

## District 5 Registered Neighborhood Organization & Homeowners Association Leadership Lunch

**Hosted by Amanda Sawyer, City Councilwoman for District 5**

**Tuesday, December 7, 2021**

**Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Attendees:** Sandi Berenbaum Cranmer Park-Hilltop Community Assn.; Mike Borquez, DPD District 3; Kathy Head, LUN; Mike Hughes Cranmer Park Hilltop Civic Assn.; Adriana Lara, Denver Fire; Joe Levi; DOTI Advisory Board; Meredith Levy, D5 DPR Advisory Board; Heidi Lewis, DPD District 2; Patricia Mulligan, Mayfair Neighbors; Carrie O'Shea, Historic Montclair Community Assn.; Lesley Renner, Bellevue-Hale Neighborhood Association; John Sadwith, Crestmore Park Homeowners (2nd Filing); CW Amanda Sawyer, City Council District 5; Shea Scott Denver ZNIS; Jeannine Shaw, Denver Water; Dain Schiele, LUN; Monica Slusser, TAVA Waters; Sara Visser, City Council District 5

### **Welcome & Introductions, CW Sawyer**

CW Sawyer welcomed everyone, led introductions.

### **CW Sawyer Updates**

- **Citywide**
  - Redistricting
    - ✓ Town Hall Meetings will be held in February and early March for residents to give feedback on what you think the new D5 should look like
    - ✓ Go to [denvergov.org/redistricting](https://denvergov.org/redistricting) for updates and access to Maptitude software for individuals and RNOs to draw proposed district boundaries and submit suggestions.
      - One map per group (RNO, nonprofit org, advocacy group, etc.) is recommended.
    - ✓ Thank you for completing the maps using representable – D5 submitted more than any other District! At last check, 44.
    - ✓ Maptitude software will be available to the public in January; CW Sawyer suggests scheduling a neighborhood or board meeting for discussion, and then submit one map as a group.
      - A video tutorial may be available for community meeting to draw map – stay tuned as info becomes available
    - ✓ The final Council vote on District boundaries must occur by the end of March.
    - ✓ Because the Census data was released late, the process must be completed in nine weeks, rather than nine months, which is the typical timeframe.
  - **District 5**
    - Stoplight at Newport and Alameda is approved, and the construction contract was approved by Council last week; D5 will post then news to social media this week so it may be shared
    - 13<sup>th</sup> Ave. & 14<sup>th</sup> Ave. between Glencoe St. and Hudson St.

- ✓ Safety Upgrades for all of 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> were approved in 2020; [click here to see the DOTI update the D5 office sent in July 2020](#), however, installation of the upgrades was delayed during COVID
- ✓ The construction contract is on the table now, with work slated to begin in Q1 2022 and completed by the end of 2022.
- ✓ Additional changes to that specific three-block area are in design and discussion to determine what measures will be piloted there.
- 8<sup>th</sup> Ave traffic Study
  - ✓ Final recommendations are in process to see what can be funded in 2022 and what might happen in 2023. Stay tuned for updates.
- Two additional Traffic Studies: 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. from Colorado Blvd. to Quebec St., and Dayton St. from Alameda Ave. to Mississippi Ave.
  - ✓ These are being conducted by the same consultant - Fehr & Peers - and will follow the same community engagement schedule as the 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. study, beginning in January with surveys, data collection, and community meetings

## Community Partner Information Sharing

**Adriana Lara, Denver Fire** [adriana.lara@denvergov.org](mailto:adriana.lara@denvergov.org) (720) 913-3482

- DF is participating in the annual toy drive to benefit Children’s Hospital and with Denver Human Services’ Santa Claus Shop, where presents will be delivered on a fire truck to families who receive DHS services
- Reminder about fire safety tips: complete maintenance on chimneys to be sure they are working properly; keep space heaters away from flammable items, especially curtains; keep kids and pets three feet away from space heaters; make sure decorative lights are in good condition and aren’t frayed

**Meredith Levy, Denver Parks & Recreation D5 Advisory Board Member** [meredithprab@gmail.com](mailto:meredithprab@gmail.com)

