JPUN.ORG OCTOBER 2020

VIRTUAL MEETINGS

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Zoom Meeting ID: 899 545 6713 Password: jefferson Call-In: 312-626-6799

Tuesday, October 13, 6:30–8:00pm

Tuesday, November 10, 6:30–8:00pm

All are welcome

LAND-USE VIRTUAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Zoom Meeting ID: 899 545 6713

Password: jefferson Call-In: 312-626-6799

Thursday, November 5, 6:30–8:00pm

Thursday, December 3, 6:30–8:00pm

All are welcome

COUNCILWOMAN SANDOVAL VIRTUAL COMMUNITY OFFICE HOURS

Friday, October 16, 11:00am-1:00pm Reserve a spot at: bit.ly/CD1OFFICEHOURS

MAKE A TAX DEDUCTIBLE GIFT TO SUPPORT JPUN As a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, your JPUN contribution is tax deductible. Send your contribution to: 2001 Eliot St. Denver, CO 80211

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WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU Email any stories, comments or ideas to our Editor at: newsletter@jpun.org

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Jefferson Park Homeless Sites/ Group Living Zoning Proposal Topics at JPUN's Oct 13 Virtual Meeting

Councilwoman Amanda Sandoval and Andrew Webb, Senior City Planner with Denver's Community Planning and Development (CPD) will join JPUN's Oct 13 General Membership meeting promptly at 6:30 to discuss these items.

The past several days Denver has made several sweeps of homeless encampments within central Denver neighborhoods. Pressure appears to be on for Denver to provide at least some type of short-term solution. During the summer CWM Sandoval presented Mayor Hancock a list of possible Safe Outdoor Space (SOS) sites for the homeless within Jefferson Park. We have invited CWM Sandoval to attend and provide insight to her decision and better understand the process of determining a SOS site. Our goal is be at the table during the site selection process. Failure to include neighborhood input has resulted in the city announcing SOS sites in Globeville and Five Points only to cancel implementation due to neighborhood pushback.

CWM Sandoval has also been involved in meetings related to the Group Living Text Amendment Project (GLTAP). Mr. Webb from CPD, will present the current iteration of that proposal. Neighborhood groups have expressed proposal concerns one of which is the allowance of boarding or halfway houses into neighborhoods without a zoning review.

Since there is a lot to unpack, you will find information on GLTAP on Page 2 and we'll reprint previous SOS information contained in September's newsletter.

SOS - A Brief History

Apri

Eight Denver City Council members write Mayor Hancock asking him to create a temporary encampment "where those who have not been using shelters can be better protected in a safe, healthy, secure environment that provides access to the resources required to slow the spread of the virus."

July

The Mayor responds asking those council members to recommend SOS lots in their district that cover 10,000-square-feet, allow for 50 tents and include a restroom, shower and common space.

District 1 Councilwoman Sandoval provides **Riverside Church** and **Downtown Aquarium** parking lots within Jefferson Park. Councilwoman Torres, who represents District 3 (west-central Denver), suggested one site: the parking lot at 1635 Bryant St. outside **Mile High Stadium**

JPUN contacted Councilwoman Sandoval expressing concerns with the three Jefferson Park SOS sites. Her response is on Page 3

August

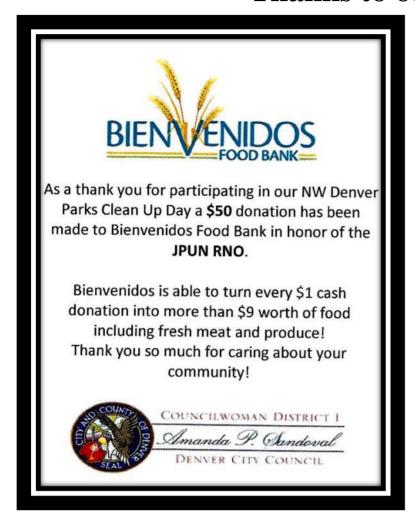
The Denver Coliseum was under serious consideration as the city's first SOS site. Backlash from two Council members as well as residents who state the shelter at the National Western Complex has led to more illicit activity along with strangers sleeping near their homes, in their alleys and around their parks making them fearful.

September

Denver City Council approved a 10-year, \$20 million lease for a new homeless shelter on 48th Street, which could host up to 450 people. Before the site can open, the building needs new restrooms, showers, heating and air conditioning improvements. While helpful it does not adequately provide for those who do not feel safe in a shelter and want an outdoor encampment. As Fall approaches the city is still looking for an adequate SOS site.

Continued on Page 3 >>

Northwest Denver Park Cleanup Thanks to our Volunteers!



Thanks to all who took part in the Denver Park Clean Up Day on September 26. Our namesake park became a lot cleaner thanks to everyone's efforts. We filled up numerous trash bags with trash and weeds and hope that more residents will join us in potential future endeavors. To acknowledge those efforts, Councilwoman Sandoval's office has made a \$50 donation to the Bienvenidos Food Bank. Proving no good deed goes unrewarded.

