North Denver Cornerstone Collaborative

NDCC

Mayor Michael B. Hancock’s Corridor of Opportunity Initiative

project news

Issue 31, 2016

North Denver Cornerstone Collaborative Projects Map
Dear Friends,

On January 26th, Mayor Hancock announced the creation of the Mayor’s Office of the National Western that will focus on realizing the bold vision of the National Western Center. The creation of this new office is a critical next step following the Denver voter’s overwhelming support of ballot measure 2c and the State’s support through Regional Tourism Act funding. The office will ensure that the city is being responsible stewards of taxpayer dollars as we deliver the vision of the new National Western Center.

Mayor Hancock has appointed Kelly Leid as the Executive Director for the new office. Over the next 90 days, Kelly will transition into his new role and the Mayor will move to identify a new Executive Director for the North Denver Cornerstone Collaborative (NDCC). The Mayor’s Office of the National Western Center (NWCO) will work closely with the NDCC and the project will remain as one of six NDCC projects. The NDCC’s collaborative approach will continue to guide the work in Globeville, Elyria, Swansea and RiNo to reconnect and re-energize this historic region of our city.

The Mayor’s Office of the National Western Center will assist in the formation of a governance entity and moving the work plan forward with guidance from the existing Executive Oversight Committee. The new office will work independent of other departments and agencies and will be responsible for the budget management, maintaining existing partnerships, recruiting additional public and private partners and developing strategic communications and community outreach efforts.

We look forward to continuing to work with the community on this unique project. Click here to read the entire press release.

Sincerely,

NDCC Team

NDCC PROJECT UPDATES

National Western Center Campus
significant discount to Denver residents. Trees are $10 each in 27 low tree-canopy 'target' neighborhoods, and $35 each throughout the rest of the City and County of Denver - a significant savings from typical nursery retail ($80-$125). Residents facing financial hardship may request a 'Treeship' to receive trees free of charge.

Applications Due: February 15  
Tree Pick Up & Planting: April 16  
Availability is limited, so apply now to get the species of your choice.  
Visit [www.TheParkPeople.org](http://www.TheParkPeople.org) for more info and to apply, or call 303.722.6262 to request a paper application. Trees beautify our neighborhoods, enhance property values (up to 10%), shade our homes, and help us conserve energy. Let's make our community an even better place to live, work, and play!

**Helpful Info:**  
Denver Digs Trees focuses on providing medium and large sized shade trees for planting within the City of Denver.  
ALL Denver residents, businesses, nonprofit organizations, and schools are eligible to apply for free and low-cost trees!  
Residents in our low tree-canopy TARGET NEIGHBORHOODS are eligible to apply for especially discounted trees.  
FIND OUT WHICH NEIGHBORHOOD YOU LIVE IN VIEW 2016 TREE SPECIES DESCRIPTIONS (scroll to pages 4 and 5)  

---

**Denver Receives EPA Grant**  
Did you hear the great news? Denver was awarded a technical assistance grant from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), under its "Local Foods, Local Places" initiative. Denver will receive technical assistance to identify strategies to enhance local food systems and local food education, and incorporate local foods into the redevelopment of the National Western Center to improve public health and economic and community development opportunities for neighborhood residents. [Click here to read the announcement](https://ui.constantcontact.com/visualeditor/visual_editor_preview.jsp?agent.uid=1123652963253&format=html&printFrame=true).

**Be part of History! Share your Family Photos**  
Help us preserve the history of the National Western Stock Show! As part of Phase I of our Historic Preservation Study for the National Western Center, we are inviting residents to share their family photos at the Stock Show in the last 100 years. Here's how:

1. Scan photo and email to [ndcc@denvergov.org](mailto:ndcc@denvergov.org).

Help us preserve our western heritage as we begin to transform the complex into a year round destination - the National Western Center!

---

**Neighborhood Plans**

**Globeville Discovery Day**  
Come learn about the Discover Denver citywide building survey and what we've discovered in the Globeville neighborhood. Do you have information that could help us tell Globeville's story? Stop by and share your memories and historical knowledge about your neighborhood. Information you provide can help the Discover Denver project communicate what makes Globeville, and Denver, special.

If you have old photographs of the Globeville neighborhood, or even of your own house, we'd love to have you bring them to this event. We'll have equipment on hand to scan photographs and to capture stories. Stop by and socialize with your neighbors, and share stories and memories about Globeville.

