Hi, Neighbors!

John Hayden, CPN President

This month we will have a very interesting Curtis Park Neighbors meeting with the primary focus being on the master plan for Mestizo Curtis Park. The park turns 150 years old this year and as the first park in Denver it marks a milestone not only for Curtis Park but for the city of Denver and Denver Parks and Recreation. There were many settlements that ran their course and withered into the dust of the great plains in the 1850s but Denver would stake its claim at the confluence of Cherry Creek and the South Platte and grow to become one of America’s great cities. One important milestone in that growth was certainly the creation of the city’s first park. It marked a recognition that this was a place to stay. A place where people cared enough to build public gathering places and places to rest and recreate. So our little park played a great role in the founding of this city we call home and I hope everyone will join me in celebrating the

Continued on Page 2

Holiday Bunting for the Fourth of July

John Hayden

A few years ago a group of neighbors started an effort to decorate our homes with Holiday Bunting in red, white and blue for the month of July. That effort has grown over the years and now a trip down Curtis Street in July is a site to behold with all kinds of colorful bunting draped from porches for the Holiday. It really makes for a festive and fun atmosphere for the Summer and the Holiday. So we’d like to encourage neighbors to continue this tradition and break out the bunting for July. Since this is the 150th anniversary of the neighborhood the historic looking decoration has a special meaning for 2018. If you don’t have bunting yet a quick google search of decorative holiday bunting turned up dozens and dozens of options on where you can purchase bunting at inexpensive prices.

If you have an elderly neighbor who might like to have bunting please consider helping them or contact Curtis Park Neighbors and we will help them buy and install the bunting. Inquiries can be sent to John Hayden at haydenpryor@msn.com or call 303-297-3994 Looking forward to a Colorful July.
Neighbors (Cont.)

150th anniversary of the park this year. At the Curtis Park Neighbors meeting on June 7th at 7:00pm at Mile High United Way, Denver Parks and Recreation will present what I consider to be a kind of birthday present to the park and the neighborhood. The updated master plan for the park. They will be looking for feedback on the plan so we want as many neighbors as possible to show up and make their voice heard. The celebration of the park’s 150th will continue throughout the summer with walking tours of the neighborhood and a big celebration on Saturday August 11th from noon to 6:00 pm at the Park. The Mestizo Festival will feature performances from some of Five Points best jazz bands and dance companies as well as local food trucks, artists, a new mural for the park, children’s activities, a pool party, and stories and tours of the neighborhood’s past. Please mark your calendar and invite friends and neighbors.

Also at the June meeting we will hear about a proposed ballot issue for healthy food in Denver, and get information on Velorama, the annual professional bike race coming to RiNo on August 18th and 19th as well as information on other summer festivals that will be happening in Five Points. It’s a season for celebration.

Five Points June Festivals

John Hayden

Two festivals will occur on Welton Street this June for the neighborhood. On June 2nd from 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm, the Second Annual Truck Stop Rally will occur along Welton Street. This event will feature over 40 food trucks, vendors, local beers and live music. Welton will be closed from 25th to 29th streets for the event.

Juneteenth will mark its annual return to Welton Street on June 16th starting with a parade in the morning and culminating in a festival celebrating the African American heritage of Five Points and the day the last slaves were freed in Texas nearly two years after the end of the civil war. Together these two events help preserve and celebrate the unique cultural heritage of our Five Points and ensure that Welton remains an important spot for gatherings and commerce.

Come out and have some fun this June on the Points.

Help us to Keep our Alleys Safe and Clean

Mick Barnhardt

Our ongoing struggle to keep our alleys clean and safe rely on people patrolling the alleys and reporting large items to be picked up. Go to www.denvergov.org/pocketgov and click “Report a Problem.” Here you can report graffiti, large items or other issues that affect the cleanliness and safety of our alleys. You can also add a photo taken from your smart-phone.

