Happy Fall Neighbors

Jeff Baker, CPN President

The change of the season is a welcome and much needed one, after the hottest summer on record. Along with the change in the weather come many changes in our historic neighborhood, some that present challenges for us, as well as potential opportunities.

At this month's General Neighborhood meeting on October 1st, we will have Britta Fisher, from Denver's new Department of Housing to tell us what the new department has been working on and how they are addressing homelessness. On a similar subject we will have a presentation on ballot initiative 2b, Help Reduce Homelessness. You will see this on your November ballot. Our third guests will be with the S.T.A.R. program, which is an alternative response team that we can call on to help with individuals in crisis. (see write up below).

Flip, Snap, Selfie

With bike theft up over 18% in the first six months of the year as compared to same period last year, this is a reminder to register your bike: denvergov.org/police.

Denver is promoting the program Flip, Snap, Selfie, to show ownership of your bike. In addition to officially registering your bike, you can Flip your bike upside down, Snap a photo of the serial number, the take a Selfie with your bike in the background.

Want to Help?

I encourage you to get involved and to take action. Please contact me if you would like to help and get involved in the neighborhood. We have board positions open and are seeking nominations and interested parties for the 2021 board. We also have a variety of committees that may be of interest to you. Jeff-970-759-4023.

Thank you to all the neighborhood volunteers! We couldn't do this without you!
Voting - It's your Right!
Mick Barnhardt

Your vote is as important as ever this year. Are you registered to vote? Have you ever voted? Are you sure your registration is still active or current? Now is the time to check!

Colorado offers on-line registration. You can click here or go to www.GoVoteColorado.com You can register by mail to vote in Colorado by printing a voter registration form, filling it out, and mailing it to your local election office. If you're pretty sure you're registered, it's still a good idea to check at the website above. There are instructions in English and Spanish. You must be at least 18 years old and you can register even if you don’t have a driver’s license.

To register in Colorado you must:

- be a citizen of the United States
- be a resident of Colorado for at least 22 days immediately before the Election in which you intend to vote (that would be on or before October 12, 2020)
- be at least 18 on or before November 3rd, 2020
- not currently serving a sentence of detention or confinement for a felony conviction

Every registered voter will receive a mail ballot between October 9-16. The ballot will be sent to the mailing address you provided for your voter registration file. Election day is November 3, 2020, but if you’re mailing yours in, do it as soon as you can to ensure that it will be delivered and counted by election day.

If you prefer to vote at the polls, you can vote in-person at a voter service and polling center. Please visit www.GoVoteColorado.gov to find your polling locations.

Votar - ¡Es su derecho!
Stephan Graham

Su voto es tan importante como siempre este año. Estás registrado para votar? ¿Ha votado alguna vez? ¿Estás seguro de que su registro aún está activo o al día? ¡Ahora es el momento de comprobarlo!

Colorado ofrece registro en línea. Puede hacer clic aquí o ir a www.GoVoteColorado.com Puede registrarse por correo para votar en Colorado imprimiendo un formulario de registro de votante, llenándolo y enviándolo por correo a la oficina electoral local. Si está seguro de que está registrado, es una buena idea consultar el sitio web anterior. Hay instrucciones en inglés y español. Debe tener al menos 18 años y puede registrarse incluso si no tiene una licencia de conducir.

Para registrarse en Colorado debe:

- ser ciudadano de los Estados Unidos
- ser residente de Colorado durante al menos 22 días inmediatamente antes de la elección en la que tiene la intención de votar (eso sería el 12 de octubre de 2020 o antes)
- tener al menos 18 años antes del 3 de noviembre de 2020
- no estar cumpliendo actualmente una sentencia de detención o confinamiento por una condena por delito grave

Cada votante registrado recibirá una boleta por correo entre el 9 y el 16 de octubre. La boleta se enviará a la dirección postal que proporcionó para su archivo de registro de votante. El día de las elecciones es el 3 de noviembre de 2020, pero si envía el suyo por correo, hágalolo tan pronto como pueda para asegurarse de que se entregue y se cuente el día de las elecciones.


Greyhound properties are leaving the station
Stephan Graham

The sale of the Greyhound properties is the biggest upcoming change that will forever imprint our neighborhood. The Greyhound maintenance facility located at 2450 Curtis and the current parking lots across the street have decided to leave the station.

The maintenance facility was built in 1953 at a time when the city of Denver had given up on this neighborhood and had it slated for industrial use and surface parking lots. The people of Curtis Park have waited decades for this opportunity to change the neighborhood and return the use of the properties to a more residential friendly use. The properties are zoned U-MX-3, which is Urban mixed use, and three stories.

Unlike most properties in the neighborhood that are part of the Curtis Park Landmark District, this building and lots are not, which strips away our ability to have any input on what gets built. We hope that the buyers will work with the community to listen to feedback to build and reuse the existing buildings in a way that best serves the neighborhood.

DJ Delivery in Curtis Park
Sophie Franczyk

DJ on wheels is coming to your neighborhood for a live set! Brought to you by the Riverfront Park Association, Denver DJ Delivery aims to share some joy during these wild times, and it’s free to enjoy. The event will be coming to Curtis Park on Friday, October 2nd from 5pm - 5:30pm. Visit our website DenverDJDelivery.com for more information!
Homelessness Solutions Committee

One of the challenges facing Curtis Park, and greater Denver is the increase in the unhoused population. Denver is reporting an increase of 43% of those experiencing homelessness since Covid-19 hit. Our neighborhood and the greater Five Points area have experienced the heaviest impact, and some neighborhoods who have not previously had encampments, are starting to see the impact as the crisis spreads.

