

District 5 Registered Neighborhood Organization & Homeowners Association Leadership Lunch

Hosted by Amanda Sawyer, City Councilwoman for District 5

Tuesday, June 7, Noon-1:30pm

Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

Attendees: CW Amanda Sawyer (Council District 5), Jenn Gross (D5), Owen Brigner (D5), John Sadwith (Crestmoor filing 2), Mike Borquez (DPD 3), Jane Lorimer (WD), Wende Reoch (Hilltop Neighbor Assoc.), Carolyn O'Shea (Montclair), Aaron McCauley, Greg Pixley (DFD), Libby Smith (Park Forest), Patricia Mulligan (Mayfair Neighbors), Mary Carr (LCMA), Jimmy Luthye (Denver Water), Judy Baxter (Montclair), Josh Phillips (High Line Canal Conservancy), Dain Schiele (LUN), Joe Levi (D5 appointee to DOTI board), Lesley Renner (BHNA), Paul Aceto (Wash./Virginia Vale), Kathy Head (LUN),

Welcome & Introductions, CW Sawyer

CW Sawyer welcomed everyone, led introductions, and then introduced Guest Speaker: Josh Phillips, Director of Planning and Implementation, High Line Canal Conservancy

Guest Speakers, Josh Phillips

Contact information: josh.p@highlinecanal.org

Presentation Attached

- High Line Canal Presentation (attached)
- Created in 2014 to Preserve, Protect, and Enhance the canal
- 71 miles long through 4 counties, 13 different gov't agencies, for most part still owned by Denver Water and involved with maintaining the trail. Private venture man-dug canal in 1883 for irrigation. Opened to recreation in the 1970s.
- Now much of water is lost to evaporation
- Collaborative manages the resource, new organizational structure in 2022
 - maintenance paradigm changing, soon DPR will maintain trail property line to property line
 - Canal itself will be maintained by Denver Water
- Community vision plan completed 2016, plan completed in 2019 – improve access and connectivity and use, esp. in Denver
- Pilot planting project began last year along Cherry Creek/Country Club, goal of 15 trees/mile with drought friendly trees for good canopy.

- Canal wide signage being installed incl. at Dayton in D5. Quebec Way trailhead just south of Florida is new access with parking close to D5.
- Improved Safety as well, including Parker/Mississippi tunnel. Ribbon cutting to come soon
- Valentia St crossing improved with pedestrian signal added in D5
- Other improvement zones coming to areas further east too
- Big change – canal moving from irrigation delivery to storm water mgmt. including water berms to improve water quality by 40% so far
- Community programs; clean ups, invasive weeds removal, brush removal from channel to improve water flow, educational programming with schools,
- Walk for the Canal Week coming later this month with map and guide to provide walking instructions, trail highlights, parking/restroom info, natural and historic information.
- Share the Canal Campaign – trail etiquette, etc. wayfinding kiosks
 - Plan does recommend changing Denver trail from asphalt to concrete with gravel on sides. No public meeting set yet, but will announce soon.
 - Windsor area of trail is Denver pilot. Public walk will be part of research/comms strategy. This will allow for improved accessibility for wheeled vehicles (bikes and assisted mobility devices)
- Q&A
 - Denver county increased maintenance is for Denver portion, though DPR also covering some portions of unincorporated Arapahoe County. Overall improved standardization that hasn't existed before
 - Is there a curfew in place? Noise ordinance? No curfew, but noise ordinance for noise (does not cover voices) all day, with enhanced protections from 10pm-7am.
 - Administered by DDPHE, they will set up a counter to measure decibels. There are many nuances to sound ordinance. Report to 311 in business hours (cc D5 office), to DPD after hours.
 - For etching catalytic converters, no program with local businesses but they do have etchers they can loan out to bring to your local mechanic.
 - DPD 3 did ask around for businesses to volunteer, but none have committed yet. Lincoln Tech in DPD 5 is doing days for students to volunteer doing this, DPD 3 will share info when they get it for upcoming events.
 - State put through legislation around catalytic converters

Community Partner Information Sharing

DPD District 3: Officer Matt Grimsley, matthew.grimsley@denvergov.org (720) 913-1218 or Officer Mike Borquez, michael.borquez@denvergov.org (720) 913-1183

- Events coming up
 - 6/18 Tailwind Park – neighborhood watch hosting event from noon-4pm
 - Lollipop Park event
 - 6/22 – Leetsdale/Holly McDonald’s scavenger hunt
 - 7/18 – Pop-up Parks and Rec day at Kennedy ballfields
 - Internet access with the final permanent HALO camera in Tailwinds Park, temp one in place until tech resolved for permanent camera

DPD District 2: Officer Wilbur Murray, wilbur.murray@denvergov.org or Officer Christopher Matlock, christopher.matlock@denvergov.org (720) 913-1400

