September 9 Meeting

Around the City

By Jim Zavit
Acting Secretary

Avalon Plaza: Looking forward to success with off-peak-hour parking restrictions on one-way streets; they are monitoring the redevelopment proposals for the Sears store located at the intersection of 1st and University. Barnum: Battling a PUD application for an auto body shop. Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods: Concerned with three showers of shooting in the past week; the People's Fair generated $32,000 in grant money to go to local non-profits; continuing to work on nuisance properties. Collins on the Hill: Is happy with the implementation of Police District 6.

Congress Park: Concerned about increased light aircraft traffic from Centennial Airport now that Stapleton is closed. Cook Park: Working on clean-up of businesses along streets between Holly and Monaco. Cory Merrill: Concerned with implications of R-5 vs. Zoning for the St. Thomas Seminary site that the Archdiocese of Denver is buying. Curtis Park Block Council: Still battling Deep Rock Water's plans to demolish two historic residences; reported that Vertop may require tighter air-trafic-control rules and could potentially reduce airplane noise issues in East Denver. DECCA: Seeing an increase in PUD applications in their area. East Montana: Announced that banners will soon be installed along East Colfax Avenue.

George Washington: Reported that the Department of Defense is considering upgrading Buckley Air National Guard Base to an actual Air Force Base. Greater Bible Park Civic Association: Improvements to Goldsmith Gulch and Yale Avenue are making slow progress. Greater Park Hill Homes tour is scheduled for October 1. Harkness Heights: Pursuing for participation by all neighborhood groups in Make A Difference Day. Harmon/Cerry Creek: Concerned with proposed change to PUD ordinance that would allow applicants to reapply with modifications in less than a year's time. HUNI: Working with Highland Neighborhood Weed & Seed; dealing with increased airplane traffic.

Hutchinson Hills: Dealing with liability insurance issues for people interested in serving on their Board. Indian Creek: PUD has been approved to resolve concerns about adjacent high-rise residential development along High Line Canal. Mayfair: Having concerns with Lowry Redevelopment Authority and zoning problems; has established a graffiti committee; construction on their new park is progressing. Organized Baker Residents: Reported that RTD wants to close light-rail crossing for Bayardo between Santa Fe and Kalamath, for safety reasons, but would result in more truck traffic in residential areas. Shaw's Lake: Participating in Healthy Neighborhoods Program.

Sunnyside: Concerned with DHA proposals for site along 46th Avenue, between Navajo and Pecos. University Park Community Council: Concerns include Cohen

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Vote Upcoming on Cultural District Tax Rebate

By Gilly Stanford
Director of Public Affairs
The Denver Center for the Performing Arts

Back in 1988 and again last year, INC took a leadership role in supporting the creation and renewal of Metro Denver's Scientific and Cultural Facilities District, 1/10 of a cent on the sales tax which - at a cost of only 3 cents a day - generates $20 million a year for over 200 groups - the zoo, museums, and performing arts groups of every discipline and culture. This November, however, you'll find the SCFD on the ballot again - Proposals A and B - as the District asks voters to waive the small refund required by the TABOR Amendment I formula.

Last year, the SCFD had to follow a cumbersome and expensive refund procedure, under which Public Service customers each received $3.63 on their utility bill. This confusing system led to more than 800 phone calls for explanations and cost $50,000. This year, with Public Service unable to repeat in the role, the District has been unable to find a fair, economical way to make the refund, and has elected to ask the voters to renew their confidence in the SCFD by approving retention of the tax 1/10 of 1%.

Given the reality of federal and state cutbacks in cultural support, Proposition A is a sensible solution and deserves the support of Denver's neighborhood leadership.

For further information, contact the Citizens for Arts at Zoo Office at 399-8858, or Gilly Stanford at 446-4802.
Chairwoman's Column
By Janey Hanley

What a busy fall September has been crazy, and October and November look equally as busy. Please include in your calendars the Metro Growth Forum on October 21, and the Governor's Growth Summit on November 4th. I hope to have details about both by our October meeting.

In the meantime, you can call 640-2035 to get more information on the Metro meeting.

We are finalizing a date for the Presidents' Dinner, which we have had to move to November. The invitations will be in the mail shortly.

Recently in Southmoor Park East the developers of the Continental Theatre property found a way to get city approval without having to notify the adjacent neighborhood. If an existing building is going to be renamed for a pre-existing use, it is 10,000 sq. ft. in area, and no new buildings will be erected, approval can be given through a process called a planned development. Councilwoman Foster and Harriet Hogge have agreed to work with me on an ordinance requiring neighborhood notification that such a process is underway. We may need your support.

There are several important local issues coming up on the ballot in November. We have included an article about the Scientific and Cultural District in the newsletter, and our program this month will be a discussion of the mill levy increase that DPS wants. Please join us at the planning office. I'm looking forward to seeing you all there.

Important Upcoming Events

Sat., Nov. 4 - ASIC meeting
Topic: DPS Mill Levy Increase
Location: Denver Planning Office

Sat., Nov. 11 - ASIC meeting
Topic: Transportation
Location: East Montclair

November - Presidents’ Dinner & celebration of INC's 20th birthday

INC Members (Patrons in Bold)


Keep Denver Beautiful - Denver Board of Real- estate - Denver Partnership - Den- ver's Community Partnership Office - King Assn - Saskaity - Mary DeGray - Joe O'connor - Tim Sandusky - RTD - League of Women Voters

Around the City
By Marilyn Vaughn
Chair, Education Committee

The first reading of the DPS proposed revisions to the Community Use Policy was September 7. A work session was scheduled by the Board of Education for September 21 and a vote is to be held after the public hearing on October 5.

At the first reading, Craig Cook, Chief Operating Of- ficer, stated that waivers from the insurance requirements could be granted for low risk users. Howev- er, there are no guidelines stated in the policy as pro- posed.

The $25 application fee is to be required of all users. Applications for use must be picked up at 900 Grant. The question here is if the application is rejected, does DPS keep the fee?

Discussion by board members also concerned flex time for custodians so that users would not have to pay $25 an hour for use. However, there was no explanation of how this, a responsibility of the principal, would be done when applications go through 900 Grant.

INC's previous communication to the Board on this issue was mentioned during this discussion.

We are asking the Board for additional information such as custodial hours and a timeline for response to applicants.

End of Busing? Whether DPS will return to neighborhood schools is an open question.

Education Committee Report

By Marilyn Vaughn
Chair, Education Committee

There is likely to be more busing than after forced busing ends, especially if the mill levy increase passes in the upcoming election. There are, indeed, more buses running now than there were prior to the de- pending of nine elementary schools.

Please note that the two areas growing in school popula- tion, Montbello/Green Valley Ranch and the middle south- west, are not impaired by busing.

There are two past board resolutions relating to keeping the current balance of minority/majority enrollment in the schools. These resolutions are 2233 ("Upon termination of federal supervision of the Denver Public Schools, there shall be no sudden alteration of the court-approved school assignment plan then in effect...") and 2314 ("Policies for Preserving Desegregation of Denver Public Schools"). Whether or not the current board subscribes to these reso- lutions is unknown.

The Arthur Andersen Study now known as the Summit System: $5.2 million was approved for software and re- engineering implementation costs for improvements in the district. $738,000 of this is committed to be paid to Arthur Andersen Company for management fees, procurement implementation, technical assistance, etc. Savings to the district are reported to be around $13 million. Hopefully, documentation will be provided in the future rather than such requests being brushed off.

Election Cost: The cost of the mill levy election is esti- mated to be approximately $40,000.