



# Mary Beth's Memo

MARCH 2013

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## Contact Us

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## Council Aldes

[Susan Scott](#)

[Genny Kline](#)



## Dear District 5 Neighbors,

Happy March to everyone! We had a good Town Hall meeting last week, with Commander Joe Montoya there to let us know about proposed re-districting for police stations among other things. District 3 may have 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue as its northern border, while District 2, with Commander Mike Calo would take over the rest of the northern part of Council District 5. Cmdr. Montoya also gave us information about some attempted break-ins in the district, and stressed how important it is to keep valuables out of our cars, lock our cars and shut garage doors. He also explained how most panhandling is protected by the free speech amendment as long as it is on public property and not aggressive. To see more about the limitations on panhandling click [here](#).

The major part of the evening was devoted to a discussion about Amendment 64, the marijuana bill. District 5 approved the amendment by 57%; Denver as a whole voted for it by 66%. Amendment 64 allows anyone over 21 to possess one ounce of marijuana or less, and to grow up to 6 plants in their private, enclosed place. It also allows the retail sales of one ounce or less to

adults, and cultivation, manufacture, and testing lab facilities. We took a straw poll on various aspects of marijuana businesses primarily to raise people's awareness of the regulations to be considered, for example; whether customers and business owners must be Colorado residents, [Poll majority: Yes]; whether medical marijuana centers should be allowed to convert easily to adult-use stores [Poll majority: No], whether there should be neighborhood hearings before store licensing was allowed, [Poll majority: Yes].

I was appointed by the Governor to serve on one of the working groups that made regulation recommendations to him and the legislature. To see information about the Task Force and submitted recommendations go to [Colorado.gov/revenue](http://Colorado.gov/revenue) and click on Amendment 64. The final report with all of the recommendations will be published March 11. Then the state legislature will begin its law-making around Amendment 64.

The General Development Plan for the Buckley Annex was approved by the Lowry

Redevelopment Authority Board and is on its way to the Denver Planning Board. The timeline for its next process is: March 20 - Public hearing at Planning Board then review by Development Review Committee made up of Public Works, Parks and Rec, Planning; Application for zoning in April with public hearing at Planning Board sometime in May; submittal to City Council Land Use committee in June with the expected public hearing at council in July. The LRA expects to start demolishing the DFAS center building in early summer.

There is news about the 9<sup>th</sup> and Colorado Boulevard project. The developer, [Fuqua Development](#) is working with CU to begin demolition of the southeast quadrant of the site in preparation for the 360 multi-family units that [Alliance Development](#) is planning to build. The city is still working with the developer on the rest of the property discussing urban design requirements.

Let's hope March will bring its usual snowfall to ameliorate the impending drought!

~ Mary Beth

## Upcoming Events

### Doors Open Eisenhower Chapel

March 9th,  
2 - 5:00pm  
Eisenhower Chapel

### Training for Nonprofits: Effectively Working with Local Government

March 14th,  
9:00pm - 12:00pm  
The Denver Foundation  
55 Madison St.

