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★ PAUL'S PONDERINGS ★

Finally, I can formally say, "Happy Springtime, D-6ers"

While I impatiently wait for the more regular arrival of warmer and longer days and more frequent bluebird skies, I have - once again - put the snow shovel in the shed. Please join me in prayer that whatever Spring Surprise we may still get needs no more than a couple of quick passes with that shovel.

Hope is certainly springing eternal on the University of Denver campus as the mighty DU Pioneers hockey team advances in their quest for a record 10th NCAA national championship. The team is currently tied with Michigan at 9 titles. The Pios defeated Cornell in a 2-1 nailbiter to punch their ticket to the NCAA Frozen Four, the equivalent of NCAA basketball's Final Four. DU will play Boston University, April 11, in St Paul MN, for a shot at the National Championship game. Go Pios!

Denver's budget picture continues to look less frightening with each reassessment as we have been successful in reducing the number of migrants that we are serving and sheltering - down to around 600 from a maximum several months ago in the 5,000 range - and we've reduced the cost of serving those who still need our assistance. The original forecast of spending \$180-million this year was dropped to \$120-million several weeks back, and as I write this note I am expecting another important drop in that number to be announced in the next week or so.

The United States has always been a welcoming nation. I hope we can continue in that vein in a way that supports our economy rather than drains it. There are numerous moving pieces to that puzzle, and I am trying to remain optimistic they will come together sooner rather than later.

We will have several in person opportunities for you to talk about the issues that concern you most with Mayor Mike Johnston, city department staffers, as well as myself and the D-6 team in coming months.

On Tuesday, May 21, 5:30-7p.m., at Merrill Middle School (1551 S Monroe St), we'll host the first in-person **D-6 Academy In The Community**. Mayor Johnston will talk briefly about his major goals for 2024: Vibrant Denver, Affordable Denver, Safe Denver, Great Government, and Employee Engagement (see graphic below). Myself and At-Large City Council representatives Serena Gonzalez-Gutierrez and Sarah Parady will be on hand to interact with you as well, and you'll have plenty of time to meet with whichever of city agencies are best to address your concerns and answer your questions.

On Tuesday, June 4, we will join with District 5 to welcome Mayor Johnston, Denver Police Chief Ron Thomas and members of his command staff, to focus on the **Mayor's Safe Denver goal**. We are still ironing out time and place, but will have that info for you by the time our May newsletter hits your inbox.

Later in the summer - July/August - the Mayor will be back in D6 to discuss his plans surrounding the topic of **Affordable Denver**, and not long thereafter we'll be back with another D6 Academy focusing on timely topics of interest to you D-6ers.

We know life gets busy, but we hope you'll take the opportunity to come out and let your voices be heard. Until then, have a great spring. May your gardens be bountiful.

Regards,

2024 GOALS

VIBRANT DENVER	AFFORDABLE DENVER		SAFE DENVER		GREAT GOVERNMENT	
BUILD A SHARED VISION FOR A VIBRANT DENVER	ALL IN MILE HIGH	3,000 AFFORDABLE HOMES	ROADS TO RECOVERY	SAFE CITY	CUT PERMITTING TIME	IMPROVE CITY SERVICES
Engage the public across the 11 council districts to envision vibrant neighborhoods and a vibrant downtown, identifying funding for both by Dec. 31, 2024.	Reach a total of 2,000 people moved indoors from unsheltered homelessness by Dec. 31, 2024.	Permit, secure, finance or support the development and preservation of 3,000 long-term affordable housing units by Dec. 31, 2024.	Move 200 individuals struggling with addiction or mental health out of the criminal justice system and into a coordinated intervention, treatment, and rehabilitation pipeline by Dec. 31, 2024.	Reduce violent gun crime by 20% and improve customer satisfaction by 15% by Dec. 31, 2024.	Re-visit the development permitting process and reduce city review time by 30% by Dec. 31, 2024.	Reduce our response time to the top 3 constituent concerns by 20% by Dec. 31, 2024.
EMPLOYEE ENGAGEMENT → Improve employee engagement by 5% by Dec. 31, 2024.						