- Crestmoor Park Playground upgrades are coming as part of the 2021 Bond projects; park path completion is taking longer than anticipated; funding hasn’t been secured for the north half of the paths; this is a different source of funding than the playground upgrades
- Montclair Rec center pool is hiring more lifeguards and hope to have pool open on Sundays
- Robinson Park grand opening on Halloween was wonderful
- Verbena Park basketball court: an anonymous donor gave funds to renovate basketball court and futsal area; 60% is designed, and construction is planned to start in 2022
- There are currently no DPR community engagement surveys open
- CW Sawyer mentioned that several residents have reached out to her office about pickleball; there are no pickleball courts in D5 for two reasons: (1) tennis courts that could be used for pickleball are all in single family zoning, and the noise from pickleball has led to complaints by residents, so DPR has made a policy that they won’t add pickleball courts to single family zoned areas; (2) tennis courts where league and tournaments are played cannot be have pickleball striping

- Meredith added that the high demand for more pickleball is on DPR's radar

**Jeannine Shaw, Denver Water** [jeannine.shaw@denverwater.org](mailto:jeannine.shaw@denverwater.org)

- Winter Watering: Colorado State Extension Office Factsheet can be found [here](#). Watering focus should be on trees and shrubs, as well as newly planted materials.
- Denver Water's reservoir storage is average for this time of year, at 84% full. See our [Water Watch report](#) for more information.
- Help Paying Water Bills – Low Income Household Water Assistance Program [cdhs.colorado.gov/leap](https://cdhs.colorado.gov/leap)
  - Stimulus from the federal government to assist qualifying, low-income households with their water services. LIHWAP was created to provide a benefit to qualifying household to help reconnect their disconnected drinking water or waste/sewer services or help the household if facing disconnection with their drinking water and waste/sewer services, or if they have a past due amount with their drinking water and waste/sewer services. Funds are limited and are on a first come first serve basis. Go to the website above form more info on how to qualify.
- Construction Updates:
  - Completed Project: Jasmine and Alameda area:
    - ✓ This water main replacement in Washington Virginia Vale is complete, except one block on Krameria from Alameda to Cedar needs to have final paving complete. DW will get that taken care of as soon as weather and contractor availability permits. There will be another water main replacement project west of this section later in 2022, date TBD.
  - Upcoming Project: Washington Virginia Village Vale and Hilltop neighborhoods
    - ✓ A mailed notice will go out to impacted customers this week.
    - ✓ DW is starting a water main replacement project beginning early January 2022. Crews will be replacing over 7,500 linear feet of aging water mains underneath the road.
    - ✓ During this project, DW may encounter customer-owned water services lines that contain lead. If that occurs, we will coordinate directly with the property owner to replace the lead service line with a copper service line at no direct cost to them.
    - ✓ Work will begin early January 2022 and is expected to last approximately five months. Working hours are typically Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Some weekend work may be required.
    - ✓ Crews will work from south to north, completing all work south of East Alameda Avenue and in East Alameda Avenue, to accommodate upcoming paving on East Alameda Avenue. [Project Map Here](#)
    - ✓ Project communications: A mailer is being sent out to residents and businesses in the neighborhood this week and door hangers will be delivered to impacted properties closer to the start of construction. In addition, Denver Water will provide periodic updates throughout the project via the social media platform Nextdoor, and staff will reach out to nearby RNOs. If neighbors have questions about the project, they should contact Denver Water Customer Care at 303-893-2444.

**Officer Heidi Lewis, DPD District 2** [heidi.lewis@denvergov.org](mailto:heidi.lewis@denvergov.org), (720) 913-1094

- DPD is participating in the Christmas Crusade; on 12/14 people can drop off new, unwrapped gifts at the Double Tree Hotel and officers will deliver on Christmas day – email Heidi for more info. if you are interested in participating.
- DPD will also hand out gifts for family that were nominated at the Denver Dream Center event on 12/18 at Coors field, 9am-5pm; nominations are closed, but people can come to pick up gifts on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Heidi thanked CW Sawyer for being a strong advocate to acquire the grant funding to provide foot patrols on E. Colfax.
  - The program started in early November with 4 hours, 3 days/week, Monday, Wednesday and Friday
    - ✓ On Mondays, DPD offers resources like [CPTED audits](#) and seeks to find out what else the community wants and needs
    - ✓ Wednesday is for proactive traffic enforcement in the Colfax corridor
    - ✓ Friday is for proactive policing in terms of quality-of-life issues like narcotics, prostitution, assaults
    - ✓ DPD will review the program after a period of time to see how they are affecting that corridor and how the resources re coming together
- The District 2 Community Resource Officer positions have been restructured – there are still two CROs, each running one sector of D3, but when SROs were taken out of school, they were reassigned as Neighborhood Police Officers (NPO) and are considered an extension of the CRO program:
  - Officer Wilbur Murray, [Wilbur.Murray@denvergov.org](mailto:Wilbur.Murray@denvergov.org)
  - Officer Matlock, [Christopher.Matlock@denvergov.org](mailto:Christopher.Matlock@denvergov.org)
- CW Sawyer added that when ARPA funding came through, Council convinced Denver Department of Economic Development (DED) to set aside \$4M so that small biz support can apply for grant funding to implement DPD CPTED study recommendations

