

### In This Issue:

- Special Municipal Mail Ballot Election
- Rezoning in District 4
- Open Registration for RNO/HOA
- Denver Urban Garden 2007 Programs
- 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Crime Summit
- Senior Citizen Property Tax Exemption
- MLK Memorial Campaign
- New Library Hours for 2007!
- Denver Infrastructure Priorities Update
- January Calendar of Events

*Happy New Year!*

## Special Municipal Mail Ballot Election

After several public forums and task force meetings to discuss solutions to the problems that occurred at the November 2006 election, the Denver City Council voted to approve a **special election to be held on January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007**. The special election will be to vote on the following Charter Amendment:

“Shall the Charter of the City and County of Denver be amended to make the office of Clerk and Recorder an elected position; to define the powers and duties of the Clerk and Recorder including the power to conduct elections; to eliminate the Election Commission; and to make other conforming amendments related thereto.”

If approved by voters, this Charter Amendment will eliminate the current three-member Election Commissioner Board, which includes two elected commissioners and a Clerk and Recorder appointed by the Mayor, and will be replaced with an *elected* Clerk and Recorder. The Clerk and Recorder will then appoint a Director of Elections. Candidates for this position would run for election in May.

The special election will take place on **January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007**. Due to the short time frame, this election will be a **MAIL BALLOT ONLY**. The ballots will be mailed to all registered Denver voters by January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2007. **Ballots must be returned to Election Commission Office by 7pm on January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2007**. Several Drop-Off locations will be provided throughout the city for convenient return of your ballot.

### Drop-Off Locations will be available:

January 22<sup>nd</sup> thru January 26<sup>th</sup> from 10am- 7pm

January 29<sup>th</sup> from 10am- 7pm

Election Day- January 30<sup>th</sup> from 7am- 7pm

### Drop-Off Locations:

**Athmar Rec. Center**  
2680 W. Mexico Ave.

**Harvey Park Rec. Center**  
2120 S. Tennyson St.

**Tattered Cover Bookstores**  
2526 E. Colfax Ave.

**Barnum Rec. Center**  
360 Hooker St.

**Montbello Rec. Center**  
15555 E. 53<sup>rd</sup> Ave.

AND  
1628 16<sup>th</sup> St. (LODO)

**District 3 Police Station**  
1625 S. University Blvd

**Montclair Rec. Center**  
729 Ulster Way

**Wellington Webb Building**  
201 W. Colfax Ave.

**Eisenhower Rec. Center**  
4300 E. Dartmouth Ave.

**Scheitler Rec. Center**  
5031 W. 46<sup>th</sup> Ave.

For more information, please visit [http://www.denvergov.org/Election\\_Commission/](http://www.denvergov.org/Election_Commission/) or call 720-913-VOTE (8683).

## Re-zoning in District 4

On December 11th, the City Council passed two ordinances for re-zoning in District 4. The first was a re-zoning for the *Tamarac Village* apartment complex at 3300 S. Tamarac from R-2 and R-2-A to R-3. The second was for re-zoning of *The Lodge* at 8405 E. Hampden from R-2-A to R-3-X. Apartment Investment and Management Company (AIMCO) is planning to replace the existing buildings with upgraded apartments and amenities.

The final zoning ordinance with waivers and conditions, which were agreeable to the surrounding communities, was a result of the developer, AIMCO, and architect David Owen Tryba, working with the neighborhood organizations adjacent to the project. The developer agreed to limit the number of units as well as height restrictions and set backs at *Tamarac Village* which would keep the impact to adjoining neighborhoods to a minimum. There were also waivers on *The Lodge* regarding location of buildings.

As a result of the involvement of the neighborhood groups, and the effort on the part of the developer to meet with representatives of the neighborhood several times, many compromises were made before the final bills were introduced. This Council office worked to ensure that the neighborhoods closest to the *Tamarac Village* project were identified, contacted and given an opportunity to meet with the developer. The Hampden Heights Neighborhood was registered with the City, notified and had already met with AIMCO early in the zoning process.

The neighborhood organizations became aware of the proposed re-zoning last June, when the property was posted. After they contacted our office, it came to our attention that several of the homeowner organizations in the area were not registered with the city of Denver and therefore not notified by the zoning department.

This is an example of very good reasons for HOA's and neighborhood associations to keep their registrations current. For more information on how to register your neighborhood, please see below.



## Open Registration for Neighborhood Organizations

It's that time again...Open registration for Neighborhood Organizations and Home Owner Associations will be **available until January 31<sup>st</sup>**. Throughout the years, our office has expressed the importance of registering with the city, and we would like to continue to stress this due to Denver's growth and development.