★ SUSTAINABLE 6 TIP ★

It can be overwhelming to invent new ways as individuals to participate and contribute to a cleaner, safer environment. Sometimes, by stepping back and at observing from a 10,000 foot view can provide the insight needed to put our daily activities into a big-picture context. As we enter spring and give the customary nod to Earth Day, we offer a few insightful articles below to expand your mind and help provoke a fresh assessment of climate change.



- Here’s a [run-down](#) of the climate concerns we face as Coloradans and what were doing about it.
 - Could this be the future? An [International Court rules](#) in favor of enforcing the right to a healthy environment.
 - And finally, [new research](#) is looking at how sustainable agriculture can aid in decarbonization.
- Tell us what climate news inspires you! What are you worried about? What are you excited for?

★ CITY COUNCIL SCHEDULE ★

PRIORITY YOUTH PUBLIC COMMENT FIRST MONDAY OF THE MONTH



Attention Denver Residents & Community Partners! Changes to public comment are here! We will be adding a check box on the sign up page to indicate the speaker is “18 or younger” in age, with those speakers being prioritized to speak first on the First Monday of each month. In the 30 minute session we can usually hear about 10 residents.

YOUTH: Think about a problem or concern in your community that you feel passionate about or that affects you directly. What would you like to tell City Council about how this impacts you and what solutions you might have to address the issue? Think about issues that are within the responsibilities and jurisdiction of the City Council. What is the issue most important to you and what should City Council know about this issue? What suggestions do you have to address this issue? What do you want City Council to know about what it is like to be you growing up in Denver? What ideas do you have that can make our city better for you, your peers, your family?

How to sign up? [Link to the Sign Up Page](#)

When to sign up? Sign up opens at 11a.m. on Friday before the Monday General Public Comment Session. For the Monday, May 6 council meeting, sign up will open at 11a.m. on Friday May 3.

How to join the meeting after we sign up? You can attend in person in City Council Chambers, 1437 Bannock, 4th floor or join the meeting via Zoom - everyone who signs up will receive a zoom link

[Link to the General Public Comment Information Page](#)

COMMITTEE MEETINGS, GENERAL MEETINGS, PUBLIC COMMENT



Tune in to Channel 8, go [online](#), or come on up to the 4th floor of the City and County Building (1437 Bannock St) to watch your city's legislative branch in action!

MONDAY:

Budget & Policy Committee (meets every other week) – 1:30p.m.

[Watch Live](#) - [See agendas, minutes, and videos for this committee](#)

City Council Afternoon Session – 3:30p.m.

General Public Comment Session (see next paragraph for details) – 5-5:30p.m.

City Council Evening Session continues with unfinished business and public hearings at 5:30p.m.

[Watch Live](#) - [See agendas, minutes, and videos for City Council meetings](#)

Every week, starting at 5p.m., the Denver City Council hosts a 30 minute public comment session before the meeting of Council. Members of the public are invited to address the full Council on any topic that is not scheduled for a public hearing. Each speaker gets 3 minutes to speak on any topic of their choice. Sign up starts at noon on the Friday before the next scheduled general public comment session. [Sign up online](#) or by calling 720-337-2000.

TUESDAY:

Mayor-Council Meeting – 9:30a.m.

Parr-Widener Community Room, Room 389, City and County Building

[See schedules, agendas, and archived videos for this meeting.](#)

NOTE: This meeting is scheduled, managed, and noticed by the mayor's office. Please contact the mayor's office for information and questions about this meeting.

Finance and Governance Committee – 10:30a.m.

[Watch Live](#) - [See agendas, minutes, and videos for this committee](#)

Land Use, Transportation, and Infrastructure Committee – 1:30p.m.

[Watch Live](#) - [See agendas, minutes, and videos for this committee](#)

WEDNESDAY:

Safety, Housing, Education & Homelessness Committee– 10:30a.m.

[Watch Live](#) - [See agendas, minutes, and videos for this committee](#)

Business, Arts, Workforce, Climate, and Aviation Services Committee – 1:30p.m.

[Watch Live](#) - [See agendas, minutes, and videos for this committee](#)

IN-DISTRICT OFFICE HOURS

Stop by and have a cup of coffee or munch on some brunch with Councilman Kashmann to discuss concerns in the District, thoughts about the city, or just to say "Hello"!

In-District Office Hours are **every Thursday, 8a.m.-noon**, at **Pete's University Park Cafe** (2345 E Evans Ave, at the corner of University and Evans), with parking available in the back.