### Weisco Motorcars Grand Opening, Photography Exhibit and Wine Tasting

March 20th,  
5:30 - 8:00pm  
Weisco Motorcars, 7000 E.  
Colfax Avenue

### Lowry Redevelopment Authority, Buckley Annex

#### Lowry Design Review Committee

March 21,  
LRA Offices, 7290 E. 1st  
Avenue

*\*NOTE: the March 5th CAC  
meeting is canceled*

### Police District 2 Community Advisory Board

March 28th,  
6:00pm  
Police District 2 Station  
3921 N Holly St

## Council District 5 Neighborhood Police Officers

**Police District 2:** north of E  
Colfax Ave

**Commander Michael Calo**  
720.641.2646

**Community Resource Offi-  
cer (CRO) Reyes Trujillo**  
720.913.1094

**CRO Adriel Torres**  
720.913.1089

**Police District 3:** south of E  
Colfax Ave

**Commander Joe Montoya**  
720.913.1275

**CRO Tony Burkhardt**  
720.913.1234

**Neighborhood Officer Toby  
Wilson**  
720.913.7378  
• Bellevue-Hale  
• East Montclair  
• Lowry

- Mayfair
- Montclair

**Neighborhood Officer Scott  
Marsh**  
720.913.1251  
• Crestmoor I & II  
• Hilltop  
• Mayfair Park

**Neighborhood Officer Matt  
Baughman**  
720.913.7308  
• Windsor Gardens, et al.

## ASLA 2012 Honor Award Winner: Lowry Redevelop- ment Parks and Open Space System

The American Society of  
Landscape Architects  
awarded its 2012 Honor  
Award to the Lowry Rede-  
velopment Parks and Open  
Space System designed by  
Wenk Associates, Inc.

Closure of the 1,900-acre  
Lowry Air Force Base in  
central Denver afforded  
the Cities of Denver and  
Aurora the opportunity to  
redevelop the site as a  
mixed-use community or-  
ganized around 230 acres  
of parks and open space.

Wenk Associates, Inc was  
responsible for master plan-  
ning, and final design for  
phased buildout of the park  
and open space system.

A restored Westerly Creek  
links together and becomes  
the spine for three distinct  
park areas. Each park has a  
different purpose, function,  
and character - from the  
overlooks atop Westerly  
Creek Dam, to the ordered  
athletic field layout in The  
Sports Complex, to the curv-  
ing, undulating landscape of

The Great Lawn, and finally,  
to the wildlife habitat in The  
Wetlands. All of the parks  
are linked by the Westerly  
Creek Trail, a regional pe-  
destrian and bike trail.

Special congratulations to  
our very own Karen Grote,  
Crestmoor resident, who  
was instrumental in imple-  
menting the Great Lawn  
vision as the Lowry Redevel-  
opment Authority's Parks  
Manager!

Click [here](#) for more photos.



Sundial at The Great Lawn in Lowry

## 'Fax Partnership: Weisco Motorcars Opening, Route 40 Photos & Wine

**Slick Cars, Amazing Photos and Delicious Wines! Travel Route 40 at March 20 Wine Tasting.**

Join us in welcoming [Weisco Motorcars](#) to East Colfax for a special grand opening event and photo exhibit on Wednesday, March 20 from 5:30 - 8:00pm at Weisco's new location at [7000 E. Colfax Avenue](#).

The grand opening celebration includes a Colfax photo show, "Traveling Route 40," in conjunction with a wine tasting with [Mayfair Liquors](#). Click [here](#) to buy tickets!

Weisco Motorcars is a 20 year-old,

locally owned business specializing in sales of lightly used luxury, sport, and SUV vehicles. They acquired a long-vacant building and recently moved in a variety of Audis, BMWs, Mercedes, Porsches and more.

"We're excited to be in this area; we like our new neighbors and being part of East Colfax's transformation," Weisco owner Eric Weisman says.

Lakewood, Denver and Aurora's Colfax business development organizations have joined forces with 40 West Arts to produce a touring photography exhibition, "[Traveling Route 40 - Celebrating the Character of Colfax Avenue](#)." The

show coincides with Denver's 2013 Month of Photography celebration, and is the latest collaboration of Colfax organizations to elevate public awareness and appreciation of the rich history of America's longest commercial street.

The juried exhibition will also be featured at the McNichols Building in Civic Center Park throughout March and April 2013. In addition, a traveling show will be featured at select venues in each of the participating Colfax business districts. The show will be available for public viewing at Weisco from March 20-23.

## 2A Today: Street Paving Program

### OVERVIEW OF CURRENT STREET CONDITIONS

Denver's street network includes 5,828 lane miles of streets (with one lane mile equal to a 12ft width of pavement one mile long). Approximately 1,300 lane miles in Denver's network are more than 20 years old and are rated in poor condition. 68% of lane miles rated in poor condition in Denver are residential, or local.

The department's budget allows for

approximately 3% of roadways in poor condition to be paved each year, resulting in an 8-year backlog of work.