**Officer Mike Borquez, DPD District 3** [mike.borquez@denvergov.org](mailto:mike.borquez@denvergov.org) (720) 913-1183

- D3 is also participating in the Christmas Crusade and other engagements throughout the City
- RE: street racing in Lowry
  - Residents are doing the right things by calling the non-emergency number - (720) 913-2000 - to report, or 911 if you're actively seeing street racers
  - You can also submit an anonymous tip at [reportstreetracing.com](http://reportstreetracing.com), which allows the task force to see data on dates/times and allocate resources accordingly
- Car break-ins continue; reminder to take items of your car, lock up garages and don't leave garage doors open; also, take packages from the porch as soon as possible.
- CW Sawyer asked about updates on halo camera for LCMA; Officer Borquez says it is approved and the contract is in-process but has no update. He will let us know and mentioned that LCMA may have more updated information.
- CW Sawyer asked is the halo camera that was at the Lowry Sport Park in June is still there. Officer Borquez said it was likely temporary and it probably isn't still there.

**Guest Speaker: Shea Scott, Zoning and Neighborhood Inspections (ZNIS) Administrator**

[shea.scott@denvergov.org](mailto:shea.scott@denvergov.org), (720) 865-3237

- [Click here for Shea's PowerPoint Presentation](#), also attached to the Minutes email
- ZNIS has about 20 inspectors, currently a position is open, working 7:00am-3:30pm, Monday-Friday and some Saturdays, responding primarily to resident complaints through 3-1-1 and pocketgov.org, with some proactive inspections done concurrently
- To find your inspector, go to [denvergov.org/maps](http://denvergov.org/maps) for Development Services
- ZNIS works in the areas of Zoning Codes, Contacts, Historic status, Floodplain and Design Review to enforce the Denver Revised Municipal Code, Denver zoning codes, Portions of the Denver Building and Fire Code (e.g., fences)
- Compliance and safety are the goals, which working to keep good relationships; citations are a last resort, but ZNIS must enforce the code
- To find out the status of a case, go to [denvergov.org/Epermits](http://denvergov.org/Epermits)
- To find out more, go to [denvergov.org/NeighborhoodInspections](http://denvergov.org/NeighborhoodInspections)

**Q:** Should complaints about low-income properties owned by VOA and CCH go to ZNIS or the property manager?

**A:** It depends on the type of maintenance; ZNIS will enforce things like vegetation overgrowth, snow removal or if something is unsound (i.e., dilapidated fence), or if the building is a landmark structure. If you're unsure, call it in, and ZNIS will check it out

CW Sawyer added that LCMA is working with CCH on properties in Lowry to address a couple of situations where they are non-compliant.

Shea added that if there is graffiti and areas where trash is not being cleaned up, Solid Waste will address, so call 3-1-1 for that

**Q:** Specific to LCMA: does ZNIS enforce the building code or is that up to LCMA?

**A:** If you call 3-1-1 it will go to CPD and then ZNIS will check into it.

CW Sawyer added that LCMA is currently working with the owners of the Renaissance and Blue Spruce properties in Lowry.

**Q:** What do we do when it is after hours, and we can't file a complaint?

**A:** Send an email to Shea [shea.scott@denvergov.org](mailto:shea.scott@denvergov.org), or text and he will try to be as responsive as possible. If it is a health emergency, call 911. Typical response is one to three business days. You can contact Shea directly, though.

**Q:** Do over-height fence complaints go to ZNIS?

**A:** Yes, depending on the zoned district. Someone may have obtained an over-height fence permit. In some areas you can get an 8-foot but must have a permit. You can call 3-1-1 and ZNIS would investigate. The height and material must match the permit. If they don't ZNIS will enforce it.

**Q:** For CW Sawyer: Do you know anything about fiber optics in the neighborhood?

**A:** Those are 5G poles that are being placed, which are regulated by the Federal Government, not the City or State. DOTI must process the permits, so we can go online and see the locations [Visit the D5 Website to see the map](#). D5 can help to ensure the contractors restore yards to their previous state.

The next RNO-HOA Leadership Luncheon is scheduled for ***Tuesday, February 1, noon-1:00pm***. We hope to have a representative from 3-1-1 as our Guest Speaker.

Adjourned at 1:13pm