



## FEATURING

- ★ PAUL'S PONDERINGS
- ★ SUSTAINABLE 6 TIP
- ★ CITY COUNCIL SCHEDULE
- ★ DISTRICT 6 NEWS
- ★ CITY-WIDE NEWS
- ★ CITY RESOURCES

## ★ PAUL'S PONDERINGS ★

Greeting, D-6ers -

Welp, 2025 is here, and in some 365 days we will have completed one-quarter of our run through the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Those of us in our elder years would have hoped the Age of Aquarius would have settled in by now here in the good ol' U.S. of A., Republicans and Democrats would have recognized their shared goals weighed more than their differing points of view, and across the globe the tools of war would have been shelved and replaced by mediation through the UN or some other more humane modality.

Sadly we're far from that. By and large, I'm not sure humankind has used the past 25 years very well. I don't see much evidence that would lead me to assert - or agree with the assertion - that we humanoids are, indeed, the more advanced of the species occupying Planet Earth.

Granted, if you want to assess our value by focusing on shiny technological advancement in the areas of lap-cradled or hand-held fact-finding devices, rockets that blast into space or cars that can park themselves, then yeah, it's been boom time. Laptops you can tuck under your arm or throw in a backpack have replaced air-conditioned rooms filled with 8-ft high stacks of main-frame computers needing constant temperature and humidity. Going one step further on this glitzy but not very profound commercial journey, pocket-sized cell phones have replaced computers as the tool of choice for how we navigate through cyberspace for work or play. How ironic that nations are bragging about who delivers the best computer chips, but ignoring the abysmal working conditions under which many of them are made.

Nationally, we set a great example for the world to follow if what you're looking for is a combative, dysfunctional relationship between the two teams we've charged with keeping us up on that pedestal emblazoned "leaders of the free world."

Hasn't it been fun watching Congress - ONCE AGAIN - clash over how to keep the government from shutting down entirely. We haven't yet had time to fully digest what services are being curtailed so the budget does balance - if only for a short time - but expect surprises no matter what side of the aisle you call home. Blame as obstructionist whichever team you feel merits that title, but I think the blame may be headed in the wrong direction.

Both sides are being asked to blaze new trails with a tool that is only designed to travel one. That tool is capitalism, and the path leads to filling the pot at the end of the rainbow with as much money as possible to be divided among a privileged caste of people, with the vast balance of the population fighting over relative crumbs.

We look in the wrong direction when we villify social safety-net programs for budget shortfalls. A return to the higher tax rates in place for decades on the highest income groups would put us in far better shape to fund programs that keep people healthy, housed, safe and well educated and would take needless weight off those of us in the middle and lower economic strata. Whomever we tax, and however we choose to tax them, we absolutely need to be as prudent as possible in how we spend the dollars they provide. We must continually assess areas in which we can be more efficient. Our policies must be sound and reflect our values and our ability to address them.

Denver's budget has been stretched to the point of bursting over the past 18-months. I think there is room to debate if mistakes were made and programs could have been funded more efficiently. But, to balance the scales by turning our backs on those in

need is a valueless proposition and a one-sided approach to which I would not subscribe.

Wishing you a wonderful 2025 -

Paul



We've given a lot of helpful sustainability tips and neat climate updates in the past but this year it's time to get critical. Critical with our thinking that is. This month's tip is all about costs. We're discussing costs from a climate standpoint and using 2025 to promote more critical thinking in the ways we discuss climate change.

There are some beneficial applications of AI (Artificial Intelligence). AI can track emissions, help in developing new technologies to capture carbon, monitor and provide climate metrics on ecosystems and agriculture. [The environmental cost of AI](#) is nothing to scoff at though. AI uses tons of water to keep data centers cool, it also requires enormous amount of energy to manufacture computer chips and run the software. Much of this energy is not sustainably sourced.

Solar is a great alternative to petroleum, but just because it's a sustainable substitute, doesn't mean it's perfect. There is a human cost to solar technology ranging from the minerals and [rare metals mined](#) in often unethical ways including forced labor, to the [factory production](#) of panels that create harmful conditions and at times unethical labor practices, not to mention the environmental destruction caused by mining in a variety of countries around the world.

In 2010 Raj Patel calculated the true cost of a hamburger in his book [The Value of Nothing](#), to be around \$200. If we adjust for inflation, we're closer to \$300 in 2025. Loss of biodiversity due to deforestation to increase agricultural production, the water used to grow the feed for cattle, for the cattle themselves, and then the amount of water that is polluted through the meat production process, and the grain subsidies that allow for an artificially low cost for feed crops are just some of the true costs of meat production.

This is not intended to kick the year off with doom and gloom. Rather, it's a reminder that we need to be thoughtful and understand that everything has a cost. Some of our best, most sustainable alternatives have unintended costs, and until we find that perfect, no downside solution, it's important to acknowledge.