### HOW WILL THE CITY UTILIZE 2A FUNDING FOR PAVING?

The De-Brucing measure passed by Denver voters in November 2012 will allow the City to accelerate its annual paving program and significantly reduce the backlog of neighborhood streets in poor condition.

With an additional \$4.5 million dollars per year in funding from the De-Brucing measure (\$18M total), Denver Public Works will pave an additional 75 lane miles per year in residential areas for a total of 300 lane miles over four (4) years.

Denver looks forward to being able to greatly improve the condition of its overall street network as a result of this new funding.

## In-Person Advising and Energy Efficient Lights for Your Home

**The Denver Energy Challenge** is a free energy advisor program brought to you by the City and County of Denver.

With over 5,500 residents participating, the program has shown that neutral advising really does help residents figure out what energy improvements make the most sense for their home.

Now through March 31<sup>st</sup> the program will offer in-person advising and replace up to 15 bulbs in your home with energy efficient ones! So call **720.865.5520** while these extra special offers are available.

Not interested in a home visit? Phone advisors are always available M-F, 7a-7p English and Spanish. In addition to advising, the program also offers low-cost energy loans for small or large projects and can connect you to all applicable rebates and tax credits out there. We can help you move energy efficiency to the top of your list!

[www.DenverEnergy.org](http://www.DenverEnergy.org)



## Calling All Urban Forest Aficionados and Green Thumbs!

The Park People and Denver Parks and Recreation will offer the popular Community Forester Training Program for Denverites again this year

It is time, once again, to sign up for *Community Forester* training through The Park People and Denver Parks and Recreation. *Community Forester* volunteers undertake a series of workshops to learn about tree biology, planting, pruning, identification and leadership. Registration is open through February 27, 2013. Classes begin on March 2.

“The Community Foresters and Tree Stewards have been a valuable part of keeping trees healthy in Denver, and we’re excited to train up to 80 new Community Foresters this year,” says Rob Davis, City Forester for Denver Parks and Recreation.

This unique training equips active leaders and tree advocates with the knowledge and skills they need to undertake tree planting and care projects with The Park People and Denver Forestry Division as well as in their own Denver neighborhoods. Over the past nine years, hundreds of volunteers have received training through this popular and distinctive series of classes.

“This is an exceptional way for anyone who cares about environment, health, social justice, urban greening or the community to be actively involved in making a difference in Denver,” says The Park People’s Program Manager Kim Yuan-Farrell.

Once they’re trained, Community Foresters lead and partici-

pate in tree planting and care projects in their neighborhoods as well as activities for The Park People, Denver’s Forestry Division and the Mile High Million tree planting initiative. Community Foresters serve as urban forestry advocates within the community by participating in tree distribution and planting events; canvassing neighborhoods for new tree planting opportunities; conducting tree health checks; performing young tree pruning; and serving as tree advocates in their neighborhoods.

The 2013 Spring Community Forester series begins with *Trees 101* on March 2, 2013.

- *Trees 101 prerequisite: Sat, Mar 2, 9am-1pm*
- *Tree Planting & Health: Sat, Apr 6, 9am-1pm*
- *Tree Pruning: Sat, May 4, 9am-1pm*
- *Tree Identification & Inventory: Sat, June 1, 9am-1pm*
- *Volunteer Leadership & Management optional: Sat, July 13, 9am-12pm*

To become a Community Forester, participants must complete all sessions. However, individuals may take *Trees 101* and at least one other class to become a Tree Steward. Registration for this session must be completed by February 27, 2013. Visit [www.theparkpeople.org](http://www.theparkpeople.org) or call 303-722-6262 for prices and more information. *This year’s program is sponsored by Mountain High Tree, Lawn & Landscape Co.*

### The Park People:

The Park People is a private, non-profit organization dedicated to preserving, enhancing and advocating for Denver’s parks, recreation resources, open space and urban forest. Through its *Denver*

*Digs Trees* program, The Park People is responsible for adding close to 44,000 trees so far to Denver’s city forest. Visit [www.theparkpeople.org](http://www.theparkpeople.org) for more information or call 303-722-6262.