**Registered neighborhood organizations receive notification of applications for rezoning, liquor and cabaret licenses, noise variances, and other important matters.**

Deadline for registration is **January 31st**. All groups can register at:  
[http://www.denvergov.org/Neighborhood\\_Response/template22297.asp](http://www.denvergov.org/Neighborhood_Response/template22297.asp)

**Previously registered groups must re-register each year.**

# Denver Urban Garden 2007 Programs

## Free Vegetable Seeds and Transplants Program

Don't miss out on your chance to order FREE vegetable seeds and transplants. Applications are now available to Denver residents who meet low to moderate-income guidelines. Applications can be picked up at over 40 distribution centers throughout Denver. The application deadline is **Monday, February 5th, 2007**. To locate the distribution center nearest you, call Denver Urban Gardens (DUG) at **303-292-9900**.

Some of the seed and plant varieties include tomato, pepper, onion, broccoli, squash, lettuce, corn, carrots, herbs and much more! Seeds are delivered to centers in March and transplants in May.

## Master Composter Training and Outreach Program

The Master Composter Training and Outreach Program is a fun way to both learn about composting & recycling and give back to your community. With a \$35 registration fee, you receive 40 hours of instruction in backyard composting, compost science, compost bin construction, vermicomposting (composting with worms), integrated solid waste management, and recycling. In exchange for the training, DUG wants you to complete 40 hours of community outreach by teaching composting and recycling to Denver residents.

Classes will be held once a week for 10 weeks on a combination of Monday evenings, one Thursday daytime session and Saturday mornings. Approximately 30 participants will be selected.

Call **303-292-9900** if interested or to learn more about either program.



## 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Crime Summit

The District Three Police Department is excited to introduce the **1<sup>st</sup> Annual District Three Crime Summit** which will take place **January 20th, 2007** from **8:00am to 4:00pm** at the District Three Police Station at **1625 S. University Blvd.**

The Crime Summit will be an opportunity for all community members and leaders to come together to take a proactive stand against crime. This will be a day long conference during which there will be presentations in the morning from Commander Tracie Keese, representatives from the Traffic Bureau, Zoning Department, Neighborhood Inspection Services, Right of Way Enforcement, and Nuisance Abatement Unit. In the afternoon there will be breakout sessions in which individual neighborhoods will have the opportunity to come together and discuss specific issues in their neighborhoods and formulate plans to solve these issues.

The Crime Summit will take the place of the CAB meeting for December and January. This should be a unique and fun opportunity for all of us to come together, put our heads together, and develop a proactive approach to making our neighborhoods a safer place.

Space is limited so RSVP as soon as possible to Phil Epple at **720-913-1178** or [epplep@ci.denver.co.us](mailto:epplep@ci.denver.co.us)

## Senior Citizen Property Tax Exemption

Senior Citizens who own their home may be eligible for a reduction on their property taxes. The exemption helps people who are 65 years or older and have lived in their home as a primary residence for 10 consecutive years. Effective in 2007, the senior citizen property tax exemption has been expanded to include veterans who are 100% disabled as a result of injuries incurred during military service. However, the legislature is still in the process of passing the necessary enabling legislation before we will know the specific application procedures which disabled veterans must follow in order to apply for this exemption.

For more information, questions, or to receive a free application for the program please contact Margaret Armijo in the Assessor's Office at (720) 913-4043. You can also obtain the application online at <http://www.denvergov.org/Assessor>

## MLK Memorial Campaign



Mayor Hickenlooper and The Denver Foundation are teaming together to challenge metro Denver residents to contribute \$2 to help complete the construction of the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial in Washington D.C. This will be the first national memorial to an African-American leader to join the Lincoln Memorial and Washington Monument on the National Mall. The Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial Project Foundation has raised \$70 million and still needs \$30 million to complete construction of the memorial, which is scheduled to open in spring 2008.

"As the home of one the largest Martin Luther King Day celebrations in the nation, Denver has a proud history of embracing the legacy and lessons of Dr. King," Hickenlooper noted. "With this fundraising effort, we have another opportunity to lead cities across America in demonstrating our deep appreciation for Dr. King's work and for all he taught us about freedom, justice and working together."

To participate in the Metro Denver Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Challenge:  
Mail contributions of all sizes to:

**The Denver Foundation/MLK Fund**  
**950 South Cherry St., Ste. 222**  
**Denver, CO 80246**

Contributions over \$50 can be made online at [www.denverfoundation.org](http://www.denverfoundation.org).