---

**Globeville Discovery Day**
Looking for fruit or flowering trees for your yard? Consider shopping our EARTH DAY YARD TREE SALE.

In the News

A few stories regarding NDCC projects or related topics. More stories can be viewed by clicking here.

Mayor Hancock turns to familiar face to lead National Western project, Denver Post

Denver’s new National Western Center Office has a leader, Denver Business Journal

National Western Stock Show teaches kids about agriculture, Denver Post

North Denver Neighborhoods Hope to Share in Stock Show Boom, Colorado Public Radio

Final environmental report of plans for I-70 in north Denver released, Denver Post

Denver City Council member asks CDOT for extension to I-70 expansion comment period, 7News

230 foot bridge to be lifted, placed near downtown, 9News

National Western Complex Makeover Could Take Years, CBS4

NDCC Annual Report

Click here to read the 2014 NDCC Annual Report.

Quick Links

Saturday, February 6
10:00 am - 1:00 pm
Holy Transfiguration of Christ Church Hall
349 East 47th Avenue

38th& Blake Station Area Height Amendments

The City has begun an effort to refine the vision for building heights in support of transit oriented development (TOD) on 38th and Blake. Two significant outcomes of the planning process will include (1) an update of five neighborhood plans that intersect with the station area to provide consistent building height guidance, and (2) a subsequent council-initiated rezoning process to change the zoning near the station in alignment with the updated station area vision. These are important steps in building a community that will serve the diverse needs of a growing population and workforce in our great city.

Join the NDCC at an upcoming public meeting to discuss this project and provide your feedback.

Tuesday, February 2, 2016
5:30-7:30 p.m.
EXDO Event Center
1399 35th Street

For more information on this project, click here.

40th & Colorado Next Steps Study

The 40th & Colorado Next Steps Study has wrapped up the existing conditions phase of work and has moved into the development of connectivity solutions that increase neighborhood access to the A-Line commuter rail station, and key neighborhood destinations such as Bruce Randolph School. The study team is developing multi-modal options and integrated water quality improvements for 40th Avenue, evaluating potential land use scenarios and identifying improved connectivity patterns within the study area. The team will be holding stakeholder meetings and reaching out to community groups throughout February and March as these concepts take shape.

Platte to Park Hill: Stormwater Systems

Over the last six weeks the Platte to Park Hill: Stormwater Systems project team has been busy attending various Registered Neighborhood
NDCC
Councilman Albus Brooks

NDCC
Airport City Denver
NDCC 2014 Annual Report
Neighborhoods & Planning Committee

NDCC Presentations to Community & Business Groups

Interested in learning more about the North Denver Cornerstone Collaborative? Does your organizations want to host a Coffee with Kelly to hear about the NDCC?

If so, please contact Erika R. Martinez today!

Questions? Feedback?

The NDCC team believes in an open door policy. Do you have a question or comment? Share them with our team.

ndcc@denvergov.org

Newsletter Distribution

Please help us build our distribution list! If you know someone who isn’t getting the NDCC News Update, please share it with them.

In addition, printed bilingual

Organization and small neighborhood meetings. The purpose of these meetings has been to provide an overview and need of the project, to review the current draft alternatives for the Montclair and Park Hill Basins, to collect input and answer questions from the community, and to discuss next steps for the planning process. The team wants to hear from you, please take time to provide feedback on the project website by February 12, 2016 prior to the announcement of the selected alternative. The second public meeting is expected to be held in March 2016; please check the website regularly for additional details as they become available.

Community Outreach for Globeville Landing Park

The Platte to Park Hill Stormwater Solutions - Globeville Landing Outfall (GLO) team has been encouraging stakeholder input related to the redesign and community uses of the Globeville Landing Park. Working with the Greenway Foundation's South Platte River Environmental Education (SPREE) program, the team conducted a field trip with elementary age students from the Garden Place Academy. The students traveled to Globeville Landing Park and discussed the current park's positive and negative attributes. The students identified their ideas for creative uses and future design changes. The students collectively envisioned a park with active and educational spaces, with the ability access the river.

In addition to the engagement with students, the team is conducting multiple one on one meetings with area stakeholders and held a community workshop on January 27th at Stapleton Recreation Center. The team heard from community members regarding their concerns about changes to the current park and the planned drainage improvements. The team will continue engaging directly with stakeholders to inform the design and a second community meeting is planned for March 3rd (location to be announced).