LOVVE PROJECT HYGIENE SUPPLY DRIVE

As of January 2024, The LoVVe Project now provides fresh food and hygiene supplies to support to Ellis and McMeen Elementary Schools. We are honored to rise to the challenge of supporting incoming migrant families with fresh food, kindness, and dignity.

Help families in your neighborhood! The district 6 office will be teaming up with Mayor Mike Johnston to support the LoVVe Project hygiene supply drive, and we need your help! Please consider buying an extra bottle of detergent or package of toilet paper the next time you are shopping, and swing it by Ace Hardware or Virginia Village Library!

Most needed items:

- Laundry Soap
- Fabric Softener
- Toilet Paper
- Paper Towels

Drop off locations & hours:

Cherry Creek Ace Hardware (1417 S Holly St)
Mon-Fri, 8a.m.-8p.m., Sat 8a.m.-7p.m., Sun 9a.m.-6p.m.

Virginia Village Library (1500 S Dahlia St)
Mon-Thurs, 10a.m.-6p.m., Fri-Sat, 10a.m.-5p.m.

The LoVVe Project provides FRESH meat, dairy, produce, and cleaning/hygiene supplies to families of Title 1 Denver elementary schools with a high percentage of students eligible for free/reduced lunch. 2023 has been an especially challenging year as elementary schools have had a dramatic influx of newcomers needing additional support for a wide range of services including housing and access to food. Our dream is to provide fresh food to every family in need in Denver, and to consistently provide culturally relevant choices for our diverse community.

[For more information, visit our website!](#)

[To donate, visit this webpage!](#)

LOVVE PROJECT

SUPPLY DRIVE

The LoVVe Project provides fresh food, hygiene products, and cleaning supplies to our neighbors at Ellis and McMeen Elementary Schools in Denver, CO.

MOST NEEDED ITEMS:

- 300 - Laundry Soap
- 300 - Fabric Softener
- 300 - Packages Toilet Paper
- 300 - Packages Paper Towels

DROP-OFF LOCATIONS, DATES & HOURS
APRIL 5 - APRIL 19

CHERRY CREEK ACE HARDWARE
MON-FRI 8AM-8PM, SAT 8AM-7PM,
SUN 9AM-6PM
1417 S HOLLY ST, DENVER, CO 80222

VIRGINIA VILLAGE LIBRARY
MON-THURS 10AM-6PM,
FRI-SAT 10AM-5PM
1500 S DAHLIA ST, DENVER, CO 80222

CONTACT US:
info@thelovveproject.org
thelovveproject.org

PAUL DENVER CITY COUNCILMAN KASHMANN DISTRICT 6

DENVER MAYOR'S OFFICE



DISTRICT 6 ACADEMY 2024

The District 6 Academy focuses on current issues and aims to provide residents with tools to empower them to effect change. This is a free series with the goal to provide critical knowledge and understanding of complex issues as well as valuable tools that residents can implement when engaging with city agencies and the community at large.

Academy in the Community!

We are excited to announce our second District 6 academy of the year, coming to you live and in-person! Join us **May 21, 5:30-7p.m. at Merrill Middle School (1551 S Monroe St)** for our District 6 Academy in the Community to chat with experts from various city agencies and community partners, and to hear updates from Denver elected officials.

Taxes? Fees? Mills & Levies? The Ins and Outs of Funding Denver

Did you miss our first session? No worries! We recorded the webinar, and have posted the presentations used - find both [on our website!](#)

We will hold additional sessions in September and November, so be on the lookout for more details and view all our past sessions [on our website.](#)

Registered Neighborhood Organizations (RNO) are a great resource for information about events, changes, or future projects happening in your neighborhood! Some meet more frequently than others, below are the upcoming meetings in District 6!

