Janey Hanley convened the meeting, which was held at Washington Park Community Center. Alano Placita: Concerned about a proposal for a proposed new Safeway at 6th & Downing. Bowman Park: Concerned with proposal to locate the Juvenile Detention Facility at St. Logan.

Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods: Supporting Senate Bill to address multiple applications for a liquor license at the same site in Congress Park; also monitoring one-way streets, hospital boundaries and the Botanic Gardens.

Cherry Creek North Business District: Concerned with increasing traffic and parking problems. Citizens Appreciate Police: If you have any nominations or recommendations, please forward them to Chief Michaud.

Colfax on the Hill: Police District 6 will move into new HQ in April. Congress Park: Concerned about repeated liquor license applications on 12th Avenue and about DPS’s proposed boundary changes.

New Recreation Center

Cook Park: New rec center is progressing - expected to open January of 1997; work is also proceeding with flood-control improvements to Goldsmith Gulch. Cory Merrill: Rezoning for the St. Thomas Seminary site is close to being approved; new name will be Pope John Paul II Center.

Denver Market Coalition: Concerned with group homes and Zoning’s definition of “transitional” homes. Denver Auditors: Don Mares encourages all groups to make use of his office’s resources. Denver Office of Citizen Response: Tina Scardina reports the new office is up to speed; new phone number is 403-3827.

Denver Planning: Reminds all groups that the re-registration deadline is NOW! George Washington: Reported that the Denver Fire Department is collecting books to send to our troops in Bosnia. Globewide Civic Associations: Concerned with group homes and Zoning’s definition of “transitional” homes. Greater Bible Park Civic Associations: Improvements to Goldsmith

(continued on page 3)
Chairwoman’s Column

By Janey Hanley

First, I want to say thank you to those of you who came and worked on the position statements. I was glad to see so many of you stay for the committee meetings. That is our most important meeting of the year.

Secondly, our city is in the midst of much change, and development. This state of change presents INC with an opening to better serve you, its members, and to continue its growth. The idea that INC’s sponsor education about city processes is very worthwhile. Hopefully we will have a schedule for you by the February meeting.

However, I also have some cautions for you. INC can take stands on citywide issues, and issues that relate to the accountability of our elected officials or government. INC must not take a stand on any issue that pits one neighborhood against another. Any stand INC takes must be in the best interest of the city, INC must constantly protect its existing relationships with city agencies, and must continue to nurture new relationships.

Finally, INC cannot solve all the problems that development is causing for the city’s neighborhoods, but it will be there to help, and to provide information and networking. INC has a sound and flexible structure in place to deal with most issues that arise. Our membership is continuing to grow and the organization is financially sound. Why do we need to restructure?

Now that I have expressed my concerns, an opportunity exists for us to work together to make INC a stronger organization. Let’s make the most of it!

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor:

On January 6, 1996, I participated in a meeting of approximately thirty individuals, six of whom were members of INC. The primary purpose of the meeting was to address how neighborhood associations can be more supportive of each other in addressing issues that have a negative impact in their particular area and how INC can assist in that endeavor. As a result of the growth of the economy in Denver, much of the vacant land in the City is being developed, and in some areas existing development is being altered. Neighborhood Organizations are struggling with the impacts to their particular area and in many instances are not adequately prepared to mitigate the situation.

Based on my own experience in Indian Creek, and subsequent discussions with individuals, I presented a motion which was unanimously adopted. The individuals in attendance suggested that I, as the author, present the motion to INC at the January 13 meeting. During “Around the City” I presented the following motion for consideration by INC at the February meeting.

Recommend to INC to devote the earliest possible meeting to pursue and request of its members to review the concerns of neighborhoods and a possible restructuring of INC.

INC Position Statements

(from page 14)

period of time, or at sale, or that non-conforming uses be rezoned to reflect their actual use.

11. INC shall work to amend rules amending the Zoning Ordinance. INC believes that a culture of non-conformity in business obtaining to legally-recognized licenses will immediately terminate the non-conforming status of that property.

12. INC shall encourage the City to procure, develop and maintain sufficient usable parks and areas of the City to maintain our per capita needs for open green space for all Denver residents, and shall oppose any action which would diminish such open green park concept.

13. INC shall work to limit opposites the expansion of existing, and in any increase in the number of parking lots in residential neighborhoods which serve non-residential uses, to the maximum extent possible, the City of Denver to provide the required landscaping of existing lots, and to INC supports the required landscaping of all existing parking lots in Denver.