### Denver Parks and Recreation:

Denver Forestry is the city agency responsible for trees and shrubs in public parks, parkways and around government buildings. Denver has been recognized by the National Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA since 1986 for its excellence in programming and advocacy of the right tree in the right place. To learn more about Denver Forestry visit [www.denvergov.org](http://www.denvergov.org) or call 3-1-1.

### Denver’s Mile High Million:

The Mile High Million serves as a regional champion for trees, convening community partners to plant and steward one million trees by 2025 in order to improve our environment, our economy and our quality of life. As an initiative of Greenprint Denver, The Mile High Million is a catalyst in the mission to create a legacy of environmental sustainability. Be *One in a Million* by planting a tree today, and then [make your tree count](http://www.milehighmillion.org) by registering it [www.milehighmillion.org](http://www.milehighmillion.org)!

## Traveling Route 40: Celebrating the Character of Colfax Avenue

Lakewood, Denver and Aurora's Colfax business development organizations have joined forces to produce a touring photography exhibition, "Traveling Route 40 - Celebrating the Character of Colfax Avenue." The show coincides with Denver's 2013 [Month of Photography](#) celebration.

The juried exhibition will be featured at the City of Denver's McNichols Building in Civic Center Park throughout March and April 2013. In addition, a traveling show will be featured at select venues in each of the participating Colfax business districts, including Lakewood-West Colfax Business Improvement District, West Colfax Business Improvement District in Denver, Upper Colfax Business Improvement District, Colfax on the Hill's Bluebird District, The Fax Partnership and the Aurora Arts District.

Click [here](#) for a list of exhibit locations with dates and times.

This photography exhibition is the latest collaboration of Colfax organizations to elevate public awareness and appreciation of the rich history of America's longest commercial street. These events promote private sector investment in the burgeoning Colfax corridor, where the estimated projected investment in Denver, Lakewood and Aurora over

the next five years is approaching \$1 billion dollars.



In conjunction with the [2013 Month of Photography Denver](#) (in March), 40 West Arts and Colfax's business support district partners invited photographers to use their artist's eye to capture the ever-changing character of Colfax Avenue. Whether characterized as the longest continuous main street in the United States or the Gateway to the Rockies, Colfax Avenue has been at the epicenter of entrepreneurial and cultural activities in the metro area for more than 150 years. From its beginning as a dusty road, to its heyday of mansions for the Denver elite, to the neon-celebration of the 1950s car culture, there's no place quite like

Colfax. We asked photographers to celebrate not only its rich history, but also its present personality, and its possibilities for the future in an event that's all things quintessentially Colfax.

The Colfax Photography Show was juried by Boulder-based fine art photographer, Richard Van Pelt, whose work centers on the changing American West, and specifically addresses issues surrounding the landscape and modern land development. Richard is the recipient of two fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts, and his work has been internationally recognized. For more information on Richard and his work, please visit [www.richardvanpelt.com](http://www.richardvanpelt.com)

This juried exhibition will be on display throughout March and April 2013 for a two-month long, multi-location traveling show. The shows will kickoff at 40 West Gallery at 1560 Teller from March 1-16. Thereafter, a "traveling" portion of the show will visit additional locations in the Colfax corridor, as listed [here](#).

The exhibition will be part of the new [Weisco Motorcars](#) Grand Opening and Wine Tasting on March 20th from 5:30 - 8pm at 7000 E. Colfax Avenue. For tickets to the event go to [thefaxdenver.com](http://thefaxdenver.com).

### Denver Parks and Recreation: Athletic Field Closures

Due to severe drought conditions, all athletic fields are closed until March 18. At that time, Parks and Recreation will open all softball/baseball fields, but all multi-use fields (including soccer fields) will remain closed until April 1.

The reason for allowing softball and baseball to start earlier is

because the usage and resulting wear-and-tear on the turf is much less severe with this sport. Other team sports, such as soccer, lacrosse, etc., have a much greater impact on our fields.

Given the current drought conditions and the effect that the lack of moisture has had on the health of the turf fields, these actions are

necessary to prevent severe damage or destruction of playing fields.