[FIND YOUR RNO HERE](#)
[LIST OF ALL DISTRICT 6 RNO'S](#)



UPCOMING MEETINGS:

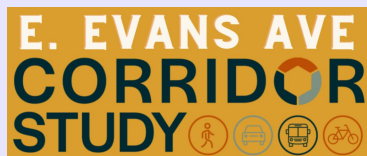
Bonnie Brae Neighborhood Association (BBNA)
Wednesday, 4/10, 5:30p.m.
Bonnie Brae Baptist Church (700 Bonnie Brae Blvd)
For more information, visit the [BBNA website!](#)

University Neighbors Neighborhood Association (UNNA):
Thursday, 4/11, 6:30p.m.
Virtual only: Email claire.kelly@denvergov.org for Zoom link

Cook Park Neighborhood Organization (CPNA):
Thursday, 4/18, 6p.m.
Cook Park Rec Center (7100 Cherry Creek S Dr)
Virtual option: [Join the Zoom Meeting](#)
For more information, visit the [CPNA website!](#)

UPCOMING COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT MEETINGS

EAST EVANS CORRIDOR STUDY COMMUNITY MEETING #2



Join Denver's Department of Transportation and Infrastructure (DOTI) on **Thursday, April 11 from 6:30-8p.m. at the Highline Academy (2170 S Dahlia St)** at for the second community meeting regarding the East Evans Corridor Study! This meeting format will be an open house with the project team, and will include a review and discussion of a visioning concept for the corridor as well as the results of community and partner input to-date.

NEAR SOUTHEAST AREA PLAN COMMUNITY MEETING



Join us to learn more about implementing the Near Southeast Area Plan recommendations through rezoning **Tuesday, April 23, 5:30-7p.m. at Place Bridge Academy (7125 Cherry Creek N Dr)**. Community members shared their vision for pedestrian-friendly centers and corridors with active ground-floor commercial uses. Now, it is time to bring that vision to life. [Visit their website](#) to learn about the implementation proposal for Near Southeast, sign up to talk with a planner one-on-one, and share your feedback!

BUCHTEL COMPLETE STREET AND EVANS INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT



Shape the future of transportation safety in your neighborhood! Be part of the Buchtel Complete Street & Evans Intersection Improvements online public meeting. [Follow this link](#) anytime **between now and April 19** to view the self-guided, virtual meeting and learn about the final design refinements and how to stay involved!

SOUTH HIGH GIVING GROCERY

The Denver South Giving Grocery has been serving the students of South High School for over ten years. Although its original mission was to provide food to students in South's Newcomer Program, the Giving Grocery has expanded its food pantry program to serve over 200 South students every week. The program focuses on local, nutritious, and culturally significant foods and encourages students to take home enough fresh produce, milk, eggs, meat, bread, and pantry staples for their whole family, completely free of charge. In addition, there is now a personal care section featuring laundry detergent, shampoo, toilet paper, and more.



The need for the Giving Grocery is greater than ever due to expired COVID-era SNAP benefits, soaring food prices, and an influx of

new refugee and immigrant students, known as Newcomers. These students arrive from all over the world and are invited, along with any other South student who needs food, to "shop" every Thursday after school during the academic year. This increased need comes at a time when the future of the program's funding is uncertain. Recently, the Giving Grocery received word that one of its largest grants will not be available next school year, leaving a gap of over \$100,000.

The Giving Grocery has no paid staff and relies on amazing volunteers, who are a combination of current and former South parents and neighbors. A collaboration with the supportive South staff and PTSA is also critical to its success, but the Giving Grocery must raise all of its own funds to meet the needs of South's most vulnerable students.

To learn more or make a tax deductible donation, please visit [their website](#).



EUGENE FIELD BRANCH LIBRARY

There's so much great stuff happening at the [Eugene Field Branch Library](#), 810 S University Blvd, in April! From children's programs and live music to a walk in nature and fascinating programs for adults, there's something for everyone at the library in April.

On Saturday, April 13, 11a.m.-1p.m., [enjoy some live jazz with the delightful sounds of Groove Machine](#) (see left photo) and yummy snacks courtesy of City Council District 6.

For our young library friends, we offer four [storytimes](#) a week, as well as [a craft program every Tuesday](#) and [LEGO Club every Wednesday](#).

And for adults, join us for any and every program that catches your interest this month. [Hear from CSU Master Gardeners about waking up your garden for growing success](#), [fire up your creativity by painting a rock for your walkway or garden](#), [learn about city trails on a Discover Walk in Wash Park](#), [celebrate Earth Day with an author talk by Mary Taylor Young](#), and [understand more about displacement in Denver through historical maps and photographs](#).



Bookmark the [branch calendar](#), stay connected [on Facebook](#), and we'll see you at the library!

