2 votes to be taken at September Meeting

September Delegate Meeting Sept 10 2016

Location: Denver Police District 3 Station, Community Room
1625 South University Blvd
Denver, Colorado 80210

8:30am – 9am – Coffee and neighborhood interaction
9am – Introduction
9:15 – 9:45 – INC Business
  • Approval of Minutes from August Delegate Meeting
  • Denver Election Forum Update
  • Committee Reports

Intermission – 10 minutes

10:00am – Primary Presentation – approx. 45 mins
Denver Ballot Initiative – Denver Public Schools Bond and Mill Levy
DPS Representatives will present the DPS case for approval of the Bond and Mill Levy
Michael Kiley will present the critique of the Bond and Mill Levy

We will allow time for discussion regarding the effect that this ballot will have on the Denver neighborhoods and families.

10:45 - Ballot Issue 4B - SCFD Presentation – approx. 10 mins
Learn about the bill, passed by the state legislature, that asks voters to reapprove a penny-per-$10 sales tax that now generates about $55 million a year.

Around the City – Time for hearing from RNO delegates
regarding neighborhood topics that they would like to share with other RNOs
Two votes will be taken by the delegation on Sat Sept 10 regarding the following topics.

1. Rational

Chair Margie Valdez convened the meeting of the INC Zoning and Planning (ZAP) Committee on Aug 27 and introduced City Councilwoman-at-Large Robin Kniech, who explained the new affordable housing fund, which will have a public hearing at City Council on September 19. If approved, the fund will be a permanent dedicated funding stream, composed of approximately half from a .5 mill property tax on both business and residential property and half from a development fee on all new construction in Denver due upon issuance of a building permit. The property tax mill levy is already allowed by the people’s vote to “de-Bruc” at the last election. If passed by Council, the mill levy increase will amount to approximately $1 per month for the average home and will fund the creation of approximately 6000 units during the first 10 years. She emphasized that the city is already contributing to affordable housing, which has reached a crisis stage, in many other ways. This will not “solve” the problem, but it is a good start. If approved, the fund will replace the inclusionary housing ordinance. There will be a new Housing Advisory Committee which will have public monthly meetings. The committee discussed and passed the following motion to recommend to the INC Delegation on September 10, by a vote of 18 in favor, 1 opposed and 4 abstaining:

VOTE 1

The ZAP committee recommends to the INC Delegation to write a letter of support and provide testimony to City Council supporting the affordable housing fund proposal, acknowledging its balance between property tax and development fee sources, and recognizing its consistency with the INC Platform for Denver Planning and Zoning. Section 5.5 of the Platform states: INC recognizes that new development is desirable and inevitable; however, all city departments and officials should balance the need for new development and revenue in Denver with the need to maintain or improve the quality and affordability of life for all residents in all parts of the city.

VOTE 2

2. Rational

David Engelken, vice-president of the Humboldt Street Neighborhood Association described an appeal that the neighborhood association has filed with the Board of Adjustment for Zoning Appeals regarding a parking exemption in their neighborhood, which is described in the following motion that was made and discussed:

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation (INC) supports the administrative appeal by the Humboldt Street Neighborhood Association to the Board of Adjustment for Zoning Appeals in Cases 150-16 and 151-16. The neighborhood association is correct to appeal the granting by the Zoning Administrator of a permit to allow the construction of 100 residential apartments in two new buildings on two adjacent zone lots with no parking spaces.

INC agrees that the permits were granted in error because the 2010 Zoning Code did not intend to allow the small-lot parking exemption for new buildings or for a combination of two small lots. Such developments put extreme and damaging parking pressure on surrounding neighbors and businesses that was not intended by the Zoning Code.

The motion passed by a vote of 14 in favor, 3 opposed and 1 abstention.

INC TO SPONSOR ELECTION FORUMS – YOUR QUESTIONS NEEDED

Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation will partner again with the League of Women Voters of Denver to organize election forums to be presented by our partnership known as Denver Decides through Denver 8TV for the very important November 8 2016 elections. Due to budget reasons, all of the forums will be conducted at the Denver 8TV studio downtown and not at community locations as in the past.

We need all INC members and all registered neighborhood organizations to help in this effort by:

1. Developing and sending questions to ask the candidates and ballot issue presenters to summer.nettles@denvergov.org (no later than September 20).
2. Encouraging all of your members to watch the forums on Denver 8TV or online at www.DenverDecides.org.
3. Encouraging your members to vote on or before November 8.
4. Forwarding this message and any follow-up messages to your members and/or including them in your newsletter.

READ MORE HERE

Hello Denver RNOS! As you’re probably aware INC produces a monthly newsletter which is emailed to all member organizations. Of course there is news coming from the city and from INC itself but we’d also like to hear from you! What thoughts do you have on what’s happening in your neighborhood? Can you write them up in 350-450 words? We’d like to share news and opinions
from around the city to our membership in order to open the lines of communication and start conversations between neighborhoods that might not usually meet. Please send us your thoughts!

Message from the V.P.

A worried city trying to remember to be welcoming

We’ve all noticed the increased traffic, the decrease in easy parking, and the sudden appearance of what feel like hundreds of new multi unit residential developments. Right next door. In our neighborhood. Invading our space.