Neighborhood Traffic Management Project Starting June 11th

Some progress has been made to improve traffic safety in Curtis Park, such as with speed, dangerous intersections, and parking. But we still have much to do. An excellent opportunity to work with the city is about to begin. As explained below in a letter from the city, a Neighborhood Transportation Management Plan will be developed this summer for Curtis Park and all of the large Five Points neighborhood. There will be many opportunities to hear from and include residents. This is our best opportunity to inform the city of neighborhood traffic concerns and influence actions to be taken over the next two years. This is a relatively short time line for city action and we need to take advantage of the opportunity.

A very important introductory meeting will be held on Monday, June 11th from 5:00 to 7:00 pm at the Blair Caldwell Library. Everyone with traffic and safety concerns and ideas should attend!
Providing Healthy Food to Those Who Need It Most

Take a moment to imagine what an ideal food system would look like in our city. What are the things that come to mind? Odds are that you didn’t say, “a place where 1 in 4 children’s families cannot afford three meals a day” or “one where 12% of residents are food insecure” or “nearly half of low to moderate income neighborhoods don’t have a grocery store.”

The bad news is that this is the current state of hunger in Denver. The good news is that people are committed to meeting this challenge and bringing fresh, healthy and local food to all Denver residents.

In October 2017, the city released the Denver Food Vision, a comprehensive strategic plan for food, focused on the ways Denver’s food system can be more inclusive, healthy, vibrant and resilient. Out of this vision has grown a citizen-led campaign known as Healthy Food for Denver. The effort aims to get two initiatives on the November 2018 ballot to address food system challenges.

The first initiative would add .08% (about 8 cents on a $10 purchase) to the sales tax rate to create a fund to provide healthy food and food-based education to low income and at-risk youth. The second initiative strives to capture 1.5% of the allowable 15% tax on recreational marijuana in order to provide economic development incentives for food businesses to open in food deserts – places without ready access to fresh, healthy foods.

On May 24th, the Healthy Food for Denver campaign held a kickoff meeting at Denver Food Rescue. Between now and the end of July, our friends and neighbors from across the city will be collecting 10,000 signatures to get these initiatives on the ballot and allow Denver voters to decide whether to prioritize hunger alleviation.

Please attend the June 7th Curtis Park Neighbors General Meeting to learn more about the initiatives and show your support by signing the petitions.


To learn more about the campaign and get involved, visit: www.healthyfoodfordenver.com

First Round of Bond Projects Announced

In November 2017, voters approved a $937 million general obligation (GO) bond to allow the city to issue debt to repair, replace and expand infrastructure and public property across the City and County of Denver. A general obligation bond is a common way for a local government to borrow money for needed improvements, with the agreement that it will be paid back over a certain time period using a portion of its tax revenue. In the case of the Denver general obligation bond, repayments will be made from property tax mill levies, and there will be no increase to tax rates.

Through a long public input process, the city identified more than 460 improvement projects to take place over the next 10 years. These projects include updates to transportation and mobility infrastructure, improvements to police and fire stations, upgrades to arts and cultural facilities, and construction of a new Denver Health outpatient medical center.

SCFD Free Days

Clyfford Still Museum
• Fridays 5-8 p.m.

Denver Botanic Gardens
• Tues. June 5th

Denver Art Museum
• Sat. June 2nd

Denver Museum Nature & Science
• Sun. June 3rd

Find out more at www.scfd.org
Curtis Park Times

Resources

Denver City Government
www.DenverGov.org, or call 3-1-1
Alternatively: (720) 913-1311

Blair-Caldwell Library
2401 Welton Street, (720) 865-2401
Mon./Wed.: Noon – 8 p.m.
Tue./Thu./Fri.: 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.
Sat.: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Denver City Council
District 9
Albus Brooks, (720) 337-7709
Albus.Brooks@denvergov.org
www.denvergov.org/albusbrooks
facebook.com/CouncilmanAlbusBrooks