COUNCIL DISTRICT 6 CONSTRUCTION SURVEY

Help us help you with construction annoyances! [We want to know](#) your biggest gripes, grievances, and frustrations with construction happening in your neighborhood! Take our 5-minute survey to help us determine the main causes of construction-related headaches in district 6, so we can do our best to find solutions.

[Take the survey today!](#)



ITS TIME FOR THE FURRY SCURRY!

The Furry Scurry is an annual, two-mile walk to support our vital mission of ending pet homelessness and animal suffering. Known as our signature fundraiser, for the past 31 years this event helps the Dumb Friends League provide specialized and compassionate care for animals who need it most. This year, Colorado's favorite 2-mile walk and dog-friendly festival is back at **Washington Park, May 4, 9a.m.**, and will have everything

longtime fans have come to expect ... and more! There will be unique pet-related items at our flea-less market and one-of-a-kind contests, along with exciting, new activities. Learn more and register at [FurryScurry.org](#)!

UPCOMING EVENTS WITH THE DISTRICT 3 POLICE

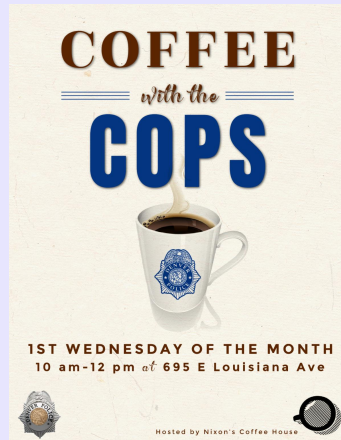
ANNUAL COMMUNITY CRIME PREVENTION
COALITION

COFFEE WITH THE COPS

CRIME PREVENTION TUNE UP



Join DPD Chief Ron Thomas, District 3 Commander Joel Bell, and District 3 Command Staff (along with Division Chiefs) on **Wednesday, April 3, 6p.m., at South High School (1700 E Louisiana Ave)** for this informative and interactive meeting to learn about community crime prevention efforts in our district! Chief Thomas will open this meeting up for the community to give comments, share thoughts, or ask questions regarding the strategies discussed at this meeting.



Say hello, grab a cup of joe, and talk with your local law enforcement team about topics that matter to you. Casual atmosphere, just coffee and conversation at Nixon's Coffee House (695 E Louisiana Ave) the first Wednesday of every month, 10a.m.-12p.m.

For more information and updates on future events, [visit the District 3 Police website!](#)



Swing by the District 3 Police Station **Saturday, April 13, 12-2p.m.**, to register you bicycles, scooters and e-bikes and receive your FREE 529 Garage Shield! You can also register your motor vehicles with DenverTrack, and receive your FREE window decal. Officers will also be on hand to install theft-deterrent license plate fasteners.

DISTRICT 6 DIGEST: A Denver Car Crime Story with a Happy Ending

The story begins when a Washington Park neighbor insisted that we do something about Denver car crimes on the few blocks just north of Washington Park. Like everyone else in Denver, we were fed up. We sprung into action. The first thing we did was invite State Representative Steven Woodrow to visit and share legislative solutions. We then bee-lined it to DPD's Coffee with a Cop where we asked: "How can we, as a community, stop car crimes right away?" Our two DPD Community Resource Officers (CROs), Kate Young and A.J. Pacheco, gave us a goal: get the car criminals to move on from the area. They gave us a lot to think about. For example, car criminals look for signs that an area is or is not doing the right things to prevent crimes. Plus, our CRO Kate said: "They will keep coming back as long as the fishing is good." They also suggested a community event. We did just that. About 30 of our neighbors showed up and our CRO Kate installed tamper-resistant license plate screws on everyone's cars. Since that worked out well, we continued to do whatever Kate and A.J. suggested. Soon, neighbor-after-neighbor began attending DPD community meetings, building relationships with DPD officers, and learning skills from DPD's Mike Borquez and Christie Mochoruk. Even DPD's data guy helped us get our hands on the block-by-block car crime data so that we could track our progress. We began doing all the right things. Car crimes on these few blocks suddenly plummeted whilst car crimes were spiking everywhere else in Washington Park, Denver, and Colorado. By the end of the year, car crimes dropped 83% with only one crime occurring after we began working with Kate and A.J. The car criminals were moving on. Even we were surprised by the results.