- Not present at meeting

DFD: Capt. Greg Pixley, greg.pixley@denvergov.org

- Spaces still available for women’s summer camp next week (2nd to 12th grades, so long as they have the ability to keep up with physical demands)
 - Campers will complete certification in CPR and First Aid, will learn leadership and confidence skills.
 - Contact Cpat. Pixley if anyone interested
- Fire Safety during grilling season! Nationally 9000 fires/year due to grilling mistakes/malfunctions. 2000 kids hurt in some way by grills annually. Monitor and keep grills at least 3 feet from any building. Follow manufacturers recommendations and instructions, call 911 immediately if a fire starts.
- Concerns in Lowry about fires on scale of Boulder County last winter due to dead/dry foliage. LCMA asking for consultation on fire mitigation efforts and work. Parks & Rec will be doing the actual mitigation work, but DFD can help and create connections to correct people for this.

Denver Water: Jimmy Luthye, jimmy.luthye@denverwater.org

- Update – Summer watering rules are in effect at 3x/week maximum, no watering bet 10am-6pm, May 1st – Oct 1st. Despite recent rain city resources are pretty dry, monitoring it regular. Not yet at drought watering restrictions. Reservoirs at 86% full, slightly below normal for this time of year. They will email out water use reports to single family homes.
- Wrapping up work in Hilltop and VV (S Glencoe and S Grape). Clermont St in Hale will start late 2022 and possibly run into 2023.
- Stormwater drainage project coming to NJ on 14th at CO Blvd, 14th will be closed, project goes through NJ parking lot in coordination with the Denver Water projects

- Q&A
 - Recycling for Brita water filters made easier? Promoting? Jimmy will reach out to lead team for update to share in minutes, certainly in support of.
 - How do you find out when your street is scheduled for lead pipe replacement? Jimmy will be happy to work with RNO leaders to share updated info on progress.

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

- Pool at Montclair Rec Center is closed for maintenance and upgrades this year and was preplanned
- Robinson Park – area under monkey bars was tested and fall pad was not soft enough (contractor error). Large section needs to be redone and will be done in the next week or so, so it will be fenced off.
- Verbena Park RFP issued RFP for construction now that design is complete. Cost of materials has gone up so much that project costs have increased dramatically.
- DPR project updates can be found here: <https://www.denvergov.org/Government/Agencies-Departments-Offices/Agencies-Departments-Offices-Directory/Parks-Recreation/Planning-Community-Engagement/Park-Facility-Projects>
- Barnum Park improvement survey: [https://urldefense.com/v3/https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CK9H9DS_!!M87Ej6RJKlw!SylyNbcvTW9ngMbMFMr_WNpJiR7Bxbg85ejQBgL-F0866TusmX2xbCBAGLOhnGRaKUPMzQ0kJRw8GJe035UvekeLcdbw\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CK9H9DS_!!M87Ej6RJKlw!SylyNbcvTW9ngMbMFMr_WNpJiR7Bxbg85ejQBgL-F0866TusmX2xbCBAGLOhnGRaKUPMzQ0kJRw8GJe035UvekeLcdbw$)
- Westwood Recreation Center survey: [https://urldefense.com/v3/https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/T8YL5FR_!!M87Ej6RJKlw!SyllyNbcvTW9ngMbMFMr_WNpJiR7Bxbg85ejQBgL-F0866TusmX2xbCBAGLOhnGRaKUPMzQ0kJRw8GJe035UvekwWvk05\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/T8YL5FR_!!M87Ej6RJKlw!SyllyNbcvTW9ngMbMFMr_WNpJiR7Bxbg85ejQBgL-F0866TusmX2xbCBAGLOhnGRaKUPMzQ0kJRw8GJe035UvekwWvk05$)
- Loretto Heights survey: [https://urldefense.com/v3/https://survey.livable-cities.com/loretto-heights-park_!!M87Ej6RJKlw!SylyNbcvTW9ngMbMFMr_WNpJiR7Bxbg85ejQBgL-F0866TusmX2xbCBAGLOhnGRaKUPMzQ0kJRw8GJe035Uvekx1mwB_\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/https://survey.livable-cities.com/loretto-heights-park_!!M87Ej6RJKlw!SylyNbcvTW9ngMbMFMr_WNpJiR7Bxbg85ejQBgL-F0866TusmX2xbCBAGLOhnGRaKUPMzQ0kJRw8GJe035Uvekx1mwB_$)
- Marsten Neighborhood Parks:
 - [https://urldefense.com/v3/https://survey.alchemer.com/collab/6865558/SB-GS-Public-Meeting-1_!!M87Ej6RJKlw!SylyNbcvTW9ngMbMFMr_WNpJiR7Bxbg85ejQBgL-F0866TusmX2xbCBAGLOhnGRaKUPMzQ0kJRw8GJe035UvemzUPJ8Q\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/https://survey.alchemer.com/collab/6865558/SB-GS-Public-Meeting-1_!!M87Ej6RJKlw!SylyNbcvTW9ngMbMFMr_WNpJiR7Bxbg85ejQBgL-F0866TusmX2xbCBAGLOhnGRaKUPMzQ0kJRw8GJe035UvemzUPJ8Q$)
 - [https://urldefense.com/v3/https://survey.alchemer.com/collab/6865558/SB-GS-Public-Meeting-1_!!M87Ej6RJKlw!UuKSSvCjnsS2JTV0swcoSdlQzPMpAmpllu3IUa4q9S_n_UUQm0PfkJEzKW_lzVhUru-zt0g-BZgeUrm2JIWBwmdERE1zxcg\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/https://survey.alchemer.com/collab/6865558/SB-GS-Public-Meeting-1_!!M87Ej6RJKlw!UuKSSvCjnsS2JTV0swcoSdlQzPMpAmpllu3IUa4q9S_n_UUQm0PfkJEzKW_lzVhUru-zt0g-BZgeUrm2JIWBwmdERE1zxcg$)