Brighton Blvd. Redevelopment
newsletters are available for distribution throughout the community. If you would like to make these available at your business or organization, please contact Erika Martinez.

Join Our Mailing List!

**Corridor**

**Kiewit to Lead Integrated Contract**

The Kiewit team is excited to be working on the Integrated Construction (IC) contract for Brighton Boulevard (29th - 44th), Globeville Landing Outfall, and 33rd/Festival Streets. These projects will greatly improve vehicular movement, drainage, and pedestrian and bike travel throughout RiNo. As the IC Contractor, Kiewit will provide a wide range of preconstruction services, and assist the City and County of Denver in the delivery of these infrastructure improvement projects.

The design of the Brighton Boulevard project is the farthest along at 95% complete. The Kiewit team, CH2M, and the City of Denver staff, are working closely to get design complete and ready to bid. Utility relocations will be the first activity along Brighton and this work will be performed by the utility companies themselves. The relocations should start in the next couple of months and continue through the summer.

The Globeville Landing Outfall project involves several elements of new drainage under Brighton Boulevard, 40th Street, Pepsi, and an outfall structure and channel through the Denver Coliseum parking lot to the South Platte River. This project is 30% designed and the Kiewit team is very involved to help determine the most efficient and cost effective methods of construction. Another key part of the project is to help enhance the Globeville Park and connect it to other improvements in the region that will ultimately help activate and increase the park's use, which today is hidden behind the Pepsi Plant.

33rd and Festival Streets will be built on property that is currently not developed so there are fewer travel impacts. These streets will be constructed first and construction is anticipated to start in late spring.

**Speed Limit on Brighton**

The City is recommending a change in the speed limit to Brighton Boulevard with the new roadway re-construction. The recommendation is to extend the 30 MPH Speed Limit.
limit that exists south of 29th to the interchange of I-70 then continuing the change north past the National Western Center. The 35 MPH speed limit that exists today was raised as a concern by the community during the outreach process of this corridor project. As the project has continued from a vision into design, more property along the corridor has developed and continues to develop at a pace that is unprecedented and unexpected. A speed study conducted in 2009 indicated most traffic on the corridor travels at 39 MPH which is slightly over the posted speed limit today but within a threshold that supports the existing speed limit.

An analysis was completed for the corridor utilizing information from the FHWA (Federal Highway Administration) and the planned improvements along the corridor. The analysis indicated a speed limit of 30 MPH will be appropriate for the corridor as it converts to a complete street. We expect that the new land uses along the corridor, the increase in pedestrian and bicycle traffic, as well as the new roadway improvements to support the different traffic and uses will naturally drop the speed of traffic to around 30 MPH and support the new posted speed limit.

The differentiators for the speed limit drop from other corridors within the City include (but are not limited to):

1. Extending the existing 30 MPH limit that exists on the south end of the corridor. The land uses along the corridor are developing this into an extension of downtown
2. The roadway construction provides the catalyst for the change. The new construction will include pedestrian and bicycle facilities that do not exist currently
3. The small pockets of on-street parking will provide friction and will decrease the speeds naturally
4. We expect the opening of the east corridor (April 2016) and the installation of the 35th/36th ped bridge to drive more foot traffic into the area and along the corridor supporting the installation of the lower speed once the roadway is re-constructed

We will keep you updated on this change. For more information regarding this topic, please feel free to
River North (RiNo)

Progress Report: 38th & Blake Station Transit Oriented Development
The New Year is off to a fast start for the 38th and Blake Station TOD project! Significant progress is being made and all three project components are on schedule to be completed this spring and summer.

As construction nears completion, you will see several noticeable improvements from the 38th & Blake Station TOD Project:

Construction of the 35th/36th Street Pedestrian Bridge: The main platform for this new pedestrian and bicycle bridge was installed over the railroad tracks on January 11th. Upon completion, it will connect Wazee Street with Blake Street between 35th and 36th streets. Click here for the video!

Replacement of the Blake Street bridge over 38th Street: As the bridge is rebuilt to improve visibility and safety, periodic closures of adjacent streets will continue. Upon completion, wide sidewalks over the bridge on Blake Street will offer better pedestrian/bike access. Lighting above and below the bridge will improve safety. A new multi-use trail connection is also being constructed between 38th/Walnut Street and RTD’s 38th/Blake rail station.