## ★ DISTRICT 6 NEWS ★

### 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.



### REGISTERED NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATIONS

Registered Neighborhood Organizations (RNO) are a great resource for information about events, news, and 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](#)



### JANUARY NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS:

#### University Neighbors Neighborhood Association (UNNA):

Thursday, 1/9, 6:30p.m.

Virtual only: Email [masha.lior@denvergov.org](mailto:masha.lior@denvergov.org) for Zoom link

#### Wash Park East Neighborhood Association (WPENA)

Tuesday, 1/14, 6:30p.m.

St Johns Church (700 S Franklin)

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

#### Cook Park Neighborhood

Organization (CPNA):

Thursday, 1/16, 6p.m.

Cook Park Rec Center (7100 Cherry Creek S Dr)

Virtual option: [Join the Zoom Meeting](#)

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

It's time to renew your RNO!

The annual renewal period runs through **January 31, 2025**. All RNOs are required to renew their registration with the city during this period to remain an RNO in good standing with the city. New organizations may also register during this period. [To submit your renewal, use this link!](#)

## Eugene Field Branch Library

### January Happenings: Book Buzz, Tech Programs & New Storytime Schedule

We are very excited to once again offer a **Winter Book Buzz** to our community on **Saturday, 1/11, at 11a.m.!** In under one hour - in our cozy community room with snacks, tea, and coffee - you will hear from our advisory experts who will help you pick your next read! (Psst... you'll walk away with a free book too!). This is a part of our **Winter of Reading** challenge, a chance for adults to find your next favorite book, explore the library's offerings, and connect with other readers around Denver. Pick up a game board at any library location to begin the program. Winter of Reading runs all of January and February.

We'll also be offering fun, engaging tech workshops where you will learn how to access the library's collection of online videos, books, magazines, and music streaming services. On **Thursday, 1/23, at 2p.m.**, you can learn how to borrow ebooks, audiobooks, magazines, and videos at our **50+ Tech: Meet Libby! Getting Started With eBooks & More** program. On **Friday, 2/24, at 11a.m.**, you can learn how to build your own **Book Soundtrack** playlist on a streaming service called Freegal Music+.

Parents and caregivers, please note that in 2025, we'll have a new storytime schedule! We have updated our offerings to address the needs of all ages within our community. On Tuesdays, we will offer **All Ages Storytime** at 10:30am, and we will continue to offer **Baby Storytime** on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. **Toddler Storytime** will move to Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. **Arts & Crafts for Kids**, **Lego(R) Club**, and **Tween Hangout** will continue with the same weekly or monthly schedules. All of these programs will begin the week of January 13, 2025. We look forward to seeing you! \*The library will be closed Wednesday, January 1 for New Year's Day, Monday, January 20 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

### February Preview: Family Yoga, Emergency Kits and Self-Expression through Collage!

Connect with your little one through **Family Yoga** on **Monday 2/3 at 10:30a.m.**. Learn skills to cultivate mindful practices at home. Ideal for ages 1-6 with an adult. Remember spots are limited and will available on a first-come, first-served basis. Yoga mats are provided; due to limited space, please do not bring your own. Participants of the hour-long **Make a Kit class** will learn what emergency supplies are and how to create a supply cache that will sustain you through an emergency regardless of your income level. This program occurs on **Thursday, 2/13 at 2p.m.** and is taught by an expert from Denver's Office of Emergency Management.

At this first Create & Relate of 2025, you'll explore the **art of collage** and take home a finished piece. All materials provided, including snacks, coffee & music! Join us on **Friday, 2/28 at 11a.m.** Tweens! Don't forget to come down on **Monday, February 10th** and join us for a low-key hangout to grab a snack, play a game or do an activity. Ideal for tweens ages 8-13.



## SUPPORT FOOD SECURITY IN DISTRICT 6

### The LoVVe Project



The LoVVe Project provides fresh food and hygiene supplies to support families at Ellis and McMeen Elementary Schools. We are honored to

rise to the challenge of supporting incoming migrant families with fresh food, kindness, and dignity.

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. 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!](#)

### 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.

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

## Recycle Your Tree - Denver Treecycle!



'Tis the season to recycle your holiday tree and give it a new lease on life through Denver's *Treecycle* program! Denver residents can drop holiday trees off at designated drop sites to have them turned into mulch. Remove all decorations, lights and the tree stand before dropping the tree off at a collection site.