But then, bad luck struck at the start of 2023. Two lights went on the blink, rendering the blocks pitch black, a perfect crime setting. Immediately, three new car crimes occurred. Feeling totally despondent because we had worked so hard and fearing that the criminals would return because the fishing was good, we turned to Councilman Paul Kashmann for help. Senior Aide, Brent Fahrberger, came right out and brought along XCEL. With our CRO A.J. serving as the lighting expert, all of us together made a lighting plan to keep our cars safe both on the streets and in the parking lots. DOTI quickly processed the applications and XCEL workers installed the new generation lights. Car crimes dropped over 50% on these blocks from the previous year at the same time

workers crimes dropped over 50% on these blocks from the previous year at the same time Denver car crimes were peaking. The car criminals saw all the signs they needed to stay away from these blocks.

This year, nearly 50 of us are engaged. Many of our neighbors are doing all the right things like no personal items left in cars; removing car manuals and sun shields; registering with Denver Track, using steering wheel locks; using tamper-resistant license plates; and etching catalytic converters. Plus, we are confident about our skills for observing and reporting suspicious behaviors precisely the way DPD wants us to - and we use them. It's a good feeling knowing that the police care a lot. It's very empowering to know that all of us working together have had such a big impact on Denver.

Story Submitted by Washington Park Residents

Do you or your neighbors have a story you want to share, or something you want to see highlighted in our newsletter? Send us an email at district6@denvergov.org!

★ CITY-WIDE NEWS ★



STREET SWEEPING BEGINS!

Attention Denver residents! Street sweeping season has arrived! Remember to move your cars on your designated day to help keep our streets clean and avoid fines.

Check the red and white signs on your block for parking restrictions. You can look up your street sweeping schedule and sign up for email/text reminders by visiting the [city street sweeping webpage](#).

Denver's annual street sweeping program removes dirt and debris off city streets, keeping it out of our air and water and making our environment cleaner and healthier. Denver asks residents to move their cars on their street sweeping day so the sweepers can reach all the way to the curb line where dirt accumulates. The removal of debris also prevents storm sewer inlets from getting clogged. DOTI also reminds people not to sweep leaves into the street.

In addition to checking for red and white posted street sweeping signs on their block, residents can look up their street sweeping schedule and sign up for email/text reminders by visiting [Denver's street sweeping webpage](#). The posted street sweeping season runs from April through November.

DENVER LAUNCHES CITY-WIDE ADU PROJECT!

As part of the city's ongoing effort to expand housing availability and choice, the city launched the Citywide Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) project last month. Following recommendations from [Blueprint Denver](#), the city's land use and transportation plan, this project will look at potential updates to the Denver Zoning Code, zoning map, and Former Chapter 59 zoning to allow accessory dwelling units (ADUs) in all residential areas of the city.



You may remember the ADUs in Denver project, which was adopted by City Council last June. That project updated building standards for ADUs to make them better fit in different neighborhoods and collected feedback from constituents all over Denver, including neighbors in our district. Now that these changes to ADU design have been made, the city wants to make it easier for homeowners to build ADUs if they want to and not have to go through a time consuming and expensive rezoning process. If this project is adopted, every homeowner in a single unit home and most owners of duplexes and row houses would be zoned to allow an ADU.

An important note about this project: The City and County of Denver does not regulate homeowners associations (HOAs), or review permit applications to HOA regulations. If you live in a metro district, homeowners association, or similar, you would need to check the bylaws for that organization to see if you could build an ADU under their local rules.

To learn more about this project, to leave a comment for the project team, or to sign up for updates, you can visit the [project webpage](#). Informational meetings will be scheduled in the coming weeks.

FREE FUN IN DENVER THIS MONTH

CIVIC CENTER STARGAZE

Join Civic Center Stargaze for a celestial journey in the heart of the city! Experience moonrises and stargazing on the main promenade one Wednesday evening per month just after sunset. Delight in the enchanting atmosphere with hot beverages and dessert food trucks. These FREE events have limited space, don't miss your chance to connect with the night sky and [reserve your spot today!](#)

UPCOMING GAZES: April 24, 5- 9p.m.

FREE MUSEUM & ATTRACTION DAYS

Mark your calendars for [FREE DAYS at Denver Museums & Attractions](#) this month!

