



SOUTH CITY PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION (SCPNA)

Meeting Minutes

Date | time 9/19/2018 7:00 PM

In Attendance

Special Guests: Councilman Albus Brooks – District 9, Hana Ruiz – Community Resource Officer Denver Police Department, Tay Dunklee – Recycling Program Administrator City of Denver Solid Waste Management/Public Works

~40 attendees

Agenda

- Annual Meeting Update
- Sidewalk Repair
- City Park Playgrounds: Dustin Redd & South Meadow
- Sprouts Update
- Albus Brooks Q & A
- DPD Update
- Compost/Recycling Information
- Board & Committee Contact Information

Annual Meeting

The next meeting in November would normally be held on November 21 (3rd Wednesday in November). Because that is Thanksgiving Eve this year, we've rescheduled the meeting for Wednesday, November 28. The annual officer in-person election will occur that evening. Online voting will also be available for members.

Sidewalk Repair

Our neighborhood will be among the first for the City's new Sidewalk Repair project. Sidewalks will be inspected and owners will be notified if they have sidewalks needing repair. The homeowner will have two choices: to hire their own contractor and have the work done or the City will hire one of its contractors and the homeowner will receive the bill. Grants are available through the City if the homeowner is unable to pay.

More information about the project can be found here:

<http://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/denver-pedestrians/sidewalks/neighborhood-repair.html>.

City Park Playgrounds: Dustin Redd & South Meadow

The City currently has funding through the GO Bond to update the Dustin Redd playground and is looking for the public's input regarding the changes/updates. They are working on the funding needed to update the playground on the southeast side of the park – what they are calling the South Meadow.

The next Open House for playground feedback will be held:

Wednesday, October 17

5:00 – 7:00pm

Carla Madison Recreational Center

Sprouts Update

SCPNA continues to have ongoing communications with the management at Sprouts. Recently, the landscaping needed to be cleaned up – there were many Trees of Heaven (weed trees) growing on the property and they have been cut down. Additional landscaping was completed. Crosswalks inside the parking lot have been repainted and street lightbulbs have been replaced. If you have any additional concerns about Sprouts, email our Vice President (Emily Clark) at scpnavep@gmail.com.

Albus Brooks Q & A

Councilman Albus Brooks – for our district, District 9, attended the meeting.

- The City's General Fund budget is set for \$1.4B and they are looking for the public's input on how to distribute that money for 2019. Deadline for having the budgeting complete is the 2nd week of October. Contact Albus' office if you want to share your ideas:
<http://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/denver-council-district-9.html>.
- Albus gave an update on the All-In/Rock Bar development located on the corner of St. Paul and Colfax. The developer for the property plans to turn it into a boutique hotel. Residents are currently living there for 1-6 weeks at a time, Albus plans to help them find affordable housing elsewhere in the city.
- There will be retail space on the 1st floor of the hotel.
- There will not be any zoning increases and they will need to keep the number of parking spaces currently available for their zoning.
- Timing: the developer plans to begin construction Q2 2019 and estimates it will be an 18 month project.
- A resident brought up a concern about visibility on the corner of St. Paul and Colfax due to frequent trucks unloading for the liquor store.
- Albus said the developer would like to present to the association and he will put him in touch with us.
- Carla Madison Rec Center: Albus gave updates about the facility and encourages everyone in the neighborhood to visit. Children ages 5-18 (school age) are free as are senior memberships. This building was the first time marijuana taxes were used to finish construction. The top deck is not yet ready for renting.

- In 2017, there were 1,200 marijuana licenses to sell in the City. From the excise tax alone, the City collected \$36M. Albus is working with Mayor Hancock to start using that money to improve neighborhoods in District 9.
- 17th & Garfield Crosswalk: Phase 1 will send the project out for bid – most likely in October 2018. Construction should begin in Spring/Summer 2019. Some residents voiced frustration that the City has been saying this for at least 10 years. You can learn more about the project here: <http://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/bicycling-in-denver/infrastructure/shared-facilities/garfield-street.html>.
- A survey was conducted for Albus' constituents and the top issues mentioned were: traffic, housing (affordability and quantity of available), climate/environment and homelessness. Albus has helped 6,300 individuals and families find housing since 2011 when he began as a Councilperson. He doesn't believe you can end homelessness forever but he's paying particular attention to affordable housing. Albus helped create the first Affordable Housing budget with the City in 2016 for \$15M. The budget for 2019 will be \$50M
- On the issue of climate/environment he shared that from 1985-present, the City of Denver has used the same amount of water each year. It has not increased with the increase in population. Everyone should be focused on consuming less water.
- The association had asked Albus ahead of time to give an update on the Royal Palace property but he said the owner will not share any information and he's been trying for three years.
- Albus has open office hours every Wednesday (normally held in various locations throughout his District, check website listed above for information) from 5:00-6:30pm.

Denver Police Department Update

Hana Ruiz is our new Community Resource Officer for District 2. You are welcome to contact her at the number or email below. She is new to the position since April 2018. She gave updates on crime in our neighborhood.

- There has been a 2% increase in crime but it's mostly from public consumption of alcohol, harassment and trespassing. Business owners and homeowners both have the option of filling out a trespass agreement with the City so they have the authority to arrest or fine trespassers on your personal property. Email Officer Ruiz for more information.
- Crime spikes during the summer months due to people leaving doors and windows unlocked. Most of the crime in our neighborhood is a crime of opportunity (car doors and windows/doors of your house being unlocked). Don't leave items of value in your car for any length of time. A car window can be shattered in seconds.

Hana Ruiz, Community Resource Officer, District 2
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City of Denver Compost/Recycling

Tay Dunklee attended the meeting from the City to discuss our current compost rates.

- The City currently provides recycling and/or composting services to 180,000 households. Of those, 80% recycle but only 10% compost.
- Of 662 eligible properties in South City Park (single family homes and those with 7 or less units), only 81 (12%) households compost. Composting for the entire City of Denver has been available since November 2017. The Accelerate Climate Action Committee has a goal to increase the number in our neighborhood by 4x in the near future.
- If you live in a larger building that doesn't have access to the City's compost program, you can get a worm box to keep under the sink in your kitchen. A registration link for the \$5 Vermicompost ('worm box') Workshop can be found here: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/vermicomposting-workshop-tickets-49999507874?aff=efbeventtix>. Space is limited, and registration is required. Registered participants will leave this workshop with their very own worm box!
- The City also has a partner organization who teaches interested parties to compost in their backyards. There are three more FREE "Learn to Backyard Compost" classes offered this season: <http://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/trash-and-recycling/seasonal-programs/learn-to-compost-classes.html>
- Currently, only 22% of the City recycles. The City set a goal to increase that number to 34% by 2020 which is part of the Sustainability Goals.
- Reasons to compost: to cut down on the amount of organic (plant or animal) products ending up in the landfill. When organic materials break down in an anaerobic landfill environment, methane gas is produced.
- If the item came from a plant or animal (including animal bones and hard shells such as oysters), it can be composted with the City.
- The City contracts with a 3rd party which breaks down the compost in large piles over time. The internal temperature of the piles can reach 150 degrees.
- The City encourages residents to buy back the compost in the spring.
- For more information about composting or to order your cart, visit: <https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/trash-and-recycling/composting/compost-collection-program.html> or contact them through www.Pocketgov.com or 311 (720-913-1311).

Annual Meeting

11/28/2018 at 7:00 pm at Montview Manor.

Board & Committee Contact Information

President, Trent Thompson	southcitypark@gmail.com
Vice President, Emily Clark	scpnavep@gmail.com
Treasurer, Brian Friel	scpnatreasurer@gmail.com
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