14. INC shall encourage all neighborhood organizations and all providers of group homes and institutional services, including “transitional uses,” to communicate and work with each other to improve understanding and reduce hostilities between neighborhoods and providers.

15. INC shall encourage the mandatory notification of neighborhood organizations when the services or management of group homes or service providers are changed or expanded. INC will oppose any efforts to extend the licensing period for group homes and service providers beyond the present one year period.

16. INC supports the maintenance of existing parking requirements for group homes and transitional uses.

17. INC supports making the locations of group homes and transitional uses a matter of public record, and INC supports a revised comprehensive list of group homes and transitional uses that are required to be made available to registered neighborhood organizations on an annual basis. INC also recognizes and supports the need to maintain the confidentiality of those locations that shelter victims of sexual, spousal or partner abuse.

18. INC shall oppose any attempt to allow 3.2 beer-licensed establishments to automatically receive full liquor licenses.

19. INC supports all efforts to require suburban users to pay their fair share of both the services and the physical infrastructure used by suburban users and paid for with Denver residents’ tax dollars. INC supports metropolitan cooperation in addressing issues of a regional nature, such as air pollution control measures, transportation improvements, homelessness, and indigent health care.

20. INC supports policies requiring areas of growth to pay the full cost of providing additional water supplies to the metropolitan area, and that Denver be given due consideration from suburban areas to address problems created within Denver by growth outside Denver’s city limits.

21. INC supports the imposition of impact fees on developments having a significant impact on Denver’s existing infrastructure.

22. INC shall work to ban all billboards in the City, and to support the strengthening of the current City sign code.

23. INC shall encourage the City to update its record keeping to a central registry so that all pertinent information is available by both specific property address and by owner’s name, and that agencies inform each other of violations.

24. INC shall work to adjust the allowable density and uses within those pockets of zoning that allow the construction of structures that are grossly out of character with adjacent neighborhoods.

25. INC shall work to amend the PUD and PBO sections of the Denver Zoning Ordinance to require a PUD or PBO to expire after a stated, set period of time (e.g., 10 years), so new construction of a substantial nature has been started within that time period.

26. INC supports providing priority in appointment to members of neighborhood groups representing those living closest to the site or issue when coalitions of neighborhood groups, citizen advisory committees or redevelopment authorities are established by governmental entities to address issues at a specific location or within a specific area of the City, and INC supports providing priority in appointments to neighborhood groups representing those living closest to the site or issue.

27. INC holds the position of INC that governmental authorities request and accepted registered neighborhood associations be encouraged to submit up to three names of qualified individuals to represent the neighborhoods on citizen advisory committees or redevelopment authorities established by such governmental entities, and we encourage such entities to select representatives from the list(s) submitted.

28. INC encourages the Denver Planning Department, the Denver Planning Board, and the Denver City Council to develop comprehensive neighborhood plans through appropriate reasoning of properties not in conformance with the provisions of the adopted plans.

29. INC supports a requirement in all zone districts, where objections are raised to a conditional use, that the matter be dealt with in a public meeting, and that the issue(s) be decided administratively.

30. INC supports an amendment of Denver’s ordinance to require the City, upon application, to reimburse applicants for reasonable attorney and court costs incurred when the City is not sustained on appeals made from Denver’s Board of Adjustment for Zoning Appeals to district or appellate courts.
INC Position Statements

(from page 13)

1. INC shall support the strict enforcement of all requirements of the existing Denver Zoning Ordinance.

2. INC shall encourage Denver's Zoning Administration to become proactive in their enforcement efforts, and shall encourage Denver's Zoning Administration to support neighborhood requests for special enforcement efforts.

3. INC shall support a comprehensive revision of Denver's 1956 Zoning Ordinance, and shall seek the inclusion of neighborhood groups and their interests and concerns in the revision process.

4. INC shall work to maximize the participation and involvement of citizens and neighborhood groups in all zoning, land use, liquor license, and permit decisions in the City and County of Denver, and to oppose any practices which minimize such participation.