DOTI Advisory Board Updates

- Reviewing use of Right of Ways and rocks to block them.
- Also looking at accident statistics for safety.
- And, looking at expanding scooters programs.

- Board is new so they're still working on their reach, etc. They meet second Monday and have 20 minutes of public hearing at each meeting.

CW Sawyer Updates

- Council
 - Inclusionary Housing ordinance approved for city wide. 10% of units Affordable Housing per project that contains 10 or more units.
 - Will take time, not immediate or silver bullet issues. Good law in general.
 - Linkage fee for single family homes raised and will roll out over the next 4 years. Homes over 1600 feet will have a higher set of fees to incentivize adaptive reuse rather than scrape and rebuild.
- Citywide
 - **Gun Buyback Program Dates:** First events went amazing; we have collected over 360 firearms. Shared several stories about why people turned in their weapons. This is harm reduction in action. Upcoming events, please share from our social media.
 - June 11th - Aurora – Heritage Christian Center (National Gun Buyback Day event with the Denver Broncos)
 - July 16th - Denver, Park Hill Golf Course
 - August 20th - Aurora, Living Water Christian Center
 - September 17th - Denver, New Life Christian Church
 - October 15th - Aurora, Colorado Community Church
- District 5
 - **D5 Traffic Studies for data and then recommendations:**
 - 6th Ave. New Traffic Study - Colorado Boulevard to Quebec Street
 - S. Dayton St. New Traffic Study - Alameda Avenue to Mississippi Avenue
 - Dates for follow up meetings in newsletter and on social
 - Thank you for turning out for Parks Day clean up, over 120 attendees.
 - Q&A:
 - When will the basketball court at Ben Bezoff Park be redone? It is a RISE Denver bond project – Denison Park and Ben Bezoff Park are funded but not yet scheduled.
 - Concerns about RNO Value and the City listening. What good are the RNOs anymore under this Mayor? They don't seem to have much say in anything and don't seem receptive to neighbor input. Agencies seem to act with impunity. Frustrating. We have a Strong mayor gov't with agencies carrying out mayor's vision. At the end of the day, the agencies don't work for Council or RNOs, etc. so there is limited action that can be taken. Remember to ask future Mayoral candidates how they intend to work with RNO's moving forward.

- Hilltop events to surrounding neighborhoods; movie nights at Robinson Park. 3rd Thursday June, July, August. Sing 2 is June movie. Jul 1st Denver Municipal Band and Glendale fireworks at Cranmer Park.
- Office of Special Events application is incredibly cumbersome and several volunteers don't want to do an event again due to this office. Application fee now as well, the office has added an extra level of bureaucracy and cost. CW Sawyer offered to meet with Wende (and Judy asked to join as well) about this as she sits on their board. But, as multiple agencies are NOT involved in their event they shouldn't be doing this app, but Wende said they meet 4 of the minimum qualifiers. Because they hire police to be at the event OSE said they meet that requirement for this app. Ordinances can be changed, so let's see if these are unintended consequences that need adjusting.
- Additional OSE feedback from Montclair: July 4th picnics last year and this now also qualify. Level of hoop jumping and cost of \$500-\$700 for a half hour street closure for a 30-minute bike parade. Recommendation to use INC participation to help RNO's be better representatives.
- And, Kashmann's RNO survey – can INC get info on the RNO reform? Kashmann presented on this last summer at the RNO Leadership Lunch. His vision is to create office of neighborhood engagement in mayor's office but the mayor is resistant.

The next RNO-HOA Leadership Luncheon is scheduled for **Tuesday, August 2nd, noon - 1:15 pm**. Scheduled Guest Speaker is Rachel Fulla, Communication and Outreach Specialist, Rocky Mountain Human Services.

Adjourned at 1:30pm