Sidewalk Improvements: New sidewalks have been installed to improve pedestrian safety and access to RTD’s 38th/Blake rail station. The first priority of this phased construction work was to install sidewalks where none currently exist and work has been substantially completed.

To register for ongoing updates, visit the project website (www.denvergov.org/38thandBlake) or call
the NDCC Construction hotline at 720-865-2900 to report any concerns regarding construction.

I-70 Reconstruction

Final EIS Review Period Extended and Hearings Next Week
The Public Review Period for the Final EIS has been extended to March 2, 2016. The review period began January 15, 2016. The Final EIS is available online and at 16 community viewing locations.
http://www.i-70east.com/reports.html#feis

CDOT will host three public hearings on Feb 1, 2 and 3rd to receive public comment on the FEIS. The hearing will begin with an open house and opportunity to ask questions; a formal presentation will begin at 6pm.

5:00 pm - 8:00 pm Formal presentation followed by comments at 6:00 p.m.

Aurora
Monday, February 1, 2016
North Middle School
12095 Montview Boulevard

Commerce City
Tuesday, February 2, 2016
Adams City High School
7200 Quebec Parkway

Denver
Wednesday, February 3, 2016
Bruce Randolph Middle School
3955 Steele Street

The same information will be presented at each meeting.

Project Design Workshop
In January, CDOT hosted a public workshop to introduce the purpose of the aesthetic standards; review input CDOT received from the Community Design Advisory Committee on the on the qualities/features that best define the surrounding neighborhoods; present three concepts for the theme of the standards, including character, materials, color palettes and texture; and to provide the community with the opportunity to select a
preferred design theme for the corridor.

Click here to access the Presentation and the Meeting Summary.

RTD Station Development

**North Metro Line - N Line**

Safety is a top priority for RTD. Because RTD takes safety so seriously, it is important to demonstrate that by doing something a bit unexpected for transit safety outreach. Through an innovative partnership with Australian transit operator Metro Trains Melbourne, RTD is bringing the "Dumb Ways to Die" safety campaign to the metro Denver area. RTD is the first transit agency in North America to use the "Dumb Ways to Die" campaign for transit safety outreach.

The public safety campaign was successfully used in Melbourne to promote rail safety, receiving more than 75 million pledges worldwide from people committed to being safe around trains. Additionally, the "Dumb Ways to Die" video has nearly 119 million views on YouTube to date.

RTD chose this particular safety campaign because it is a memorable and proven effective way to educate about safety, using animation and humor as a hook to engage, captivate and start a discussion about a very serious topic. Watch the video and make a pledge to be safe around buses and trains. Click here!

For more updates on the N Line, click here for the January Newsletter.

**University of Colorado - A Line**

**CU A Line Chugging Along Toward Opening Day**

With opening day of the University of Colorado A Line occurring on April 22, 2016, the project is starting to come to a close. Over the past few months and heading toward opening day, the focus of the project has shifted from mainly construction to primarily testing the new rail line.

Although most of the construction has been completed, there are a few areas still left to finish prior to opening day. The CU A Line's final roadway project is taking place at Smith Road and Monaco...
Street Parkway in Denver. This construction activity is expected to be completed by the end of January 2016. This will end a long line of roadway improvement projects that have occurred as a result of construction of the rail line - 40th Avenue between Blake and York streets, Smith Road reconstruction between Kearney and Colorado Boulevard and 33rd/Moline reconstruction.

Additionally, the finishing work is occurring on all of the stations, including placing platform benches, signage and landscaping. The installation of station artwork is anticipated to occur in the first part of 2016 as well.

Currently, testing is occurring on the entirety of the line. This is to ensure that the system is verified upon opening day. This includes our vehicle burn-in time, training operators on how to control the trains and become familiarized with the routes, and confirming that every piece of signaling and safety equipment works appropriately.

During testing, train horns will continue to blow prior to becoming quiet zones once the system opens to the public. Quiet zones mean that a train does not have to blow its horn when approaching a railroad crossing but are required to in case of any hazard or other potential safety risk.

For continued information on the CU A Line as we head toward opening day, please visit http://rtd-fastracks.com/ec_1.

For more updates on the A Line, click here for the January Newsletter with updates.