5. INC encourages the neighborhood notification ordinance of the City and County of Denver to be an extremely valuable tool which enables residents in neighborhoods to participate more effectively in City decisions affecting neighborhoods. INC shall work to expand the neighborhood notification process to include timely written notice to each registered group of each of the following activities located inside the boundaries of the neighborhood group:
   A. Any change in land use or traffic patterns of any park;
   B. Any application for transfer of location or ownership, or renewal, of any liquor, beer and wine, or cabaret license;
   C. Any industrial revenue bond or housing bond application;
   D. Any capital expenditure proposal by any City agency continued as in the past.
   E. Any permit for any institutional use;
   F. Any application for a demolition permit;
   G. Any application for a conditional use in an industrial, heavy, or high traffic use district.
   H. INC supports a requirement, incorporated into ordinance language, for the agenda of each meeting of the Zoning and Land Use Committee of the City Council to be mailed to each neighborhood group, regardless of whether an item appears relating to the specific boundaries of the group.
   I. INC shall work to minimize the negative impacts of businesses or hospitals which are immediately adjacent to residential districts.
   J. INC opposes the use of suburban airports for scheduled commercial service, and encourages the use of flight paths that minimize the intrusion of aircraft noise on residential areas.
   K. INC shall work to amend the Neighborhood Notification Ordinance so that all non-conforming uses will be required to be brought into compliance within a specific

Around the City

Gulch and Yale Avenue are making slow progress.

Harmon/Cheyenne Creek: Concerned with continuing FUD applications and Council's Health Neighborhood Program is going well, work has begun

Hilltop: Concerned with pop-top and decreasing water pressure, HUNI: Trying to address problems with cruisers as early in the new year as possible. Inclusive Communities Task Force Focus is group homes; goal is a social contract to make homes welcome in all areas. Indian Creek: Made motion to look at "restructuring" INC's operations; motion tabled pending better definition of problems and proposed changes.

DPS Insurance Policy

Inspiration Point: Flood Control and park improvement projects are under way; reports that DPS proposes allowing neighborhood groups to use DPS's umbrellas insurance policy when using DPS facilities. Mayfair: Have concerns with Lowry Redevelopment Authority and with its contract with Trammell-Crow for reuse of existing residential properties. Mayfair Park: Their Neighborhood Guide has been a very

Denver Neighborhood Connection

Publishing Guides

Articles submitted to Denver Neighborhood Connection stand the best chance of being published, and published without charge, when they are within 300 words in length. Articles must be submitted by the 20th of the month prior to publication.

Material for publication should be submitted on an IBM compatible disk, either 5.25” or 3.5” size. The article should be saved as an ASCII (DOS) file, with all word processors can do. A printed copy of the article should accompany the disk. Piles can also be submitted in WordPerfect 5.1 or below format. If a computer is not available, material may be submitted as an original (not a fax or photocopy) in Courier 10 type.

Chairwoman Hanley requested a definition of restructuring as it relates to the motion. First of all, let me state that restructuring was used for lack of a better word. I believe that INC officers and board directors have done a great job in providing a forum for the member organizations and interacting with City officials and departments. However, periodically it can be beneficial for an organization to ask its members how it might better serve them. In terms of the motion, restructuring (revaluing, revitalizing or energizing) may mean revising the bylaws, evaluating the effectiveness of the position statements, reviewing the format of the monthly meeting agenda or redesigning the focus (education?) in conjunction with the number of members, their issues and the City's goals. At the same time INC members should take into consideration the importance of achieving a desired resolution that will provide a benefit to every member organization and will be to the detriment of none.

Judy Anne Krist
President
Indian Creek Neighborhood Association

Dues Due

1996 INC dues must be received by March 9, 1996 in order for an organization's delegate to vote on INC position statements during the March meeting. Dues are $30 per year ($50 for those who wish to be INC patron) and can be mailed to P.O. Box 300116, Denver, CO 80216.
Proposed INC Bylaws

A committee whose charge was to draft new INC bylaws has submitted those which appear below for consideration by the delegates. They will be discussed at the February 10 meeting and will be voted on at the March meeting.

PREAMBLE

We, the independent neighborhood organizations of Denver, in order to represent Denver neighborhoods and to encourage autonomy, diversity, and power for neighborhoods, and collectively address issues of common interest while adhering to the principles of democracy, openness to all Denver neighborhoods, and social and economic justice, do hereby accept responsibility for shaping our own future by forming Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation.

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this organization shall be Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation, hereinafter known as INC.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE & ACTIVITIES

Section A. The purpose and activities of INC shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Information gathering and sharing;
2. Direct assistance to neighborhoods groups when aid is requested;
3. Nominating neighborhood representatives to public commissions and boards. The political party of any nominee shall not be a factor in such nominations;
4. Taking stands on neighborhood issues which may have citywide impact;
5. Providing information to neighborhoods concerning organizing and registering with the city and dealing effectively with city agencies.