Of course, there’s also the flip side to the coin. Thousands of new residents bringing new energy, new ideas, new businesses to our city. They invest in buildings, old and new, trying to make better lives for themselves. They buy in to the friendly culture, they look for local shops and watering holes to support, and “they” become “we”.

It’s important to remember that we’re not being invaded by outsiders trying to destroy our way of life, but instead being joined by new neighbors looking to make friends and live in the same great city we all do. Sure there’s some difficult change involved.

Driving is a little bit less convenient. People live a little closer together. But the overall result is that Denver continues to be a vibrant city, continues to have a healthy economy, and everyone has that much more opportunity to make a new friend.

Call it the perils of being popular. Or think of the old Yogi Berra quote, “nobody goes there anymore, it’s too crowded”.

READ MORE HERE

Upcoming Cherry Creek Dam Public Meetings

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District, is hosting a series of public meetings to provide information on the current progress of the Cherry Creek Dam Safety Modification Study, including potential changes to the Water Control Plan, and to gather public input on the current suite of alternatives. Cherry Creek Dam, located in the Denver Metropolitan Area, has a hydrologic deficiency that could result in overtopping and failure during an extreme storm event. While the probability of such an event is low, the consequences would be high and as such requires these analyses.

Meetings will be held on the following dates:
Tuesday, September 20, 2016 from 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
Cherry Creek Presbyterian Church
Rooms 112/113 (Main Building)
10150 E. Belleview Avenue Englewood, CO 80111

Wednesday, September 21, 2016 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Virginia Village Library
1500 S. Dahlia Street Denver, CO 80222

Thursday, September 22, 2016 from 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Aurora Municipal Center - City Café
15151 E. Alameda Parkway Aurora, CO 80012

READ MORE HERE

NORML Led Responsible Use Initiative Will Not Be On The Ballot

Thank you to Jordan Person for coming out to tell us about all the signatures her team collected and the work that they did with neighborhood organizations to try and build support for this initiative. Unfortunately the result is that the ballot initiative will not be on the ballot.

We do plan on having the 2nd social marijuana use initiative presented at our October INC Delegate meeting. That 2nd one seems to have 5x the number of signatures needed. I’m guessing it will be on the ballot.

Read More Below:


READ MORE HERE
INC Calendar

Our full Calendar of Events and Meetings are listed.
FULL CALENDAR HERE

Committee Corner
Click any icon below to jump to a Committee's Page

City Leadership Perception Survey 2016
Deadline is Aug 31st
If you have not yet taken our survey, please take a minute to do so and ask others in your district to do so as well.
Click Here to Take the Survey

Working well with our city council representatives and have them work well for us is our ultimate goal in our cities representative democracy - Thank you for taking this survey

The New City Council Sub-Committee Schedule Has Been Announced
Most of the council bills that come before the full council are first brought before one of the council’s subcommittees. Here is the new schedule for City Council Sub-committees for 2016-1017
All sub-committee meetings are in City & County Building, Room 391 and are Open to the Public

- Tues 10:30am - Land Use, Transportation and Infrastructure Committee
- Tues 1:30pm – Governance and Finance Committee
- Wed 10:30am – Education Committee
- Wed 1:30am - Bus, Arts and Workforce Committee

Note: The full council meets with the Mayor each Tues @ 9:30am and can be viewed live on Denver Channel 8
So Thursday's and Friday's will continue to be good days of the week to find your council person and speak with them in person.

to view and hear recordings of previous meetings.

INC supported and spoke in favor of two moratorium bills that went before city council this month.
1. Small Lot Multi-Unit Designs with No Parking - Read More Here
2. Garden Court Multi-Unit Designs that have neither gardens, nor courts - Read More Here

Environmental Learning for Kids Awarded Great Urban Parks Campaign Grant

In anticipation of Emerald Ash Borer's inevitable arrival here in Denver, We are being asked to plant more trees in the public right-of-way (PROW). If you live on a corner or have a separated sidewalk, but don't have a tree, please help the city by asking them to plant one.

Here is the website specifically for applying to receive Free Trees http://beasmartash.org/what-can-i-do/apply-for-a-tree/
Great new benefits are available again this year from The Park People / Denver Digs Trees. Give your home some future cool shade when it's 90+ degrees

As a part of the campaign, Denver Digs Trees will be providing FREE trees for planting along the street in the public right-of-way (PROW).
These tress are available to anyone with adequate space; you do NOT have to have an ash tree to qualify!
Apply TODAY at: www.BeASmartAsh.org!
READ MORE HERE
The grant award issued to Environmental Learning for Kids will be used to help build the Montbello Open Space Park project, in partnership with Denver Parks and Recreation and The Trust for Public Land. Utilizing green infrastructure techniques designed to innovatively manage storm water, the Montbello Open Space Park project will restore 5.52 acres of undeveloped land to a diverse upland native shortgrass prairie benefiting biological resources, and serving as an outdoor educational site for Environmental Learning for Kids’ science-based programs and activities.

READ MORE HERE

Neighborhoods work better when they work together

We have been working hard to update DenverINC.org, adding useful content, improving the user experience and making it easier to access the information you want. It is still a work in progress, but we want your hear your FEEDBACK.

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