Hi, Neighbors!

John Hayden, CPN President

Summer is in full swing and as the temperatures rise, so often do conflicts in the community. Like August afternoon thunderstorms, we can still count on crime and concerns about violence to increase in the summer months. This year the fast pace of growth in our neighborhood and Denver in general has also brought greater concerns about parking, schools and housing, which all together can seem daunting.

Curtis Park Neighbors is working to keep these concerns in front of our elected officials and come up with creative ways to deal with them locally. New two-hour parking restrictions are going into many blocks from now through next spring.

We are working with DPS and parents to ensure Gilpin remains a community asset and we continue to work with police to keep our parks and public spaces safe for everyone.

The cost of housing has made Curtis Park unreachable for many people and while we have more income-restricted units than any other neighborhood in the city, this does not help those who do not qualify or don’t want the restrictions that come with income-restricted housing. For this solution we must look to the whole of Denver to increase the sup-

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Hi Neighbors Cont.

- ply of market rate housing for various income groups across the city.

Only by increasing supply to meet demand can the cost of market rate housing become accessible to average citizens. It’s a big challenge and one I hope is addressed in the update to Denver’s Land Use and Transportation Plan, Denveright, currently underway.

While all of these challenges can weigh heavily on people, I think it’s essential to remember that the reason for much of this conflict is that we have gotten something right here in Curtis Park — something that is causing more and more people to want to live here and be our neighbors. We have built a diverse community — Diverse in incomes, cultures, uses, housing types; and we work hard to make that diversity work. From our differences come conflict and that can be hard but it also brings much greater opportunities for growth, understanding and innovation than in communities that lack diversity. For this reason I believe we must work hard to preserve the diversity of our community and understand that while we have conflicts, the rewards to our families and ourselves from living and growing up in diversity far outweigh the challenges we face making that diversity work. Value our diverse neighborhood for it truly is a rare and beautiful thing. Join me at our August CPN meeting and let our councilman Albus Brooks hear your concerns.

What’s happening in the Parks of Curtis Park

Curtis Park is lucky to have some great parks — from Mestizo-Curtis Park, the oldest Park in Denver, to the little Stout Street Children’s Park with it’s lovely flower beds. Most of our neighbors are within a short walk to a park. Parks, however, take a great deal of care to ensure they remain a community amenity; a safe and healthy place for people of all ages. Parks that are not well cared for can quickly become a problem spot for crime and trash.

This is what’s happening in our parks and how can you get involved.

1. More than anything else, people are attracted by the presence of other people. If you go out and use the park then other neighbors will follow. This adds more eyes on the park and helps keep them safe.

2. When you use the parks say hi to neighbors. Pick up trash and ask others to care for the park in a friendly non-confrontational way. Most people understand and want the parks to be nice safe places and a respectful conversation can often lead to greater understanding.

3. Report illegal activity to the police. Families with small children, the elderly and other vulnerable populations depend on the parks for health and safety.

4. Get involved in helping to plan parks activities. We have several annual events coming up this fall from the Great Pumpkin Fest at Halloween to the planting of flower bulbs for Dia De Los Muertos. Volunteer to help plan these activities or care for the summer garden beds that make our parks stand out.

5. Give input on the future of our parks. Two of our parks will be undergoing master plan updates over the next year. Mestizo-Curtis Park is in phase 2 of the master planning process which started with the update to the playground. The Stout Street Children’s Park will start the planning process in 2018 thanks to a generous grant from the William West Foundation. To make sure these plans reflect what the community wants to see happen in the parks we will need your input.

For more information on the park planning processes or volunteer opportunities please contact John Hayden at haydenpryor@msn.com.

Annual Curtis Park-Summer Block Party

Do you have your calendars marked for the 5th Annual Curtis Park Block Party? It’s happening this year on Saturday, August 5th. The party will be held at the 2700 block of Curtis Street starting at 4:30 until dark. There will be music, grills for cooking and activities for the kids. Bring a side and dessert to share. Please remove your cars from 2700 block of Curtis Street by 10 a.m. on August 5th.

