

District 5 Community Cabinet Meeting
Hosted by Amanda Sawyer, City Councilwoman for District 5
Tuesday, December 5, 2023, Noon-1:05pm
Virtual Meeting via Zoom

MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Councilmember Amanda Sawyer (Council District 5), Nicole Aviles (District 5), Owen Brigner (District 5), Logan Fry (District 5), Juan Sipion (District 5), Lisabeth Pérez Castle (Independent Monitor), Nicole Taylor (OIM), DeAnna Mayes (CCEA), Ira Frosch (Candlewyck Condos), Ashely Denault (Denver Water), Besty Rubner (Driving Park HD), Hillary Estner (), Mickey Greenberg (WDCA), David Halterman (WDCA), JD Chism (Denver Fire), Chy Montoya (Denver Fire), Norman Chandler (South Hilltop), Lou Raders (CCNNA), Meredith Levy (PRAB), Judy Baxter (Historic Montclair), Cari O'Shea (Historic Montclair), Lisa Voss (CCN), Alice Sanaberg (CCHN), Hilarie Portell (Colfax-Mayfair BID), Andrew Latson (Montclair Rec Center), Kathy Head (LUN), Officer AJ Pachecho (DPD3), Christie Mochoruk (DPD3)

*Others may have joined during the meeting

WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

CW Sawyer welcomed everyone, led introductions, and then introduced guest speakers: Lisabeth Pérez Castle, Independent Monitor

GUEST SPEAKER: Office of the Independent Monitor

Lisabeth Castle (Presentation Attached)

Contact information: OIM@Denvergov.org

- The Office of the Independent Monitor (OIM) is charged with working to ensure the accountability, effectiveness, and transparency in the Denver Police and Sheriff disciplinary process
- OIM was created in 2004 in response to concerns about lack of police oversight
- In 2022, OIM reviewed 320 DPD and 389 Denver Sheriff cases
- OIM is responsible for:
 - Ensuring that the complaint and commendation processes are accessible to all community members
 - Monitoring investigations into community complaints, internal complaints, and critical incidents involving sworn personnel
 - Making recommendations on finding and discipline
 - Publicly reporting information regarding patterns of complaints, findings and discipline
 - Making recommendations for improving Police and Sheriff policies, practices and training
 - Conducting outreach to the Denver community and stakeholders in the disciplinary process

- And promoting alternative and innovative means for resolving complaints, such as mediation
- OIM is separated into three divisions:
 - Monitoring
 - Policy
 - Outreach
- OIM receives complaints from internal staff and/or community members. All complaints are thoroughly vetted, without bias, for accuracy
 - Complaints could be from a supervisor within DPD
 - Or a community member concerned about police behavior
- OIM can investigate critical incidents
 - In-custody deaths
 - Shootings
 - Serious bodily injury to a civilian under arrest
- OIM oversees law enforcement investigations and provides recommendations to those agencies
- Review previous reports by the OIM here: www.denvergov.org/OIM

Q&A

- Mickey Greenberg asked how many staff members are in the OIM and what their budget is?
 - A: Lisabeth Pérez Castle said there is a staff of 16, including six attorneys, an intake officer, an administrative assistant, and policy analysts. The OIM budget is \$3.2M.
 - A: CW Sawyer said there is an opportunity for residents to Denver to sit on a Board and Commission, including the Citizens Oversight Board. Learn more about Boards and Commissions in Denver here: <https://denvergov.org/Government/Agencies-Departments-Offices/Agencies-Departments-Offices-Directory/Mayors-Office/About/Boards-and-Commissions>

PARTNER UPDATES

Denver Parks and Recreation, Meredith Levy, meredithprab@gmail.com

- The new Executive Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) is Jolon Clark
- Verbena Park
 - Playground construction is expected to be completed in May
- Lowry Sports Park
 - The solar panels will be operational in February 2024
 - CW Sawyer noted that DPR is planning to put pickleball courts at Lowry Sports Park
- Learn more about current and planned DPR projects here: <https://denvergov.org/Government/Agencies-Departments-Offices/Agencies->

[Departments-Offices-Directory/Parks-Recreation/Planning-Community-Engagement/Park-Facility-Projects](#)

- Next PRAB meeting is: January 10 from 5:30-7:30pm. Learn more here: <https://www.denvergov.org/Government/Agencies-Departments-Offices/Agencies-Departments-Offices-Directory/Parks-Recreation/Planning-Community-Engagement/Parks-and-Recreation-Advisory-Board-PRAB#:~:text=Regularly%20scheduled%20meetings%20are%20open,.gilkison%40denvergov.org>.

Montclair Recreation Center, Andrew Latson, Andrew.Latson@denvergov.org

- Learn more about Montclair Recreation Center activities here: <https://www.denvergov.org/Government/Agencies-Departments-Offices/Agencies-Departments-Offices-Directory/Parks-Recreation/Recreation-Centers-Pools/Recreation-Centers/Montclair-Recreation-Center>

Denver Water, Ashley Denault, Ashley.Denault@denvergov.org

- New rates will go into effect on January 1, 2024. Learn more here: <https://www.denverwater.org/residential/billing-and-rates/2024-rates#:~:text=The%20rate%20changes%20will%20take,of%20our%20suburban%20water%20districts>.
- Investigative work for lead replacement program is beginning in Hilltop. Learn more about the lead replacement program here: <https://www.denverwater.org/your-water/water-quality/lead>
- For more information, contact Denver Water Customer Care at 303-893-2444, Monday through Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., or visit [denverwater.org/Pipes](https://www.denverwater.org/Pipes)
- links to information about the Lead Reduction Program:
- General info: <https://www.denverwater.org/your-water/water-quality/lead>
- See if you have a known or suspected lead service line (the line from the main in the street to the house): <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/ef02d8aa213c471c81ed834be3f0d056/>
- Community meeting information and recordings of past meetings: <https://www.denverwater.org/your-water/water-quality/lead/events-outreach>
- As a reminder, folks who received a water filter should use their filter for drinking, cooking foods where water is absorbed into the food or is a base ingredient, and when preparing infant formula, and should continue to use the filter for *six months* after their LSL replacement.