Group Living Text Amendment Project

While Zoning issues can be somewhat dry reading, they play a significant role in determining the value of your home. It can also be a bit confusing on what the zoning change entails and how it could affect your neighborhood. In reviewing CPD's website on the topic you will find, "With the evolving needs of our residents in mind, along with recent changes to other housing regulations, city planners have worked over the last two years to evaluate the Denver Zoning Code's rules for "group living." This evaluation has included a review of land uses and definitions for: households, community corrections facilities, shelters for the homeless, residential care homes, new uses like tiny home villages, and more."

But often times you will hear the GLTAP being explained in these terms,

- "(GLTAP) corrects the outdated definition of "household" limits common living arrangements and reduces affordability especially for people who could live with roommates."
- "It simply corrects outdated or confusing language in the current Denver Zoning Codes adopted in 2010. However, some of its language came from the previous code, which has its origins in the 1950s."

Here are a couple of resources related to GLTAP

Denver's Community Planning and Development Website https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/community-planning-and-development/zoning/text-amendments/Group_Living.html

Summary of Preliminary Feedback

https://www.denverinc.org/community-feedback-on-group-living-and-next-steps/

Information Summary from Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation (Umbrella Organization for Denver's RNOs)

https://www.denverinc.org/inc-zoning-planning-letter-re-aug-19-2020-hearing/

INC states, "We have lots of specific concerns with the amendment itself, including the definitions, lack of specificity, and difficulty of finding the removed portions of 11.2 (which became new sections of the code) when reviewing, and provisions for bicycle parking. We hope to have the time to address the countless unresolved issues before this moves forward."

Continued on Page 3 >>

SOS Campsites for Homeless

cont. from page 1>>

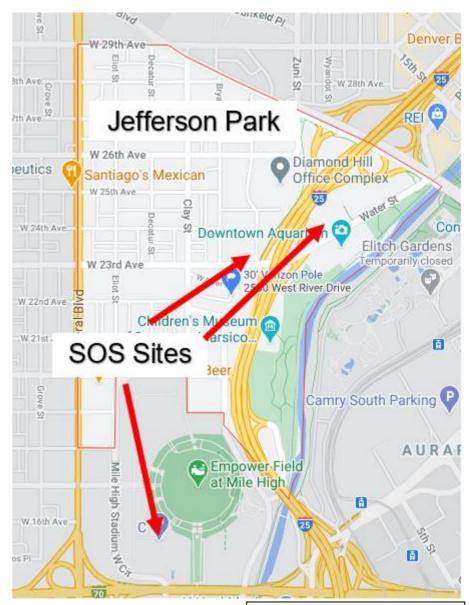
Councilwoman's Sandoval's SOS decision and response to JPUN in her September Newsletter.

"My office responded to Mayor Hancock's request and I submitted two possible locations within District 1 which met the criteria for a Safe Outdoor Space (SOS), a temporary outdoor safe space for people experiencing homelessness during the COVID19 pandemic). The two locations were Riverside Baptist Church and the parking lot across from Fishback Park on Water St. (across from Aquarium, near the Speer Blvd bridge). My office has had very limited information provided or shared from the Mayor's administration since I suggested these two sites.

Our office received concerns from members of the Jefferson Park Neighborhood regarding the inclusion of Riverside Baptist Church parking lot as a possible location. The Mayor's office has reached out and tried to engage with the church leadership, but they are in the midst of a leadership transition. As a result, that site is not likely.

The Mayor's office has informed me the nonprofits that would operate the first SOS have raised enough money for six months of operations. Mayor Hancock will likely propose City funding to help support one or two more sites. I believe City Council would have to approve the funding, as City Council votes on any city contract at or above \$500,000. Community engagement is key to the success of this initiative and I have asked the Mayor's office to notify me the moment a site in Northwest Denver is under consideration so I can ensure your voices and your concerns are heard and address by his administration.

If there are any additional concerns on this matter, please feel free to contact my office."



Potential SOS Sites in Jefferson Park

Councilwoman Sandoval's office would like to thank those who participated in the SOS Survey. Please click this link to see the results from the survey.

Group Living Text Amendment Project

Upcoming LUTI committee dates for ongoing review of group living proposal

https://myemail.constantcontact.com/LUTI-review-continues-throughout-fall.html?soid=1109942844524&aid=UBFnf-nFl90

Members of City Council's Land Use, Transportation and Infrastructure Committee have created a schedule to discuss topics addressed in the proposed changes to Denver's group living rules. The meetings will be held virtually on Zoom and will be broadcast live on Denver 8.