Section B. The Delegation shall consider taking a public stand on any neighborhood-related issue proposed by a member organization through its delegates. These stands will be developed in the following manner:

1. General position statements shall be formulated and voted on at the Annual Meeting of the Delegation;
2. Committees shall be chargéd with detailing the extent of support for various positions, including the Executive Committee, which, by the confluence of 2/3 of its members, may make INC public position statements. Any such statement shall be limited to the three texts under whichINC is recognized;
3. As needed, INC position statements may be applied to issues and situations by the Executive Committee, which, by the confluence of 2/3 of its members, may make INC public position statements. Any such statement shall be limited to the three texts under whichINC is recognized;
4. A public stand may also be taken by a vote of a majority of eligible delegates at a regular or emergency meeting, provided that the proposed stand and the manner of its presentation may be deposited and read at meetings held at least 30 days prior to the meeting at which it shall be voted upon.

Section C. INC shall not be involved in the following activities:

1. Endorsement of political candidates for elective office;
2. Operating a substantial monetary amount of resources to influence legislation;
3. Distribution of INC's assets to its members, officers, trustees, or private persons for their personal benefit other than reasonable compensation for services rendered and payments necessary for the furtherance of the purposes set forth in this article.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Section A. Members to be eligible for membership in INC, an organization must:

1. Have geographic boundaries that are set by the residents and which are not the entire city;
2. Have a minimum of 20 residential members;
3. Hold at least one open general meeting a year;
4. Have elected officers, if it has officers;
5. Be organized primarily to meet neighborhood's needs and wishes;
6. Have membership which is open to all residents of the neighborhood;
7. Pledge to INC's membership that it will participate in the activities of INC, to the best of its abilities;
8. Be approved as a new member by a majority vote during a regular INC meeting.

Section B. Associate Members.

Organizations and individuals who do not meet the qualifications of Section A may become associate members by paying dues established under Section C. Associate members shall receive all notice and benefits of regular members except for the right to vote.

Section C. The amount of dues to be paid by member organizations shall be established by the Delegation.

ARTICLE IV. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee shall consist of officers, the immediate past Chairperson of the Delegation, and six at-large members, elected by the Delegation at the annual meeting.

Section A. The Committee shall consist of the following:

1. Chairperson, who shall act as the primary spokesperson for the INC;
2. Vice Chairperson, who shall act as the vice spokesperson for the INC;
3. Secretary, who shall act as the liaison between the INC and the public;
4. Treasurer, who shall act as the financial officer of the INC;
5. The Executive Committee shall have the power to establish committees for the purpose of carrying out the purposes of the INC.

ARTICLE V. DELEGATION

Section A. The Delegation shall consist of two delegates

INC Position Statements

February 1996

1. INC supports all efforts of the Better Air Campaign to reduce vehicle traffic and improve the quality of Denver's air.

2. INC supports efforts to reduce unnecessary pollution from traffic in Denver neighborhoods.

3. INC supports the creation, construction, and improvement of streets and sidewalks that are not only safe for pedestrians but also beneficial to the environment.

4. INC encourages the use of specific definitions and projects laid out in previous plans.

5. INC supports the expansion of the vintage trolley system from the Central Plains to the Lower Downtown.

Street Maintenance and Improvement

1. INC urges improvement of the City's snow removal system to maintain passable arterial and residential streets.

2. INC supports study of ways to reduce particulate pollution resulting from sanding of streets.

3. INC supports a long-range plan for street maintenance and improvement.

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INC Position Statements

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assure the opportunity for our citizens to live their lives and raise their families in peace. Enforcement of the existing laws, prosecution of criminals and prioritizing of public safety will assure the safety of our citizens. To assure these ends INC resolves to support those policies and officials that place public safety as a primary role of government.

2. Citizens are not obeying City laws and ordinances, and thus are not helping to maintain the safety of our neighborhoods. We need elected and appointed officials who are responsive to the public. INC therefore calls for the elected and appointed representatives to place campaigning against crime as a top priority. This campaign must be charged with the reduction of the crime rate in Denver.

3. INC has placed a top priority on ensuring that Denver citizens are provided basic personal safety and protection of their homes and property. We will not be a community that celebrates openness, diversity and quality of life for long if we don't assure the opportunity for our citizens to live their lives with a feeling of safety and peace. Enforcement of the existing laws, prosecution of criminals and prioritizing of public safety are the keys to assuring the safety of our citizens. To assure these ends INC resolve to support those policies and officials that place public safety as a primary role of government.