**Gold Line - G Line**

Construction underway for the G Line in Globeville include:

- Testing of communications systems, railroad and traffic signals at all Gold (G) Line crossings
- Storm drain and walkway construction at the Pecos Junction Station in Adams County
- Bus loop and curb and gutter installation at the Wheat Ridge Ward Station

For more updates on the G Line, click here for the January Newsletter with updates.
Denver awards $4.9 million for housing and neighborhood projects

*Federal community development funds to support 44 projects supporting low- and moderate-income households*

In January, the Denver Office of Economic Development (OED) issued award letters to 33 organizations slated to collectively receive $4.9 million in federal grant funding in 2016.

OED reviewed proposals from organizations that responded to a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) for housing and neighborhood projects. There were several organizations serving the Globeville, Elyria and Swansea neighborhoods. Congratulations to the following:

**Bird Seed Collective** - Healthy Food Access in the Globeville/Elyria-Swansea Neighborhoods


**Focus Points** (GES Live Well) - Career and Entrepreneurial Development Programs

**Focus Points** - Neighborhood Resource Center Services

**Groundwork Denver** - Youth Jobs and Neighborhood Improvements

The awarded projects will be funded through a variety of federal community development programs, including the Community Development Block Grant, HOME Investment Partnerships and Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS programs.

For a listing of other organizations in Denver receiving funding, click here.

---

**Denver Environmental Health Solicits Nominations for the Healthy Communities Awards**

*Applications accepted for public and environmental health leaders Jan. 11 through Feb. 18*

Denver's [Department of Environmental Health](https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/about/ohdверш/whatiswe) is dedicated to helping to build, promote and maintain healthy communities though public and environmental health education, community engagement and enforcement of Denver's city ordinances.

To help encourage and recognize the efforts of local organizations and individuals working to protect and support healthy, livable and sustainable communities, Denver Environmental Health sponsors the Healthy Communities Awards (HCA).

The awards are focused on organizations, projects or individuals engaged in efforts to protect and/or improve the environment in Denver (clean air, land, and water), promote healthy people through improved food or child safety, access to healthy food, healthy built environments, or activities that promote healthy pets and improve the lives of animals, or in the community at-large.

Nominations will be accepted Jan. 11 through Feb. 18 in the following three categories:
1. **Public and Environmental Innovation Award** - Designed to recognize individuals and organizations that employ innovative strategies, processes, or technologies to improve public health and/or the environment in Denver.

2. **Excellence In Compliance Award** - Designed to encourage, recognize and reward local organizations that have consistently met or exceeded applicable public or environmental health-related compliance standards through recognized best practices, regulation, or certification.

3. **Public and Environmental Good Neighbor Award** - Designed to recognize individuals and organizations that have a longstanding commitment to protecting and/or improving the environment in Denver (clean air, land, and water), or promoting healthy people through improved access to healthy food, healthy built environments, or promoting healthy pets through activities at the animal shelter or in the community at-large.

Awards finalists will be notified in March and invited to attend a recognition event held the week of April 4, in honor National Public Health Week.

For more information or to view eligibility guidelines, please visit [www.denvergov.org/hca](http://www.denvergov.org/hca).

**Denver's Corridor of Opportunity**

The Corridor of Opportunity represents a nearly 23-mile stretch between linking I-70 and East Commuter line from Denver Union Station to Denver International Airport.

The corridor is one of the most compelling commercial investment opportunities in the world, with thousands of developable acres. With nine commuter-rail stations along RTD's East Line alone (slated to open in 2016), future plans for the area include transit-oriented development with housing, strategic locations for corporate headquarters and abundant options for additional open space.

The variety of opportunities, both existing and future, make this corridor a focal point for Denver's future economy, with nearly 40,000 new jobs through new and expanded businesses and $2.6 billion in economic impact expected over the next three decades, including $13.4 million annually in additional city revenue.
About the North Denver Cornerstone Collaborative (NDCC)

The North Denver Cornerstone Collaborative was founded by Mayor Michael B. Hancock on January 25, 2013. Recognizing a convergence of upcoming projects in the Elyria-Swansea and Globeville neighborhoods, the Mayor identified an opportunity to energize a cornerstone of the Corridor of Opportunity and create an updated gateway to downtown by aligning individual efforts into one coordinated vision. Kelly Leid manages the general oversight, planning, strategic coordination, financing and implementation of the six primary projects.

City and County of Denver
North Denver Cornerstone Collaborative
201 W. Colfax Ave., Dept. 205
Denver, CO 80202
www.denvergov.org/NDCC
ndcc@denvergov.org