At-Large
Councilwoman Robin Kniech
Robin.Kniech@denvergov.org
(720) 337-7712
Councilwoman Debbie Ortega
Deborah.Ortega@denvergov.org
(720) 337-7713

Denver Public Schools
(720) 423-3200, www.DPSK12.org

Homeless Outreach
Police non-emergency: (720) 913-2000

Mayor’s Neighborhood Liaison
Michael Sapp, Jr., (720) 865-9024

Police
Emergencies: Dial 911
Non-Emergency: (720) 913-2000

Dist. 2 (above 25th Street) RSO:
Adriel Torres (720) 913-1089,
adriel.torres@denvergov.org
Reyes Trujillo (720) 913-1094,
reyes.trujillo@denvergov.org

Dist. 6 (below 25th Street) RSO:
Snow White (720) 913-2906,
snow.white@denvergov.org

RTD
(303) 299-6000
www.RTD-Denver.com

Elected Representative
Barbara Deadwyler, (720) 273-9520
Barbara.Deadwyler@rd-denver.com

Trash Pickup - Overflow Pickup
The next Large Item pickup is June 20th
For free appliance collection, call (303) 430-7142.

Xcel Energy
Electric Emergency/Power Outage
(800) 895-1999
Gas Emergency / Gas Odor
(800) 895-2999

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@denvergroups.com or (720) 273–0623. The next newsletter deadlines are June 20th for ads, and June 23rd for articles.

Special Thanks To
Hugh and Lynn Brown, Joshua Becker and John Hayden for newsletter content. Thanks to Hope Communities and Mile High United Way for donating our meeting space, to Therese Rasmussen for coordinating newsletter distribution, and many thanks to neighbors assisting with newsletter deliveries.

CPN Board of Directors
Paul Davidson, John Hayden (President), Robbie Hobein (Secretary), Rob Price, Todd McGuire (Treasurer), Jeff Baker, (Vice President), Andrew Spinks, Conor Farley, Liz Oertle, Patti Smith, and Joshua Becker. Contact the CPN President by writing to haydenpryor@msn.com or calling (303) 297-3994. Write the CPN Board at curtis-park-neighbors-board@denvergroups.com.

Curtis Park Times

Neighborhood Internet Resources

Curtis Park Neighbors on Facebook
www.facebook.com/groups/curtispark/

Curtis Park Neighbors “Announce” Group
Just the basics! We encourage everyone to join this e-mail group.
Receive the Curtis Park Times & special announcements. Write to:
Curtis-Park-Neighbors-Announce+subscribe@googlegroups.com

Curtis Park Neighbors “Notices” Group
Super-detailed! Receive all of the notices that the City and other organizations send to Curtis Park Neighbors. The CPN Board receives this e-mail, and invites you to participate as well!
Write to: CurtisParkNeighbors+subscribe@denvergov.org

Curtis Park Design Review Committee
Provide assistance to new development and building modifications in Curtis Park, to help with Denver Landmark Commission review.
Write to: cpn-designreview+subscribe@denvergov.org

DHA / Curtis Park Community Advisory Committee
Provide feedback and guide the Denver Housing Authority’s plans for their property holdings in the Curtis Park area.
Write to: CPN-DHA-CAC+subscribe@denvergov.org

Curtis Park Transportation Committee
Improve mobility and safety for people getting around by all modes
Write to: cpn-transportation+subscribe@denvergov.org

Curtis Park Safety and Security Group
Collaborate on finding solutions to current and long-term safety and security topics in the neighborhood.
Write to: cpn-security+subscribe@denvergov.org

facebook.com/groups/curtispark/
Curtis Park Neighbors “Announce” Group
Curtis Park Neighbors “Notices” Group
Curtis Park Design Review Committee
DHA / Curtis Park Community Advisory Committee
Curtis Park Transportation Committee
Curtis Park Safety and Security Group