



Hi, Neighbors!

Jeff Baker, CPN President

Wow! So much is going on in our neighborhood! With the election coming up in the next few days I sincerely ask everyone to vote! Aside from the city office seats, there is one initiative on the ballot that will have a catastrophic effect on Curtis Park and all of Denver.

If you are not familiar with **Initiative 300**, I encourage you to dig in deeper than the surface to learn, and then think about how you should vote. Initiative 300 is **not** the solution for the homeless crisis we are in the middle of.

People need a place to call home, to feel safe, and to rest. Our current system has totally failed our most vulnerable population. The system is totally broken. While

we are grateful for the efforts of the current shelter system, it is not working. We can no longer expect these providers to bear all the burden of the rapidly increasing population on our streets.

This is a very difficult discussion to have and you may not agree with me, but we must not hide and ignore it anymore. Having these discussions is the only way forward!

The Curtis Park Homelessness Solutions Committee has been working overtime in the last 30+ days, and as representatives of you, our neighbors, I assure you we are doing everything within our

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Curtis Park Neighbors Meet Thursday, May 2nd

United Way, 711 Park Ave. West

(Enter from parking lot at "CoBank" sign)

6:30 p.m. Police Update & Snacks

7:00-8:30 p.m. Main Agenda

1. Introductions - 5 minutes
2. Initiative 300/Together Denver/City Attorney - 45 Minutes, 15 minutes Q&A
3. Denver Health renovation update - 10 minutes
4. Community Roundtable Forum -15 Minutes

Please Support CPN

Please consider a donation to support the Curtis Park Neighbors and this newsletter. You can make your tax deductible contribution online by visiting squareup.com/store/CurtisParkNeighbors.

Next CPN General Meetings

May 2nd, 2019

June 3rd, 2019

August 5th, 2019

CPN Board Meeting

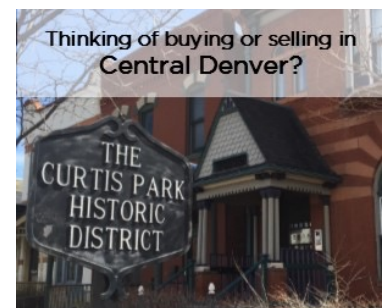
Mon. May 20th, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

2543 California St, Open to all

This Month's Meeting

Jeff Baker, CPN President

We will have a very important presentation from both sides of **Initiative 300** that is on your current ballot. The city attorney will be present to help explain what the laws surrounding this will be. Denver Health will have a representative to give a brief update on the renovations currently underway at our Gipson East-side Family Health Center as well as the new Outpatient Medical Center. We will use the remaining time for the **Community Roundtable**



Call John Hayden,
your neighbor and Curtis Park expert!

303.297.3994
jhayden@kentwoodcity.com
www.curtisparkhomes.com



*Because the health of our community
is the life of my business*

Neighbors (cont.)

power. With the influx of camps moving into our neighborhood, it has been a daily task for us to be interacting with the police and outreach teams, city council, the Mayors office and the members of these homeless camps. Many of the members of these camps do not believe Initiative 300 is the answer either.

This is not about us complaining about “Not in my Backyard”, this is about truly addressing and changing the entire system for this population. This is big picture. We all know that pushing people from one place to the next does nothing to solve this crisis. This is about coming up with new solutions and looking at this through a new set of glasses. A set of glasses that can see change at the end of the tunnel by creating a brand new system. Please get involved and be part of the solution!

I am happy to report that the Mayor’s office has proposed a new Department of Housing and Homelessness. We will be integral as a neighborhood in molding this department into changing the current system. Denver citizens voted in a new tax for mental health services and we need to see these dollars put to use for these people who are suffering on our streets.

Please be patient as this will not be solved overnight, but we must start with change now. As a neighborhood that has been sheltering and helping the homeless for decades we have to find a better way forward!

Please respect all of our partners in this effort, as each part of the team needs to work together. This team consists of citizens, police and service providers, our city council and the Mayor’s office. We need a strong diversified team to think outside of the box and try something different, something we have never tried before. We owe that to all citizens of Denver regardless of housing status.

