC

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Neighborhoods work better when they work together.

## Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation

November 12, 2015

Dear Members of Denver City Council,

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation, Denver's association of Registered Neighborhood Organizations from neighborhoods throughout Denver, is celebrating its 40th Anniversary this year. Founded in 1975, INC's mission is to advocate for Denver citizens by bringing together, informing and empowering Denver neighborhood organizations to actively engage in addressing city issues.

INC is pleased to join with WalkDenver in advocating for the City to provide the basic pedestrian infrastructure required for people to safely and easily get around. As you know, the City's current policy places responsibility on Denver property owners for building and maintaining sidewalks adjacent to their property. Sidewalk repairs can cost a property owner thousands of dollars that they may need to suddenly come up with to pay for a contractor on a small project. This is not only a potentially impossible strain on family finances, it is also an inherently inefficient and wasteful approach to infrastructure maintenance.

INC's recently-adopted Transportation Platform includes specific points relevant to and aligned with WalkDenver's request:

- 4.1. The pedestrian network is fundamental to making all other modes of transportation possible, including transit and biking.
- 4.2. Denver should adopt measures to preserve and complete sidewalk networks, including flagstone sidewalks where that is part of the established character of an area.
- 4.3. Denver should replace the current city policy that makes individual homeowners responsible for the cost of installing or repairing walks with alternative sources of funding. Leverage the city's negotiating power to get the best value on sidewalk installation and maintenance.

We ask that you engage with neighborhoods and with WalkDenver as we work together towards these goals.

Respectfully,

Larry Ambrose  
President, INC