We are approaching the two-year mark of actively seeking solutions to this humanitarian crisis we are witnessing. With the addition of our “on the streets team”, known as the Five Points Housing Option Team, we have 15-20 volunteers giving a combined 100+ hours a week to this cause. Ryan Cox is the Chair of the committee and has done an exemplary job navigating and leading this cause. Thanks so much Ryan and all the volunteers!

One of the temporary COVID related proposals we support are Safe Outdoor Spaces, or SOS. These temporary sanctioned tent sites are self sufficient enclosed areas, with a limited number of people, social distanced, with 24 hour staffing. This creates the opportunity to take the street encampments we are currently experiencing in our neighborhood and put them into one fenced and secure area. This allows outreach to be concentrated and repeated in an effort to get services to the people who need it and increasing the potential to get them off the streets and into housing.

This crisis is extremely complex and society has yet to figure out how to greatly reduce homelessness. We are starting from the ground up and at the very beginning of the process. We are in kindergarten and need to graduate high school. Ultimately camping is not the solution…housing, job services, mental health and addiction treatment are the bigger hurdles to tackle, but we must start somewhere.

While this subject is very political, and opinions differ greatly, I encourage you to seek facts, and if you have solutions to share them as this crisis affects each and every one involved, both housed and unhoused.

S.T.A.R.

Support Team Assisted Response. STAR is a community response program through the alliance between the Caring For Denver Foundation, Denver Police Department, Mental Health Center of Denver, Denver Health Paramedic Division, and Community supports and resources. STAR provides person-centric mobile crisis response to community members who are experiencing problems related to mental health, depression, poverty, homelessness and/or substance abuse issues.

STAR engages community partners for a diverse approach that sends a paramedic, a mental health provider, and a peer support navigator to low-risk behavioral health calls to de-escalate and connect a resident in distress with appropriate services. It provides a broad range of no cost services such as providing information and referrals, crisis intervention, counseling, transportation solutions, and social service needs.

STAR employees are not armed and do not perform any law enforcement duties. STAR is an alternative response and will not be used as a substitute for situations that require a law enforcement presence and will not respond to incidents that involve violence or life-threatening medical situations. In collaboration with the diverse communities across the City and County of Denver, STAR strives to utilize all existing behavioral health services, providers, agencies and resources, in an effort to provide the timeliest and comprehensive response to community members and their families.

The STAR program does not replace the DPD co-responder program, but rather is an additional resource to help address mental health and substance abuse issues.

If you see someone in need call 720-913-7827 if law enforcement is not needed to request the STAR team. You may also call 911, or the Non-Emergency Police Line, 720-913-2000, and request that the STAR team is deployed. Join us for our General Neighborhood Zoom meeting on October 1st at 7:00 pm to hear more.

Garden Beds

Naomi Torres

I am happy to address you all about some really exciting developments in our neighborhood. As you may know, there has been a huge effort to assist in the maintenance and gardens at the parks within our beloved Curtis Park neighborhood. Thank you to all of the volunteers who continue to give their time to keep our surroundings beautiful. If you are interested in volunteering your time but are unsure of how to do so, please contact Jeff at 970-759-4023 for more information or simply show up Wednesday mornings at 10:30 am at Sonny Lawson Park.

Actions have been set in motion to add planter boxes to the tree lawns in certain areas.

Why not contribute to the cost of those planters? Any amount will help. Contact John Hayden at, haydenpyor@msn.com, 303-297-3994 to contribute what you can. It will be greatly appreciated. You can also choose to offer a continued contribution on the site, giving a monthly subscription to our neighborhood developments and improvements.

With your help, work and beautification will happen even faster and our neighborhood will continue, in our hearts and minds, to be the very best place to live in Denver.
11th Annual Curtis Park Great Pumpkin Oct. 31st

John Hayden

What better way to celebrate 2020 than with a mask and a scary parade! Join us for a socially distanced, properly masked Great Pumpkin Parade this Halloween. This year the Great Pumpkin will take place on Halloween from 4pm to 7pm at the Stout Street Children’s Park, 2501 Stout Street. The park will be decorated and we will have a costume parade at 4:30pm. After the parade the park will be lit up and open for trick or treating for the evening. We will have wrapped candies to handout. All those handing out candy will wear gloves and masks. No pumpkin carving or games this year to make sure the event stays safe for all who attend. Happy Halloween Curtis Park! For questions or to volunteer to set up the park or help with the parade please contact John Hayden at haydenpryor@msn.com / 303-297-3994.

Neighborhood Internet Resources

CurtisPark.org
Provides a wealth of information: History of CP, info on Curtis Park Neighbors, info for ALL homeowners in the historic district, home alterations, ADUs, home styles, tax credits, and a very comprehensive resource list of special products, services, links, and so much more!

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. To join, send an email 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. Zoning notices, liquor license applications, etc. all come through here. To join, send an email to: CurtisParkNeighbors+subscribe@googlegroups.com

Curtis Park Design Review Committee
Receive updates on new development and building modifications under review by the Denver Landmark Commission. To join, send an email to: cpn-drc-announcements+subscribe@googlegroups.com. Questions about projects, email Keith Pryor: KPryor13@gmail.com.

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@googlegroups.com

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@googlegroups.com

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 Oct 21st for ads, and Oct 24th for articles.

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CPN Board of Directors
Jeff Baker (President), Patti Smith, Ben Mendenhall (Treasurer), Paul Davidson, Robbie Hobbin (Secretary), Andrew Spinks, Ryan Cox, Beth Bianchi, Lindsay Schneider, Lindsey Sullivan and Randy Vetter.

Contact the CPN President by writing to: jffebakercurtisparkdenver@gmail.com or call (970) 759-4023. Write the CPN Board at curtis-park-neighbors-board@googlegroups.com.