4. The level of criminal activities in our City is unacceptable and a direct and present danger. For all of our citizens this is a problem from which we suffer. INC therefore calls for the elected and appointed representatives to establish a campaign against crime focused on the most serious crimes confronting our community. INC urges the City to establish a task force to investigate the causes of crime and to develop a comprehensive strategy to prevent crime and to protect the safety of our neighborhoods. Enforcement of the existing laws, prosecution of criminals and prioritizing of public safety are the keys to assuring the safety of our citizens. To assure these ends INC resolve to support those policies and officials that place public safety as a primary role of government.

5. There is a need for ongoing dialogue between the community and City officials regarding crime prevention. Neighborhoods/police communication is vital to success in our crime prevention efforts, and INC provides an important communication link for Denver neighborhoods regarding crime prevention issues. Therefore, INC requests that the Monthly Police Report be mailed to INC.

TRANSPORTATION POSITION STATEMENTS

Mass Transit

1. INC supports the construction of a City wide (continued on page 13)

from each member organization.

Section B. Each member organization shall be entitled to a total of two votes from its certified delegates and/or alternates.

Section C. All powers of INC shall be vested in 'The Delegation.'

Section D. The term of office of each delegate is to be determined by the member organization.

Section E. No INC member shall obligate or bind INC in any commitment without the full knowledge and approval of the INC Executive Committee.

ARTICLE VI

OFFICERS & EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Section A. The Delegation shall have the power and duty to elect officers and Executive Committee members at the Annual Meeting or when vacancies occur.

Section B. The elected officers of INC shall be a Chairperson, a Vice Chairperson, a Secretary, and a Treasurer.

Section C. Qualifications:

1. All officers and Executive Committee members shall be Delegates.

2. The Delegation shall consider balancing age, sex, ethnicity and area of City when electing officers and Executive Committee members.

Section D. Term of Office.

1. Officers and Executive Committee members shall be elected for a term of one year or until their successors are elected and should they not complete their term.

2. No officer or Executive Committee member may serve more than two consecutive terms in the same office.

3. Any officer or member of the Executive Committee who accumulates three (3) unexcused absences from general or executive meetings during a term in office will be removed from office.

4. Executive Committee members shall assume their duties immediately.

Section E. Duties of Officers.

1. The Chairperson shall:

a. Preside over all meetings of the Delegation.

b. Propose an agenda for each meeting of the membership.

c. Appoint an audit committee to review the treasurer's records at least once a year.

d. Perform other duties as the Delegation or the Executive Committee may direct.

2. The Vice-Chairperson shall:

a. Perform the duties of the Chairperson in the absence of or at the request of the Chairperson.

b. Perform other functions as the Delegation or Executive Committee may direct.

3. The Secretary shall:

a. Keep minutes of the proceedings of Delegation meetings.

b. Perform other functions as the Delegation or Executive Committee may direct.

Executive Committee may direct.

4. The Treasurer shall:

a. Maintain all organizational funds and assets.

b. Disburse funds or assets as the Delegation or Executive Committee may direct.

c. Keep accurate and complete financial records of the INC.

d. Present a financial report at each scheduled executive committee meeting.

5. Executive Committee members shall:

a. Attend meetings as called by the Chairperson.

b. Perform other functions as the Delegation or Executive Committee may direct.

ARTICLE VII

MEETINGS

Section A. Meetings of INC shall be held at regular intervals. The Delegation or the Executive Committee shall determine the time and place.

Section B. The annual meeting shall be held during the month of March, at a time and place determined by the Delegation or Executive Committee.

Section C. An emergency meeting of INC may be called by the president of the delegations or alternates as designated in Article V, Section A.

Section E. Delegates representing one-fourth plus one of the total votes of the Delegation shall constitute a quorum at a general meeting.

ARTICLE VIII

COMMITTEES

Section A. The Delegation or Executive Committee may establish committees and determine said committees' duties and responsibilities.

Section B. Committees shall be of any persons who wish to serve. The Chairperson of a committee must, however, be a member of an INC member organization.

ARTICLE IX

FISCAL YEAR

INC's fiscal year shall begin on April first and end on March thirty-first of each year.

ARTICLE X

PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised shall apply on all questions of procedure and parliamentary law not specified by these bylaws. In case of conflict these bylaws shall be the first authority.