If you have any questions contact J.R. at LapierreJR@gmail.com. Donations accepted gofundme.com/curtis-park-block-party-2017
**Make/Shift Monday Presents**

**(De)Composition: An Immersive Salon**

Monday August 7th, 6:00 pm-8:30 pm

(De)composition seeks to deconstruct the idea of a musical "concert" with a participatory event that involves music, poetry, improvisation, and dance. The distinctions between composer, performer, and audience member will be dissolved. Come see why The Westword said we’re "making Mondays cool again."

The event is free, but a $10 "tip" for the artists is suggested. Our ticketing page gives you several tipping options, or you can donate in person at RedLine. streets.

**48 Hours of Socially Engaged Art & Conversation Summit**

Friday August 11th and Saturday August 12th

Inspired by Denver’s Imagine 2020 Cultural Plan, 48 Hours of Socially Engaged Art & Conversation Summit aims to promote positive social change through creativity and innovation.

48 Hours: 2017 will follow RedLine’s annual theme: (Dis)place and will focus on geography, community, access to resources, location, and relocation. In a rapidly growing city, 48 Hours will explore the many complicated layers of what makes a “place.” How does the physical fabric of a city contribute to understandings of civic character? Which neighborhoods and populations profit from development, and who is displaced as a result? How can art delineate places and mediate between communities?

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Please register online at http://www.redlineart.org/48-hours-registration.

**LAND TRUST Opening Reception**

Friday August 11th, 6:00 pm-9:00 pm

LAND TRUST is an attempt to slow down and get our feet back on solid ground, to explore the cultural practices that connect us physically and spiritually to the world, and to look squarely at the human effects of environmental change. From urban agriculture to utopian aspirations, and environmentally initiated displacement to artistic approaches for protecting resources, LAND TRUST is an exploration of the multifarious connections between people and the living landscape. Presenting socially engaged art exploring land and place, the exhibition includes artwork by artists Ryan Feddersen, Megan Gafford, Brian House, Cannupa Hanska Luger, Daisy Patton, Becky Wareing Steele, Tory Tepp and the Rocky Mountain Land Library.

**Make/Shift Monday Presents: Empowerment through Embodiment**

Monday August 21st, 6:00 pm-8:30 pm

Be nurtured on your journey to self-awareness and self-acceptance as we explore a combination of mindfulness tools, body work, and creative expression in order to foster a free and confident external carriage that openly represents your true, inner identity and voice. Come curious, come playful, come as you are!

Please like our new Facebook page! redlineart.org

**Eat-for-a-Cause Day**

**Proceeds Day at Blueprint Bar**

Chill new American kitchen & bar featuring craft cocktails & small plates, plus weekend brunch located at 450 E 17th Street will donate 10% of all sales to Earthlinks. The event will run from 4:00 – 10:00 pm. Proceeds will go to support the EarthLinks community!

**SCFD Free Days**

**Clyfford Still Museum**

- Fridays 5-8 p.m.

**Denver Art Museum**

- Sat. Aug. 5th

**Denver Museum of Nature & Science**

- Sun. Aug. 6th
- Mon. Aug. 28th

**Denver Botanic Gardens**

- Tues. Aug. 29th

Find out more at www.scfd.org
Dumping the Dumpsters

Have you noticed some of the neighborhoods in Denver are doing away with the large community dumpsters (bins) in the alleys? They are replacing them with the individual trash carts that are rolled out every trash day (similar to the purple recycling trash carts). Adjacent neighborhoods such as Cole and Globeville have made the switch. Now it’s our turn. Denver is systematically getting rid of the large trash bins in alleys that have plagued residents, who have complained for more than a year about problems that include graffiti, illegal dumping and the associated clean-up costs.

The city’s trash collection service is phasing in a cart-based system for about 20,000 Denver residents this summer, with plans to expand next year. Curtis Park is next on the list. Come to the neighborhood meeting to learn more.

Curtis Park Neighbors is an officially incorporated non-profit neighborhood organization bringing our neighborhood together to share in preserving the past and future of Curtis Park. We welcome all neighbors in Curtis Park and encourage participation in Curtis Park Neighbors and in the life of the community. Please pass along this newsletter and bring a neighbor to the meetings!

The spirit of the Curtis Park Times is to communicate information about topics and concerns of our neighborhood. The opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of Curtis Park Neighbors. To provide newsletter articles or place advertising, contact us at cpn-newsletter@googlegroups.com or (720) 273-0623. The next newsletter deadlines are Aug. 23rd for ads, and Aug. 26th for articles.

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