Allowing heavy or even casual use of athletic fields in their current condition could result in closures later in the spring or summer that could last several months, putting the majority of the playing season in jeopardy.

## Virtual Neighborhood Watch Program

The Denver Police Department in an effort to help facilitate a virtual neighborhood watch program and help foster neighbor-to-neighbor communications, has partnered with Nextdoor [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com), the private social network for neighborhoods.

Nextdoor is free for the residents and the Police Department.

Each Denver neighborhood has its own private Nextdoor neighborhood website, accessible only to residents of that neighborhood. The City of Denver has been mapped into 126 different neighborhoods. Those interested in joining their neighborhood's Nextdoor website can visit [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com) and enter their address.

## Upcoming SCFD Free Days

### Denver Museum of Nature & Science

- April 21
- May 12

### Denver Botanic Gardens At 1007 York Street:

- March 27
- April 22 (Earth Day)

### At Chatfield Reservoir:

- March 1
- April 5

### Denver Zoo

- November 4, 15, 21

### Denver Art Museum

- March 2
- April 6

### Denver Center for the Performing Arts

Each Tuesday at 10 a.m., the DCPA will release a limited number of \$10 tickets. Ten seats for every Denver Center Theater Co. performance in the coming week will qualify (up to 25 shows per week). Use code: SCFD.

## Stay Connected...

The City & County of Denver provides streaming video of Denver 8 TV programming. You can view [LIVE](#) as it is scheduled, or watch on demand, including archived coverage of City Council meetings and City-produced local shows. For direct access, visit [www.denvergov.org/Denver8online](http://www.denvergov.org/Denver8online).

### Land Use, Transportation, & Infrastructure Committee

Meets and airs live on Tuesdays at 10:30am. Replays on Tuesday at 8:30pm, Friday at 3pm & Saturday at 3pm.

### Health, Safety, Education, & Services Committee

Meets and airs live on Tuesdays at 1:30pm. Replays on Tuesday at 7pm, Friday at 9:30am & Sunday at

3pm.

### Government Affairs & Finance Committee

Meets and airs live on Wednesdays at 10:30am. Replays on Wednesday at 7pm, Friday at 1:30pm & Saturday at 4:30pm.

### Business, Workforce, & Sustainability Committee

Meets and airs live on Wednesdays at 1:30pm. Replays on Wednesday at 8:30pm, Friday at 11am & Sunday at 4:30pm

### Legislative Session of Denver City Council

Meets and airs live on Mondays at 5:30pm. Replays on Monday night at 8:30pm, Thursday at 12:30pm & Saturday at 10am.

## Help Save Our Sundial!

Please join your neighbors in saving the Sundial Plaza at [Cranmer Park](#).



For the past two years, the Cranmer Park – Hilltop Civic Association has been working with representatives of the City's Parks and Recreation Department to discuss the much needed full restoration of the Sundial and the plaza area in Cranmer Park. While City funds of more than \$500,000 have been committed to this project, the entire restoration project requires an additional million dollars to be raised.

Under the guidance of Councilwoman Mary Beth Susman, and with the assistance of The Denver Foundation, a new fundraising effort is about to launch – the Save Our Sundial campaign. With limited government funding available, the goal is to raise the needed amount through the generosity of individuals, corporations and foundations.

Denise Sanderson will be coordinating the efforts of this group, and is currently forming a committee to help with the *Save Our Sundial* campaign. If you would like to be involved, please contact her at [DeniseSanderson105@gmail.com](mailto:DeniseSanderson105@gmail.com) or at 303-320-1647.



### Related links:

Denver City Council  
Weekly Agendas, Minutes  
& Information -  
[www.denvergov.org/CityCouncil](http://www.denvergov.org/CityCouncil)



**DENVER**  
THE MILE HIGH CITY

Call 3-1-1 for your **NON-EMERGENCY** questions, problems and concerns with the City and County of Denver.

Call 9-1-1 for emergencies. The Police Department's non-emergency line is 720.913.2000