ARTICLE XI

AMENDMENTS

These Bylaws may be amended at any regular or special meeting of the Delegation by a two-thirds (2/3) vote, provided that written notice of pending amendments has been sent to the Delegation at least thirty (30) days prior to the Delegation meeting.
INC Position Statements

These position statements will be voted on at the March, 1996 meeting. New material appears in italics. Superseded material has a line through it.

EDUCATION POSITION STATEMENTS

The quality of neighborhoods depends on maintaining schools providing a high quality educational experience and preparing students for lifelong learning. Therefore, INC supports the following positions:

1. Education: INC supports the Denver Public Schools (DPS) to make the prime goal focus for all Denver public schools the provision of quality education for all students. INC encourages programs which address the varying learning styles of individuals.

2. Quality of Education: INC will work to make sure that school programs are tailored to meet the full range of needs for all students. INC supports smaller class sizes to improve the quality of education. We also support continual monitoring and evaluation of programs and personnel.

3. Compulsory Education: INC supports compulsory education up to 18 years. Compliance is a key element in the overall development of all students.

4. Discipline: INC recommends DPS enforce discipline policies that are clear, fair, and consistent. Students should be held to the same behavior standards as adults. Discipline policies should be based on the safety of all students and staff as a higher priority than due process for disruptive children.

5. Special Programs: INC supports literacy training for adults and for children, and after school programs to help disadvantaged students catch-up and more early childhood education programs both through school and community efforts.

6. Affordable Day Care In Schools: Because adequate, high quality day care at an affordable cost is becoming an absolute necessity for most parents in this city and nation, INC urges use of Denver Public Schools' buildings before and after regular school hours, staffed either by DPS personnel or by private contractors, to provide high quality day care in convenient locations, at prices based on abilities to pay.

7. Neighborhood Participation: INC will work to make sure that there are neighborhood organization representatives on major DPS committees, citywide and special schools, especially Collaborative Decision Making Committees (CDMs), and that timely notification is given for all meetings.

8. Accountability Committees: INC will encourage the maintenance of viable and functioning accountability committees for instructional programs and finances at all Denver Public Schools.

9. Collaborative Governance: Because giving parents, teachers and neighborhood representatives more influence over individual school building organization — what is taught and how it is taught — appears to be one way to raise the quality of public education, INC looks with favor upon any measures which would give parents, teachers and neighborhood representatives, in collaboration with school principals, more influence on how schools are organized, how schools set budget priorities and how they teach and adapt to children's different learning styles and needs. Neighborhoods will benefit when students are included on CDM committees. CDMs should be separate and accountable to SUACs.

10. Education: INC believes that transportation is needed to achieve integrated schools; the burden should be shared equally by all participants.

11. Neighborhood Committees: INC member organizations and DPS schools will be encouraged to match school needs with neighborhood resources. Examples include establishing working education committees of parents and non-parents participating directly in tutorials, recreational, supply drives or other support programs as their local schools and thereby increase mutally supportive school/communities.

12. Cooperative Programs: INC encourages the development of programs in cooperation with the City, businesses, neighborhood organizations, etc. for more effective educational delivery and more efficient use of DPS and City facilities. INC will encourage the lowering of barriers and sharing of facilities. Increased efforts should be made to use volunteers effectively in the schools.

13. Neighborhood Notification/Participation: Because neighborhood groups too often get no answer to their concerns, and because the administration tends to take a paternalistic attitude toward communications from neighborhoods, INC urges that input from citizen groups should be fully utilized and incorporated into district policy whenever feasible, not just disregarded. Communications should be two way.

14. The Denver Public Schools and principals should inform neighborhoods and neighborhood organizations, not just parent groups, of planned changes in programs, building usage, asset disposition and attendance area boundaries. Development of neighborhood input criteria for hiring superintendents and principals and on all pertinent issues should be taken seriously. Local schools, through newsletters or other means, should inform neighborhood organizations of a school activities.

15. Multicultural Schools: INC is representative of a variety of neighborhoods and cultures which make up the City of Denver. INC, therefore, encourages celebration of and respect for Denver's multicultural diversity and

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February 1996

INC Position Statements

(continued from page 10)

METROPOLITAN GROWTH ISSUES

POSITION STATEMENTS

1. INC supports metropolitan cooperation in addressing issues of a regional nature, such as air pollution, transportation needs, law enforcement, and the funding of indigent health care, and the demands and consequences of population growth in the Denver area impose negative effects on Denver residents -- such as degradation of air quality, increased traffic congestion, and greater demands on services provided by the City.