Street Sweeping

Jeff Baker

Just a reminder that street sweeping is back April through November. Denver’s Street Maintenance crews sweep residential streets from April through November and encourage you to **SHOW YOUR PRIDE AND MOVE YOUR RIDE** on your sweeping day! This helps keep pollution and dust down, so please be compliant. Residents are advised to pay attention to the red and white signs posted on their block for street sweeping parking restrictions in order for Denver Public Works to provide the best street sweeping service possible. Residential streets in Denver are only swept once per month where posted (not every block has restrictions), so please be sure to move your vehicle according to the signs on your block to avoid a \$50.00 parking citation. Sign up for reminders at denvergov.org



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Celebrate the history of Denver's Five Points neighborhood at this year's Five Points Jazz Festival on Saturday, May 18th. Two of the stages for the event will be at Coffee at The Point from 11 am - 10 pm. Grab a coffee or cocktail, pull up a seat and enjoy the talented lineup we have in store for you.

Indoor Stage:

- Gayle Leali Jazz & Blues Quintet
- Tom Amend Organ Trio
- Gunnison, McRossen, Romaine
- Junneman Quartet
- Walter Gorra Quartet
- Wellington Bullings

Outdoor Stage:

- Big Brooklyn
- Jazz Nicholson
- Hancock Chipman Collective
- Los Chicos Malos!

Outreach Experience

Nick Hernandez

On a day in late March, I drive up to an undisclosed location with a group of volunteers on the winding backroads of Denver. As we find a place to park, we see a large accumulation of trash near a nook leading to the river. “This seems to be a great spot,” said Sophie. Sophie

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Outreach (cont.)

Feffer is the Volunteer Director for Harm Reduction Action Center (HRAC). "With the temperature swings, this area can be a hit or miss, but we might get lucky and get to help some folks today." Sophie is responsible for conducting mobile outreach for HRAC, where she and other volunteers provide syringe access and education to members of the community.

As we walk along we see trash, tents, and used syringes, which we properly discard. We see a couple of folks sitting on a bench by the river, we kindly introduce ourselves as outreach and the individuals recognizes Sophie immediately. In a kind conversation, the individuals give us their ID information, we pulled up their information in the system, and HRAC is able to exchange needles with them. We see another individual, we kindly offer him water and socks, in addition to asking if he needs our services. He politely declines, so we moved along down the Platte River. We continue for about two hours, then head back to HQ.

The outreach experience left a deep impact on me, though it was not immediately evident. Just overwhelming sadness about this vulnerable community that I felt nothing for in the past. I was rife with shame. Shame, because I used to truly believe this demographic chose to be homeless and be on the fringes of society. Previously, I believed that addiction was solely a choice and that these people experiencing homelessness were choosing each day drugs over a job, family, and being a part of society. My time volunteering has shown me that the situation is much more complex, and anyone can find themselves in a similar position. It's a well-known fact that a vast majority of Americans are one paycheck away from losing the roof over their head, so there should not only be sympathy for those in this position, but also action to help our vulnerable communities.

Taking a night to decompress, I decided to return and volunteer again. Now it is the best two hours I spend all week.

Water Regulations

Jeff Baker

We are still in a drought and need to conserve water. As a reminder Denver Water rules typically start May 1st. Please don't waste water. Here are last year's rules: Summer watering rules are in effect May 1st to Oct. 1st.

- Water during cooler times of the day — lawn watering is not allowed between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.
- Water no more than three days per week.
- Do not allow water to pool in gutters, streets and alleys.
- Do not waste water by letting it spray on concrete and asphalt.
- Repair leaking sprinkler systems within 10 days.
- Do not irrigate while it is raining or during high winds.
- Use a hose nozzle with a shut-off valve when washing your car.
- Report Water Waste: If you see water waste in Denver parks, water use that does not meet the rules, call 3-1-1.

