



Denver City Council

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Public Amenities Committee  
Meeting Summary

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Date: June 20, 2006      Time: 11:00 a.m.      Location: Council Conference Room

**Members Present:**      Lehmann, Johnson, Linkhart, Robb  
**Members Absent:**      None  
**Other Council Present:**      MacKenzie

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**1.      New City Librarian**

Shirley Amore, City Librarian, said she was happy to be the first woman to hold the position of Denver City Librarian. She comes to Denver from Sarasota, Florida, where she managed Libraries and Parks, and she is glad to be able to focus on libraries again. She noted that Rick Ashton left big shoes for her to fill.

Councilwoman Johnson alerted Ms. Amore that the Air Force has land available that would help ease the parking problem at the Schlessman Branch Library at Lowry.

Ms. Amore gave the following responses to the Council members' questions:

- Adequate funding to make the library what it should be appears to be the greatest challenge.
- Her priorities include implementation of technology; building partnerships; and involving the neighborhoods in library planning.
- The Library Commission delayed development of the library plan until the new Librarian was on board, so she will have the opportunity to contribute to that project.
- She shares Mr. Ashton's commitment to and passion for the First Amendment and will endeavor to live up to his standard.

**2.      Parks & Recreation – Aqua Golf Miniature Golf Contract**

Committee Action

The Committee approved a \$501,000 design/build contract with Harris Miniature Golf Courses, Inc. for construction of a 36-hole miniature course near Aqua Golf at Overland Golf Course.

Summary of Discussion

Kay Krebs, Design & Construction Engineering, said reconstruction of the miniature golf course is only one phase of rehabilitation of the Overland facility. Harris has designed and constructed several miniature courses, and they often use natural vegetation, stone and water features, which will be the case at Overland. The schedule is to issue a notice to proceed with design in July and start construction in the fall. The project funds are from the proceeds of the Golf Enterprise Bond issue.

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Councilwoman MacKenzie, who represents the area in which Overland is located, credited her former aide Dorothy Norbie with having the vision of a rehabilitated Aqua Golf and miniature golf facility on Overland Lake. She said the Overland Neighborhood is very interested in Overland, which is second only to City Park in overall size. Some of the issues with the park and in the area include:

- A lack of connection between the Platte River Greenway and Overland;
- Need for a better connection from Iowa to S. Broadway;
- Need for sidewalks on the south side of Florida to Santa Fe; and
- Environmental concerns about water quality of Overland Lake, which will be used as a detention area to alleviate flooding on S. Broadway.

Ms. Krebs pointed out that the latter is part of the Florida Intercept Stormwater Project, which will construct a settlement structure before stormwater enters Overland Lake. Water is also pumped from the Platte into the lake, which is used for irrigation of the golf course

Councilwoman Lehmann asked Ms. Krebs to talk with Environmental Health about the water quality issues. Ms. Krebs said the City must comply with the standards of the Federal Clean Water Act.

Other phases of whole Overland project include:

- Parking lot;
- Club house;
- Small pavilion; and
- Junior Golf Program teaching center.

Construction will take about eight weeks, and miniature golf course will open May 1, 2007. The Golf Program will operate the course along with the Overland Golf Course. A Golf Pro will be hired for the facility.

Councilwoman Mackenzie asked about the hiring process for a new director of the Golf Program. Angela Casias, Parks & Recreation, stated the Kirk Mease is the Interim Director of the Golf Program. Final candidates have been identified and a decision should be announced within a couple of weeks.

*Gretchen Williams*  
06-23-06