2. INC supports efforts aimed at requiring suburban users to reimburse their full cost of services and infrastructure paid for by Denver tax dollars and used by suburban residents.

3. The Denver metropolitan area and the need for additional water supplies are growing, and the Denver Water Department as a major water supplier to the entire metropolitan area must continue to provide sufficient water for future economic growth of the region. INC, therefore, on behalf of the people of Denver neighborhoods, supports the policy of having growth pay the full cost of providing additional water supplies to the metropolitan area and that Denver be given additional consideration from the surrounding areas to address the problems created in Denver from the growth of the metropolitan area. Efforts to increase the water supply for the metro area be coupled with additional conservation efforts by all types of water users.

PARKS AND RECREATION POSITION STATEMENTS

1. INC shall support the City and its citizens in procuring, developing, and maintaining sufficient usable park land in all areas of the City to maintain our per capita needs for open green space, and INC shall oppose any action which would diminish such open green space.

2. Parks need to be well-maintained to be an asset to the neighborhoods. Maintenance should include trash cleanup, weed control. Landscape maintenance and prompt graffiti removal. Neighborhood representatives need to be involved in development of park maintenance standards.

3. INC supports the funding of deferred capital maintenance projects in parks and is committed to support and support any reasonable method of such funding.

4. INC encourages the City to pursue cost effective, efficient and thorough park and parkway maintenance, including the study of privatization. INC encourages the Department of Public Works and the Department of Parks and Recreation to work together in the maintenance of trees along parkways.

5. Neighborhoods should be notified of any change in land use or traffic patterns of any park:

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February 1996

INC Position Statements
INC Position Statements

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housing—such projects are often termed "affordable housing" projects. These projects can be funded by a variety of sources, including the Federal Home Loan Bank System, state and local housing authorities, and private lenders. Affordable housing projects often include units of low-income housing, which are usually subsidized by federal or state programs. In many cases, the profits from these projects are used to finance the construction of additional affordable housing units. Additional affordable housing units are needed to house the growing number of low-income families and individuals in the Denver area. (continued on page 11)
INC Position Statements

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can be either obstacles to or remedies for neighborhood problems. Therefore, INC will work to encourage hospitals to
A. be more responsive to the needs of their neighborhoods, particularly when hospitals want to expand their facilities;
B. provide affordable health care to its surrounding communities;
C. provide employment opportunities for nearby residents.

5. Because health care is no longer affordable for most citizens without some kind of health insurance, INC will work to:
A. encourage all employers to provide adequate health care coverage—insurance for all their employees and their families;
B. promote personal choice and free market principles wherever possible;
C. recognize the importance of personal responsibility in maintaining adequate health coverage;
D. end support legislation that would study and make significant recommendations to help provide basic health care to all people, regardless of income levels.

6. Health clinics in the Denver Public Schools provide needed care for school children. Therefore, INC will encourage neighborhood organizations to work with the Denver Public Schools and Denver Health and Hospitals to encourage the continuation and expansion of these health clinics and seek funding outside the education budget.

7. Because the misuse of alcohol and the use of tobacco products cause health and economic harm to our community and citizens, INC supports enlightened policies that:
A. require accurate product information, directed only at appropriate recipients;
B. prohibit discuss sale of illegal underage consumption;
C. encourage tobacco free buildings and businesses;
D. provide the most appropriate treatment options for tobacco addiction;
E. don't go so far as expelling students for smoking.

8. Some Denver neighborhoods have become heavily polluted with industrial toxic wastes. Therefore, INC will work with health authorities and political leaders to identify the polluters and to remediate contamination in a timely and legally binding manner—following the Denver emission standards, and cease this neighborhood pollution.

9. Landfills are overflowing, forests and mines are being depleted, fresh water is becoming scarcer, and water pollution problems face all world citizens. Therefore INC will

work with the City and citizens to promote
A. much more recycling of many commercial products and residential wastes;
B. less purchase and use of household and commercial products sold in wrappers, etc. that are not biodegradable;
C. cessation of dumping of toxic substances into sewers;
D. water conservation and more xeriscaping;
E. studies on ways to promote better land development suitable to our harsh and high plain environment.

10. Open space and wetlands in our metropolitan area suitable for recreation and wildlife habitat are becoming fast depleted. Therefore INC will support legislation, and the planning of financial funds to:
A. acquire more open space for future recreational purposes;
B. better manage and maintain existing Denver public and private land (i.e. urban redevelopment).