Denver Art Museum (100 W 14th Avenue Pkwy): **April 9 and 28**
Denver Museum of Nature and Science (2001 Colorado Blvd): **April 28**
Clyfford Still Museum (1250 Bannock St): **April 28 (Dia del Nino Celebration)**
Denver Zoo (2300 Steele St.) ([Registration Required](#)): **April 7**
U.S. National Parks: **April 20**

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT NEWS

RAISE A GLASS TO FOOD WASTE PREVENTION WEEK!



Every April, [Food Waste Prevention Week](#) unites communities across the U.S. to combat food waste through education and action. This year, DDPHE, along with the [Office of Climate Action, Sustainability and Resiliency](#), Strange Craft Beer Company, and Rebel Bread are brewing up an event you won't want to miss!

Surplus bread from Denver's own community bakery and bread school, Rebel Bread, will be "upcycled" into a limited release beer at Strange Craft Beer Company. Denver residents are invited to celebrate Food Waste Prevention Week on April 3 at the official release party **Wednesday, April 3 from 1 - 6p.m. at Strange Craft Beer Company (1330 Zuni St)**. This event will showcase sustainability in action through partnership, engagement and education, with a special guest tapping the first pour. The beer will be available for purchase through the weekend. Together, Denverites can raise a glass to a more sustainable future for the Mile High City.

SAFE MEDICATION DISPOSAL IN DENVER



The abuse of prescription medicine is the fastest growing drug problem in the United States, particularly among teens. The Take Meds Back program helps Denver residents safely dispose of unused and expired prescription and over-the-counter medications. Safe disposal keeps medications from being misused or abused and helps protect the environment and wildlife. The best way to get rid of household medications is to take them to the [nearest secure collection box](#). Find a disposal location in Denver and [learn more about the importance of safe medication disposal](#).

DENVER YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES!

FUTURE FEST 2024



Join the City of Denver in honoring our youth with Future

U.S. FOREST SERVICE JOB CORPS CENTERS



U.S. Forest Service Job Corps Centers train young people between the ages of 16-24 years

MY SPARK DENVER



[My Spark Denver](#) is giving 4,000 middle school students who go to DPS schools and qualify for free or reduced lunch \$1000 to spend at afterschool and summer programs! There are

Fest 2024! Round up your friends and head to **Civic Center Park on Saturday, April 13 between 10a.m. and 6p.m.** for this FREE, inclusive event for young people of all ages and their families. Explore numerous resources, career opportunities, and services that recognize Denver's youth for their community contributions. Representatives will be on hand from community organizations that provide youth-centered opportunities, as well as professionals from dozens of backgrounds and careers to help kids connect their passions to future interests and even careers right here in their hometown!

For details, visit the [Future Fest website](#).

old, with the goal of the Centers is to engage with underserved populations and to train them in skilled trades, then provide placement to secure meaningful long-term employment. Underserved and disadvantaged youth and young adults in that age group could greatly benefit from the program. We have arrivals weekly to facilitate a continuous option for those interested in the program.

In addition to trade training, they can earn money through trade-related work experience, get their HS Diploma, if a non-graduate, and obtain their driver's license while on Center to ensure maximum readiness to get to work. We support six Forest Service Centers located in Colorado, Utah, Arkansas, Montana, and South Dakota. We welcome the opportunity to work with you to help this underserved population. Applicants can make direct contact and be linked with an Outreach and Admissions counselor by sending an email to sm.fm.dr@usda.gov

after-school and summer programs. There are remarkable opportunities for art, music, dance, sports, tutoring and more. We've got some great programs in our neighborhood such as Cook Park Recreation Center, the YMCA, Mile High Tumblers and more! My Spark Denver has been launched through a partnership with the City and County of Denver, Mile High United Way, and Gary Community Ventures to increase access to afterschool and extracurricular activities that can have positive benefits for youth.

How It Works

- 1.) Apply online. The application takes less than 10 minutes and proof of free or reduced-price lunch eligibility is not required to apply.
- 2.) Choose from a list of participating afterschool and extracurricular programs.
- 3.) Register for programming and use your My Spark Card to pay.

It is first come first serve, so go register at MySparkDenver.org and tell other kids who might benefit from it to register as well!