Q&A:

- Mickey Greenberg asked what other lines from the street into residences could be part of the lead replacement program?
 - A: Ashely Denault, Denver Water, said all of the lines leading from the street into the residences are checked by Denver Water. Denver Water has found that homes built pre-1951 are the ones they are finding the most lead in. Homes built after 1951 have had less incidents of lead.

- A: CW Sawyer said Denver Water hosts meetings about lead reduction. When the next meeting is scheduled, District 5 will be sure to include that in their monthly newsletter.
- Judy Baxter, Historic Montclair, said she really appreciated Denver Water coming to their annual meeting. They were very helpful!
- Norman Chandler, South Hilltop, noted there are many people on Medicare that are being targeted by scams.
 - A: CW Sawyer noted he could report these fraudulent phone calls to the Denver District Attorney and/or the Colorado Attorney General.
 - District Attorney: <https://www.denverda.org/consumer-protection-complaints/>
 - Attorney General: <https://coag.gov/file-complaint/scams/>

Denver Public Library, Hillary Esther,

- Ross-Cherry Creek Library
 - It is now open, and has been for about two weeks
 - The library will be open Monday-Thursday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

DPD District 3: Sgt Kiarra Jenkins, Kiarra.Jenkins@denvergov.org Officer Antonio Pacheco, Antonio.Pacheco@denvergov.org and Christie Mochoruk Christie.Mochoruk@denvergov.org

- Sergeant Kiarra Jenkins will be leading the Community Resource Officers in DPD3
 - Officer Pacheco said he will be filling in for Officer Mike Borquez, who was formerly the Community Resource Officer for the neighborhoods on the East side of Colorado Boulevard. Officer Borquez is now a Community Resource Officer for District 2 Police
- Christie Mochoruk
 - Cookies with the Cops on Thursday, December 7 at Chik fil a
 - Noon Year's Eve at McDonald's at Monaco and Evans on December 29th. There will be a scavenger hunt and other fun activities for children
 - DPD is conducting a community survey. The data from this survey is extremely important. Please take the survey here: <https://denverpublicsafetysurvey.org/>

Denver Fire Department, Captain JD Chism, John.Chism@denvergov.org

- Captain Chism said Denver Fire is busy right now because of the holiday season.
 - Denver Fire is administering a toy drive. The toys will go to the kids who will be spending the holidays in the hospital. Learn more about this toy drive here:
- The next Denver Fire recruit class will start in February. There will be two Recruit classes in 2024 with 24 recruits in each class.
- Denver Fire is continuing to grow their Community Risk Reduction team. Learn more about this team here: <https://www.denvergov.org/Government/Agencies-Departments->

[Offices/Agencies-Departments-Offices-Directories/Fire-Department/Safety-Information/Community-Risk-Reduction-Unit](#)

- Denver Fire is opening Engine 2, a double station, at 46th and Memphis to meet the needs of Northeast Denver

CW SAWYER UPDATES

- Blood Drive in January in partnership with Vitalant
 - The goal is to get 75 residents to donate blood, which would save 300 lives
 - Please register to donate blood here:
https://northeast.vitalant.org/LP=28?drive_code=DEN10315&division=MOUNTAIN@ion=DEN
- RNO Renewal Time
 - It's time to renew your RNO with the City and County of Denver
 - This is how you update your RNO's contact information as well.
 - Please learn more and renew here:
<https://www.denvergov.org/Government/Agencies-Departments-Offices/Agencies-Departments-Offices-Directories/Community-Planning-and-Development/Planning/Community-Engagement/Registered-Neighborhood-Organizations#:~:text=The%20annual%20renewal%20period%20runs,also%20register%20during%20this%20period.>
- Park reservations are up for request
 - If you're planning to host an event in a park in 2024, those registrations are open now.
 - If you'd like to have CW Sawyer's Office co-sponsor your event, Parks will waive the permit fees. Please reach out to DenverCouncil5@denvergov.org to make that request to CW Sawyer's Office.
 - Learn more here: <https://www.denvergov.org/Government/Agencies-Departments-Offices/Agencies-Departments-Offices-Directories/Parks-Recreation/Rentals-Permits>
- 14th and Colorado is closed
 - The next phase of the Jackson Street Storm Drain project has begun. This area is expected to be closed for about four months.
 - The Jackson Street Storm Drain project is meant to address flooding concerns in the Montclair Basin
 - Learn more about the project here: <https://denvergov.org/Government/Agencies-Departments-Offices/Agencies-Departments-Offices-Directories/Department-of-Transportation-and-Infrastructure/Programs-Services/Projects/Jackson-Street-Storm>
- D5 Projects Night
 - CW Sawyer's Office is hosting City agencies at George Washington High School on January 30, 2023, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
 - This will be an open house format so residents can come and ask questions of agencies about their current and planned projects in District 5

- This is to have all these agencies in one place and one time. It's not for a formal presentation, but for residents to be able to ask questions directly to them.

The next Community Cabinet meeting will be on February 6, 2024, at noon.

Adjourned at 1:05 p.m.