HOUSING POSITION STATEMENTS

1. Fair Housing: INC supports all local, State and Federal laws which prohibit discrimination in housing. Examples include but are not limited to discrimination based on race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, familial status, marital status, handicap, sexual orientation, military status, and age. INC endorses the consumer Federation of Denver Equal Protection Ordinance, State and Federal laws.

2. Housing Integration: INC supports housing strategies that produce school, economic and housing integration and opportunities through fair housing practices in the private and public sector.

1. Housing Integration: There remain areas of Denver with segregated housing patterns. Segregated housing patterns produce segregated schools and employment practices. Segregated schools result in school busing to achieve court compliance. Denver and other cities have reduced school busing for integration through voluntary fair housing practices. INC supports strategies that produce school, employment and housing integration and opportunities through voluntary practices, such as those developed by Housing For All in its "Housing Integration Plan for Metropolitan Denver," and INC encourages all Denver neighborhood organizations to implement appropriate integration strategies, including those outlined in the Housing Integration Plan.

3. Communication: INC seeks and supports efforts by housing developers (public, private and non-profit) to be responsive to neighborhood concerns by pro-actively contacting neighborhood groups and providing them with methods for two-way communication with results and closure.

5. Housing Developers: Communication with Neighborhood Groups: INC encourages neighborhood groups to pro-actively contact housing developers (public, private and non-profit) to be responsive to neighborhood concerns by pro-actively contacting neighborhood groups and providing them with methods for two-way communication with results and closure.

B. INC encourages: All neighborhood organizations and all providers of group homes, shelters, subsidized housing and institutional services to communicate and work with each other to improve understanding, seek an accommodation, and reduce hostilities between neighbors and providers.

1. INC shall encourage all neighborhood organizations and all providers of group homes and institutional services to communicate and work with each other to improve understanding and reduce hostility between neighbors and providers, and shall encourage the mandatory notification of neighborhood organizations when the services or management of group homes or service providers are changed or expanded, and to establish a process for the expansion of televisions for group homes and service providers beyond the present one year period.

4. Residential Diversity: INC supports:
A. Efforts to increase the available stock of large family-size, multiple bedroom housing units or those units built to accommodate families with diverse needs, including affordable rental units of this size and type.
B. The recognition that there should not be a disproportionate impact on any neighborhood.

5. Residential Diversity: INC encourages the development of vacant parcels of land within the City in ways that increase the diversity of available housing.

5. Residential Blight and Deterioration: INC supports:
A. Holding all property owners accountable and educating them about all applicable codes, resources available to assure code compliance, and utilization of remedies including but not limited to fines, court action, and the like, to end non-compliance.
B. Prohibiting that every property owner (private, non-profit and public) be held accountable for the condition of their property or properties and problems caused by the occupants.
C. Revisions to the zoning ordinances that discourage neglect of properties by owners specifying on increased property values in mixed use or over zoned areas.

6. Residential Blight and Deterioration: Long-term vacancy or neglect of housing units by absentee landlords, financial institutions, or others who fail to properly care for properties in neighborhoods and decreas-ation. Such blight and deterioration discourage ownership or rental of properties, strain City police and fire resources, and pose health and safety threats. Therefore, INC supports ownership or sale to active owners with appropriate codes, available resources for code compliance, and available resources for non-compliance. INC supports efforts to hold owners accountable for the condition of their properties and problems caused by the occupants. Further, INC supports revisions to the zoning ordinances that discourage neglect of properties by owners specifying increased property values in mixed use or over zoned areas.

6. Assistance for First Time Home Buyers: INC supports continuation of loan and down payment assistance programs which provide common-sense lending and underwriting practices. INC encourages households to continue to become home owners thereby strengthening our neighborhoods through increased ownership.

9. Assistance for First Time Home Buyers: Many first-time home buyers in Denver have difficulty in qualifying for a mortgage loan. Therefore, INC supports loan programs which provide common-sense lending and underwriting practices, are based on a family’s history of willingness and ability to pay, and do not require unnecessary fees.

7. Assistance for Families Facing Eviction/Foreclosure: INC supports continuation of loan programs to help people stay in their current homes and to assure effective marketing of all foreclosed units.

10. Assistance for Families Facing Eviction/Forelosure: Economic difficulties can result in many Denver residents having to move from their current homes—as rental and owner-occupied, and the cost of finding new housing can be substantially greater than the cost of keeping those same residents in their current home. Therefore, INC urges the City to develop a resource-investment priority to funding, keep residents in their current (continued on page 10)