To report water waste anywhere else, call Denver Water at 303-893-2444

Safety at Intersections

Please take extra caution as you travel throughout our neighborhood. Be aware of stopping your vehicle before you enter the area where pedestrians will cross. Slow down and look both ways at one-way streets before pulling out. We had a tragedy at Stout and 24th Street when a delivery driver ran over two rescue dogs and killed both of them while their owner was walking them. My heart goes out to Archie, Kippie and their human. I am so sorry to hear this. The reason I bring this up is to reiterate the need to be safe. We live in a busy neighborhood, so look twice before you pull out, watch for pedestrians, and be vigilant if you are out walking with human's best furry friends. Keep them and your children close when crossing the street.



COFFEE, TEA & WINE LOUNGE

- ✓ Meeting Space
- ✓ Free WiFi
- ✓ Free Covered Parking
- ✓ Coffee, Loose Leaf Tea, Gelato,
- ✓ Craft Beer & Wine, Gourmet
- ✓ Sandwiches & More

M-F: 6am 10pm
Sat: 7am 10pm
Sun: 7am 6pm

(Welton & 27th Street)
710 East 26th Avenue
Denver, CO 80205



Blair Dunn

Jeff Baker

I am sorry to report that Blair Dunn passed away on April 15th. Our thoughts go out to the Dunn family and friends. The Dunn family held a celebration of Blair's life on Saturday April 20th over brunch with friends and family. Blair loved brunch! If you would like to honor Blair, please consider a donation in his name to these local organizations, or any organizations that protect our planet. www.casadepezcolorado.org/donate <https://350colorado.org/monthlygiving/>

SCFD Free Days

Molly Brown House
• Wed. May 1st

Denver Art Museum
• Sat. May 4th

Denver Firefighter Museum
• Thurs. May 9th

Clyfford Still Museum
• Wed. May 22nd

Find out more at www.scfd.org



Resources

Denver City Government
www.DenverGov.org, or call 3-1-1

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:
Hana Ruiz (720) 913.1089
hana.ruiz@denvergov.org
Dist. 6 (below 25th Street) RSO:
Teresa Gillian (720) 913-2908.
teresa.gillian@denvergov.org

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

Trash Pickup - Overflow Pickup
The next Large Item pickup is
May 8th
For free appliance collection, call
(303) 430-7142.

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

To report non-permitted exterior work
to Landmark email: abigail.Christman@denver.gov or call
(720) 865-2908.

Short Term Rental Reinforcement
Brian Snow
(720) 865-2750

Thanks For The Help

I wanted to say thank you to many of the neighbors who are actively helping the neighborhood. These are the neighbors who are not on our board of directors, but may be involved in committees and other activities because they care. To name a few, Julie Rubsam, Joel Noble, Nancy Welch, Deb Jacobson, Julieann Tibbetts, Maggie Miller, Doug Gertner, Lynn and Hugh Brown, Mick Barnhardt, Eileen Feltman, John Hayden, Keith Pryor, Gerald Horner, Rob Price, Sue Glassmacher. I apologize if I missed anyone else, but thank you too! CPN would like to thank the Denver Foundation for the generous donation we received.

Please join us for our monthly meetings and get involved with us! We can always use more help! See

below a small list of some of the bigger topics the CPN Board and Committees are working on. Thank you to all board and committee members!

- Homelessness solutions/Initiative 300
- 2600 block of Arapahoe/Lawrence
- Flagstone sidewalk repairs/City Sidewalk Repair Program
- Design Review for Arapahoe Strip
- Design Review for Platte Valley Senior Housing on 34th & Arapahoe
- 1075 Park Ave
- Neighborhood Social Events

Neighborhood Internet Resources

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

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 Transportation Committee
Improve mobility and safety for people getting around by all modes
Write to: cpn-transportation+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 May 15th for ads, and May 18th for articles.

Special Thanks To

Nick Hernandez, and Jeff Baker for newsletter content - Jeff wrote nearly all the copy for this newsletter! 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

Jeff Baker (President), Patti Smith, Ben Mendenhall (Treasurer), Paul Davidson (Co Vice President), Robbie Hobein (Secretary), Andrew Spinks, Ryan Cox, Beth Bianchi, (Co Vice President) Lindsay Schneider, Lindsey Sullivan. Contact the CPN President by writing to: jeffbakercurtisparke@denver@gmail.com or call (970) 759-4023. Write the CPN Board at curtis-park-neighbors-board@googlegroups.com.