For more information about the Memorial, go to [www.mlkmemorial.org](http://www.mlkmemorial.org)

## New Library Hours for 2007!

With the New Year, the Denver Public Library will increase its hours of operation, adding 52 hours to its weekly schedule. In 2006, due to budgetary shortfalls, the Library system decreased its open hours by 5 percent to help meet the target budget. Starting January 2<sup>nd</sup>, the following locates will open an additional day each week, and the Central branch will be open Monday and Tuesday mornings:

Bear Valley Branch Library: Tuesdays, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Montbello Branch Library: Fridays, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

**University Hills Branch Library: Wednesdays, 12 noon - 8 p.m.**

Woodbury Branch Library: Wednesdays, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Central Library: Mondays and Tuesdays, opening at 10 a.m.

## Denver Infrastructure Priorities Update

A message from the Office of Mayor Hicklooper:

Just as homeowners maintain and update the infrastructure of their houses, the City government must care for the infrastructure of buildings like police stations, recreation centers, and libraries.

Currently over 110 Denverites, representing neighborhoods, businesses and nonprofit organizations are working on committees looking at Denver's infrastructure maintenance needs and how to pay for them. Over 300 people came to open houses in late October and early November to give the committees advice about what maintenance was most important and what types of financing mechanisms were possible. Go to [www.denverinfrastructure.org](http://www.denverinfrastructure.org) to learn more about the infrastructure process and task force or to give your input.

What is the history behind this effort?

Traditionally the City has not had a large enough revenue stream dedicated to keeping our capital assets maintained. As a result, periodic "catch-up" bond issues have been submitted to the voters to restore our capital assets to functionally acceptable levels. In 2005, the Mayor's Infrastructure Task Force found that Denver was deferring approximately \$25.4 million annually (in 2005 dollars) in capital maintenance needed to meet reasonable standards.

The goal is to allow the City to bring all asset categories up to targeted standards over the next 10 to 12 years and provide a means to maintain them at that level with as little tax impact as possible.

The Task Force welcomes your feedback. Please visit [www.denverinfrastructure.org](http://www.denverinfrastructure.org) to join the discussions, and to share your ideas.

# January Calendar of Events

## **On The Road by Jack Kerouac, 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

**January 4<sup>th</sup> thru March 31<sup>st</sup>.** Denver Public Library- Central Branch (10 W. 14<sup>th</sup> Ave. Parkway) will host several exhibits, films, and classes on Jack Kerouac. For all events, please visit: <http://denverlibrary.org/programs/fresh/index.html>

## **National Western Stockshow**

**January 6<sup>th</sup>- January 21<sup>st</sup>.** Monday thru Sunday from **9am- 9pm**. National Western Complex (4655 Humboldt Street). Prices vary.

## **“Get to Cleanin’ Remembering Memphis” Community Event**

**Saturday, January 13<sup>th</sup>**- A community clean-up effort honoring the reason Dr. King traveled to Memphis, in support of striking sanitation workers. During this community clean-up event volunteers will be removing litter along the Marade route. If interested please call 720-971-1329 or email Vern Howard at [vern.howard@ci.denver.co.us](mailto:vern.howard@ci.denver.co.us)

## **Martin Luther King Marade**

**Monday, January 15<sup>th</sup>** from **10am- 1pm**. FREE. The Marade will start at the Dr. King Memorial in City Park (17<sup>th</sup> Ave. & Esplanade) and end at Civic Center Park (Broadway & Colfax Ave.)

## **1<sup>st</sup> Annual District Three Crime Summit**

**Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>** from **8:00am- 4:00pm**. District Three Police Station (1625 S. University Blvd.)

## **Denver Event Coordinators Conference**

**Saturday, January 20<sup>th</sup>** from **10am- 4pm**. Wellington Webb Building (201 W. Colfax Ave.) This is a FREE opportunity for all coordinators of Denver festivals, parades, walks, and neighborhood events to learn more about Denver’s 2007 event guidelines. To RSVP or for more information, please email [doca@ci.denver.co.us](mailto:doca@ci.denver.co.us)

## **Election Day**

**Tuesday, January 30<sup>th</sup>** from **7am- 7pm**.

*Contact my office:*

Office of Councilwoman Peggy Lehmann  
Denver City Council District 4  
6740 E. Hampden Avenue  
Denver, CO 80244  
Phone: 303-504-5781  
Fax: 303-504-5786  
Email: [peggy.lehmann@ci.denver.co.us](mailto:peggy.lehmann@ci.denver.co.us)

Aides to Councilwoman Peggy Lehmann:  
Diane Young  
Email: [diane.young@ci.denver.co.us](mailto:diane.young@ci.denver.co.us)  
&  
Sunni Rodgers  
Email: [sunni.rodgers@ci.denver.co.us](mailto:sunni.rodgers@ci.denver.co.us)

Visit us on the web at: [www.denvergov.org/CouncilDistrict4](http://www.denvergov.org/CouncilDistrict4)