**WEEKDAY Treecycle drop sites are open NOW through January 31, 8a.m.-2p.m., at these locations:**

- Cherry Creek Transfer Station - 7301 E. Jewell Ave. (*enter on E. Jewell Ave.*)
- Havana Nursery - 10450 Smith Rd. (*enter on Smith Road*)
- Central Platte Campus - 1271 W. Bayaud Ave. (*next to the Denver Animal Shelter*) (Note: These locations will be closed January 1 and January 20 for holiday observances)

**Five Saturday drop sites will be open January 4 from 8a.m.-2 p.m.:**

- Sloan's Lake Park (Northwest Parking Lot) - W. Byron Pl. and Yates St.
- Fred Thomas Park - 2400 Quebec St.
- Evie Dennis School Campus - 4800 Telluride St.
- John F. Kennedy High School - 2855 S. Lamar St.
- Central Platte Campus - 1271 W. Bayaud Ave. (Extended hours until 4:00 p.m.)

**Ten Saturday drop sites will be open January 11 and January 18 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.:**

- Sloan's Lake Park (Northwest Parking Lot) - W. Byron Pl. and Yates St.
- Bruce Randolph School - 3955 Steele St.
- Fred Thomas Park - 2400 Quebec St.
- Evie Dennis School Campus - 4800 Telluride St.
- Central Platte Campus - 1271 W. Bayaud Ave. (Extended hours until 4 p.m.)
- Cherry Creek Transfer Station - 7301 E. Jewell Ave.
- Havana Nursery - 10450 Smith Rd.
- Carson Elementary - 5420 E 1st Ave.
- John F. Kennedy High School - 2855 S. Lamar St.
- Congress Park - E. 9th and Josephine St.

Trees received at *Treecycle* drop sites will be turned into mulch made available to Denver residents for free at our annual Mulch Giveaway event in the spring! Residents that don't wish to have their tree mulched (although we highly encourage it!) can set it out for collection on their large item pickup day. Trees left out for large item pickup will not be recycled.

[Recycle your holiday lights too!](#) Residents taking down their holiday lights can recycle those that are broken or burned out for FREE at the [Cherry Creek Recycling Drop-Off](#) or [Blue Star Recyclers](#) (953 Decatur St.) until Jan 2. *Please note, holiday lights will only be accepted for recycling at drop off locations and cannot be placed in purple recycling carts.*

## 2025 Denver Young Ambassador Program



Exciting News: Applications Open for the 2025 Denver Young Ambassador Program!

We are thrilled to announce that applications are now open for the 2025 Denver Young Ambassador Program, an incredible opportunity for Denver teens (ages 14-17 to represent our city, explore new cultures, and grow as leaders. Every move you make

can now connect you to the world.

This year, delegations will visit: Brest, France (March 21 - April 2), Takayama, Japan (June 5 - June 16), and Potenza, Italy (July 14 - July 28) The deadline to apply is February 14, 2025, so don't miss your chance to be part of this life-changing program!

For more details—including itineraries, applications, financial aid info, and pricing—[please visit the Denver Sister Cities website.](#)

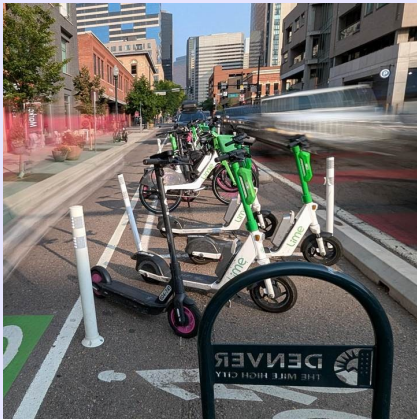
## Denver Snow Angels

The Denver Snow Angels Program is a Denver Human Rights and Community Partnerships (HRCP) initiative that connects Denver community members needing assistance shoveling their front sidewalks, including adjacent ADA ramps and bus stops, during the cold winter months with neighbors interested in helping. This volunteer service program brings City and County of Denver neighbors closer to one another while helping prevent fines for non-compliance with clearing pedestrian walkways in front of homes.



In response to feedback from Denver Snow Angels' volunteers and registered residents, the Denver Snow Angels Program was revamped in partnership with the Denver Technology Services Automation Center of Excellence team. Today, we ask all community members interested in joining Denver Snow Angels, including those previously registered, to apply or reapply using

## Department of Transportation and Infrastructure [Scooter Survey!](#)



The City and County of Denver Department of Transportation and Infrastructure (DOTI) wants to hear about your experiences with the Scooter and Bike Share Program. Whether you're an avid Lyft or Lime scooter rider or don't use the scooter program at all, we want to hear about your experiences.

[Take the survey today!](#)

## Mayor's Bicycle Advisory Committee Accepting Applications!

Love riding your bike in Denver? The Mayor's Bicycle Advisory Committee (MBAC) is currently recruiting for the 2025 cohort. The purpose of the MBAC is to advise the Mayor and City Council of the City and County of Denver, and all Departments of and consultants to the City, on all matters relating to the use of bicycles as a means of transportation and recreation. MBAC reviews and make recommendations on planning, design, and development of projects prepared by developers, City Departments, and consultants affecting the use of bicycles.



## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT NEWS

### Got The Winter Blues? You're Not Alone!



Between the busy holiday season coming to a close and shorter, colder days, it's easy to feel exhausted. Don't start the year on an empty tank. The Denver Department of Public Health & Environment (DDPHE) wants to remind our community of healthy habits and resources for residents that can help with their mental health. It's important to

know you're not alone. Ask for support from friends, family, coworkers, and mental health professionals if you need it. [Colorado Crisis Services](#) offers support for people who are experiencing a mental or behavioral health crisis. Text "TALK" to 38255 or call 1-844-493-8255. This service is free, confidential, and available 24-hours a day, seven days a week. Check out [the DDPHE Healthy Insights blog](#) for more tips and a list of additional mental health resources.

### Protect Your Family Against Radon this January During Radon Action Month

Radon is a silent killer that could be seeping into your home without your knowledge. A naturally occurring radioactive gas, radon can cause lung cancer. You can't see or smell radon and it creeps through cracks of a home's foundation. Testing is the only way to know your level of exposure.



January is Radon Action Month and it's a perfect time to take action to protect yourself and loved ones from radon. To prevent adverse health effects from radon, the Denver Department of Public Health & Environment (DDPHE)

### Denver Animal Shelter Calls All Animal Lovers to Volunteer

Do you love animals and have an eye for good shots? Denver Animal Shelter (DAS) is on the hunt for **volunteer photographers** to capture the cuteness! Help our furry friends shine online and find their forever homes by snapping adoption pics and helping homeless pets put their best paw forward. Whether you're a pro with fancy gear or a hobbyist with a good smartphone, our animals are ready to pose for you.



So, you're not a photographer? We have other volunteer positions too, like **adoption guides** who match potential adopters with the perfect pet!

Whatever your skill set, there's a place for you to make a difference. We hold monthly volunteer orientations at the shelter. Learn more and [apply on the DAS website today!](#)

### Altering the Narrative Through Denver's ReCAST Program



Growing up in southwest Denver, Keen found himself involved with gangs from a young age. But after a near-death experience, Keen decided to change the course of his life. Through [Fully Liberated Youth \(FLY\)](#), he was able to find mentors and resources that supported his personal growth. Discover how Keen is now empowering others to make positive choices, leaving a lasting impact on his community in his [spotlight video with Denver 8](#).

FLY is supported by [Denver ReCAST](#) (Resiliency in Communities)

encourages residents to test their homes for the dangerous gas every two to three years. DDPHE will give away free radon testing kits to Denver residents at four upcoming events:

Tuesday, 1/21, 11a.m.-3p.m., Denver Public Library (DPL) - Bear Valley Branch  
Wednesday, 1/22, 11a.m.-3p.m., DPL - Montbello Branch  
Thursday, 1/23, 11a.m.-3p.m., DPL - Hampden Branch  
Friday, 1/24, 11a.m.-3p.m., DPL - Rodolfo "Corky" Gonzales Branch

Learn more about radon in Denver as well as other options to get free testing kits on [the DDPHE radon webpage.](#)

FLY is supported by [Denver ReCAST](#) (Resiliency in Communities After Stress and Trauma), a program funded by the Denver Department of Public Health & Environment (DDPHE). This initiative aims to strengthen communities affected by trauma by supporting mental health and violence prevention services. ReCAST's funding supports FLY to reach youth like Keen, providing resources for healing, growth, and transformation.

## ★ CITY COUNCIL SCHEDULE ★

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS, GENERAL MEETINGS, PUBLIC COMMENT

\*City Council will not meet 1/20 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr Day, City Council General Meeting will occur Tuesday, 1/21\*

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 Monday, 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. How and when do I sign up? **New sign up information! Sign up for General Public Comment now opens Friday at 10:00 a.m. and closes Monday at 3p.m. You can sign up [at this link](#) or by calling 720-337-2000 during normal business hours. How to join the meeting after you sign up? Attend either in person in City Council Chambers, 1437 Bannock, 4<sup>th</sup> floor or via Zoom - everyone who signs up will receive a zoom link.***



#### 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](#)

## ★ CITY RESOURCES ★

**SLOW DOWN, DENVER!**



**911 Services for People with Disabilities**



**Rent & Utility Assistance Open with New Online Application!**



[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.

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](#).

Denver's Temporary Rent and Utility Assistance (TRUA) program will open **January 21!** TRUA can help with rent payments for up to six months per calendar year, as well as helping both renters and homeowners with utility assistance (Denver Water/Xcel Energy).

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

[Councilman Paul Kashmann](#) | District 6 | 720-337-6666 | [paul.kashmann@denvergov.org](mailto:paul.kashmann@denvergov.org)



Denver City Council District 6 | 1437 Bannock St | Denver, CO 80203 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!