DRIVERS COOPERATIVE - COLORADO

Established in collaboration with the Drivers Cooperative in New York, Drivers Cooperative CO aims to increase pay for rideshare drivers in Colorado, and create a more just, equitable, and inclusive workplace! Under the Drivers Cooperative, drivers will retain 80% of each fare, significantly higher than fare retention from current rideshare companies in Denver. Additionally, keeping rideshare money in

the local economy contributes to building a more robust Denver! Learn more and sign up as a driver or rider [on their website](#).

★ CITY RESOURCES ★

RENT & UTILITY ASSISTANCE OPEN WITH NEW ONLINE APPLICATION



Denver's Temporary Rent and Utility Assistance (TRUA) program is reopening applications beginning January 2! One in three households in Denver is paying more than a third of their income toward housing. TRUA can help with rent payments for up to six months per calendar year. TRUA can also help both renters and homeowners with utility assistance (Denver Water/Xcel Energy).

To qualify, you must live in the City and County of

MINIMUM WAGE TO INCREASE



The start of 2024 brings an increase in Denver's minimum wage to \$18.29 per hour on Jan. 1, and all businesses should have their payrolls prepared.

The minimum wage adjusts every year based on the Consumer Price Index to ensure wages keep up with

RTD FARES LOWER FOR ALL CUSTOMERS



Big fare changes are here! RTD's new fare system brings lower fares, a reduced number of fare zones, consolidated Discount fares, and decreased costs for 3-Hour, Day, and Monthly Passes. Travel to and from the Airport is included in all Monthly and Discount Passes. We offer

Denver or have been displaced from Denver in the past 90 days, have a household income at or below 80% of the [Area Median Income](#); and have experienced an unexpected financial hardship or other housing crisis. You do NOT have to disclose your immigration status, and landlord participation is NOT required. Visit denvergov.org/RentHelp and to learn more. The city also provides FREE tenant/landlord counseling and eviction legal assistance. Visit denvergov.org/EvictionHelp for more information about eviction legal clinics.

Denver's cost of living. The 2024 increase was 5.8%, less than the 2023 increase of 8.94%.

Employers can still claim up to \$3.02 in tip credits per hour for qualified food and beverage workers, provided employers can show documentation of at least that amount in actual tips received.

[Read more about the minimum wage at DenverWages.org](#)

Discount Passes. We offer decreased costs for Access-a-Ride and introduce Access-a-Ride LiVE fares. The new fare system expands access to the LiVE program, introduces a transit assistance grant program as well as a new Semester Pass for post-secondary students, and much more.

[Click here to learn about RTD's 2020-23 Ticket Book Exchange Program!](#)

911 SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES



911 services for Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Residents with Speech Disabilities

Text: 303-513-6909, 720-723-8911
[Email HERE](#)

Be sure to text or email the location where help is needed, a summary of the situation, response to information requested by 911 such as injuries and suspect descriptions.

Registry for Residents with Disabilities:

You may now submit information about yourself or other members of your household who have disabilities in order to help 911 respond appropriately during an emergency. Your information will remain confidential and will give officers advance warning about your circumstance prior to responding. Register [here](#).

SLOW DOWN, DENVER!



[REQUEST A YARD SIGN](#)

Denver has updated the default speed limit from 25mph to 20mph. This change applies to Denver's local streets – primarily the roads with no stripes that go through residential blocks. Additionally, wherever speed limit signs are not posted, the default speed limit will be 20 mph, per [city ordinance](#).

Lowering the speed limit on local streets is part of a broader effort Denver is taking to

address safety on our streets citywide. In 2017, the City and County of Denver set an ambitious goal of zero traffic-related deaths and serious injuries by 2030. By reducing the speed limit on our local streets, we can draw attention to the topic of vehicle speeds and help create a culture of safety within our neighborhoods where we are more likely to see people walking and biking.

SUNNY IS HERE TO HELP!



Let's Chat

SUNNY IS HERE TO HELP!

You may have noticed something different on the Denver city website - Sunny! Denver has launched a new chatbot named Sunny to help answer questions and assist with reporting issues. Sunny is here to help residents with questions, report issues and sign up for alerts. Sunny will be

available on the most visited pages for now and will move to all pages soon. Want to give it a try? Visit the [Services page of Denvergov.org](#) or simply text "hello" to HEY311 or 439311 to get started. Sunny is available 24/7 and will also provide useful links to information and services

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