Upcoming topics

- October 6: Household regulations: alternatives and revisions
- November 3: Residential care introduction
- November 10: Residential care regulations, community corrections and proposed "type 2" size, lot minimums and locations
- November 17: Former chapter 59 ("old zoning code") and enforcement
- <u>December 1</u>: Wrap up and final committee action

How to watch

- Register to join meetings on Zoom (Password: Denver)
- Watch live on Denver Channel 8 or online at <u>Denver8.tv</u>
- Watch past meetings on the <u>Denver 8 online archive</u>

Frequently asked questions (PDF)

Responding to misconceptions (PDF)

Community office hours appointments still available

City planners have been answering questions and taking comments on the proposed group living rules update at community office hours the last few weeks. Spots are still available for the small group sessions scheduled for Thursday, September 17. Use the link below to make your appointment.

Sign up for an appointment

Mobile Food Pantry at Empower Field



Everyone is welcome, no one is turned away, and there is free food for all people in need.

The Next Distribution Date: October 26, 2020 at Empower Field

VISIT FOOD BANK OF THE ROCKIES FOR MORE INFO

Love Denver's shared and open streets? Take Park Road Closure Survey

During the pandemic Denver created several shared and open streets (like Northeast corner of Sloans Lake w limited car access) which catered to pedestrian and cycling traffic. Now Denver Parks and Recreation is asking your opinion on possibly keeping these changes.

Click here to access the survey - https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ParkRoads
Survey will close November 2!

Questions? Email parksandrecreation@denvergov.org



Sloan's Lake Open Street

YOUR VOICE

GENERAL ELECTION 2020

HOW TO VOTE

- Go to <u>GoVoteColorado.gov</u> to review your registration and make sure your information is up-to-date.
- Ballots will be mailed to all active voters beginning Oct. 9.
- Return your ballot at any of our <u>38 24-hour</u> drop boxes, vote center, or by U.S. mail.
 Return by mail no later than Oct. 26 to ensure it arrives by 7pm on Nov. 3.
- Vote in person at any vote center beginning Oct. 19. For hours and locations, visit <u>DenverVotes.org/VoterInfo</u>.
- Track your ballot at <u>www.ballottrace.org.</u>

KEY DATES

- Oct. 9: Ballots begin mailing to all active registered voters.
- Oct.26: last day to request a ballot to be mailed to you; last day to mail your ballot back.
- Nov. 3: last day to vote; ballots must be received by 7 p.m.



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303-6

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103-653-9668



Northwest Denver Community Transportation Networks



There is Still Time to Provide Your Input!



THANK YOU FOR YOUR FEEDBACK!

We had a great conversation last week, Wednesday, September 23rd, at our third Virtual Public Open House. If you were not able to attend the meeting, a recording of the meeting can be found <u>here.</u>

You can also visit <u>bit.ly/DenverMovesNetworks</u> for more information on the project

Do you still have questions or comments to share? Here's how to contact us.

Project Hotline: 303-223-6575

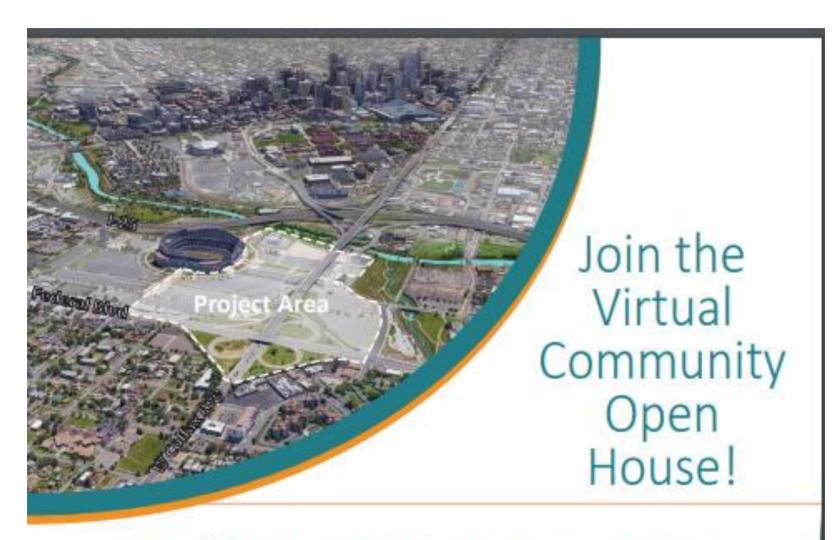
Email: DenverMoves@denvergov.org Please include "Northwest" or a specific street in the subject line.

For public accommodation requests/concerns, please contact: DisabilityAccess@denvergov.org.

You can access all of the information in this email and more by visiting the project homepage.



THIS JUST IN!!!



Stadium District: Next Steps

Learn about zoning and design options

Join us online or by phone to learn about the tools that will help shape new development in the project area.

Thursday October 29th 5:30-7:00pm



scan the QR code with your mobile device to register for the meeting

Visit the project webpage below to join the meeting through your computer or mobile device:

www.denvergov.org/stadiumdistrict

To request language interpretation for the meeting, please contact us at least three business days before the meeting at: planningservices@denvergov.org

