



FEATURING

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★ PAUL'S PONDERINGS ★

Happy waning days of summer, D6-ers!

September always means a couple of things to those of us at City Hall.

First off, as with all of you, we know that summer will turn to fall this month (on Sept 22, at 6:43a.m.), and as a result, Councilmembers will have fewer and fewer moments of sunlight left to enjoy after our Monday night meetings as the weeks roll on.

Second, and certainly with added gravitas, Mayor Johnston and his team will complete their work on the proposed budget for 2025 and release it to Council and the public somewhere around Sept 15. According to the City Charter "the budget proposed by the Mayor shall not propose expenditures in excess of estimated opening balances and anticipated income."

You'll hear a variety of numbers thrown out in the press as to the amount of the budget, because the matter is complex, and takes a good bit of time to truly understand. To make a long story short, last year's budget book threw around budget amounts from \$1.7-billion to \$5.35-billion depending on what you're including.

We'll point you to the specifics of the 2025 budget in our next newsletter, but for those of you who want to get prepared to analyze next year's details and direction, [here's the link for the virtual version of the 854 page 2024 Budget Book](#).

While the entire document is chock full of important/interesting information on the rationale of Denver's spending policy as well as the actual number's themselves, you'll at least want to view the Explanation of Budget Document (pg 22) and Budget Highlights - Budget Summary (pg 39). If you want more, check out the Budget Calendar and Process (pg 51), as well as the summary pages of our major funds - General Fund (pg 89); Special Revenue Funds (pg 121); Grants (pg 165); Proprietary Funds (pg 219); and Debt Services Funds (pg 237). Since I've been in office, the General Fund - which funds the bulk of city services that touch resident's lives - has been in the \$1.4-\$1.7+ billion range. With sales tax income softening a bit, I'll be interested to see the final projections the Mayor's team comes up with for income and outgo.

Denver's General Fund budget - \$1.745-billion for the current calendar year - distributes your tax dollars to a variety of city agencies doing much of the day to day work your city government accomplishes. Areas including: General Administration; Community Planning and Development; Economic Development; Finance; General Services; Health; Housing Stability; Independent Agencies; Parks, Recreation and Cultural; Public Safety; Technology Services; Transportation and Infrastructure; and others are nourished from that cache of dollars. Other parts of government that pay for their services by generating revenue through their own fees appear as Enterprise Funds: our golf courses, the airport, wastewater management, and others operate as Enterprises and will appear under the Special Revenue section. In coming weeks City Council will be briefed by City Agencies on their budget requests for 2025. Those of you with cable TV access can view those briefings on Channel 8. [Those without can watch on your computers here.](#)

Budget Hearing Schedule:

MONDAY (9/16):

9-11a.m. - Budget Overview
11:15a.m.-12:15p.m. - Office of Children's Affairs
12:45-1:45p.m. - Technology Services

TUESDAY (9/17):

9:15-10:45a.m. - Department of Transportation and Infrastructure
11:15a.m.-12:15a.m. - Department of Climate Action and Resiliency
3-4:30p.m. - Department of Parks and Recreation

WEDNESDAY (9/18):

9-10:30a.m. - Department of Housing Stability
10:45-11:45a.m. - Department of Public Health and Environment
12:30-2p.m. - Department of Community Planning and Development
2:15-3:45p.m. - Denver Human Services

THURSDAY (9/19):
11a.m.-12p.m. - Denver Public Library
1-2p.m. - Denver Airport (DEN)

FRIDAY (9/20):
9-10a.m. - Department of Safety
10:15-11:15a.m. - Denver Fire Department
11:30a.m.-12:30p.m. - Department of Economic Development and Opportunity
1-2:30p.m. - Denver Police Department
3-4:30p.m. - Denver Sheriffs Department

Have a good month learning the ins and outs of Denver and its dollars.

I'll see you around the 'hood.

Paul

Affordable Denver Community Conversation with Mayor Mike Johnston



The poster features the Denver Mayor's Office logo and a stylized sun icon. The main title is 'AFFORDABLE DENVER COMMUNITY CONVERSATION'. Below this, it states 'HOSTED BY THE DENVER MAYOR'S OFFICE IN PARTNERSHIP WITH DENVER CITY COUNCILMAN PAUL KASHMANN'. Two house-shaped icons provide event details: one for the date and time (Tuesday, September 10, 5:30 P.M. - 6:30 P.M., doors open at 5:00 P.M., presentation at 5:30 P.M., resource walk at 5:00 P.M.) and another for the location (Cook Park Recreation Center, 7100 Cherry Creek South Drive, Denver, CO 80224). A QR code is present, along with a note about limited seating and a registration link. At the bottom, it identifies Paul Kashmann as Denver City Councilman for District 6.

In alignment with the Mayor's [2024 Citywide Goal](#) for an Affordable Denver, Mayor Mike Johnston is hosting a Community Conversation around affordability in the city **Tuesday, 9/10 from 5-6:30p.m. at Cook Park Rec Center (7100 Cherry Creek S Dr). Doors will open at 5p.m., with the presentation beginning at 5:30p.m., and food will be provided!** At this community conversation, neighbors will engage directly with the Mayor, Councilman Paul Kashmann, and other leaders from city agencies in roundtable discussions following a presentation on the mayor's initiatives to make our city a vibrant, affordable, and safe place for all. City leaders will listen and engage with community members on their concerns, and to hear your ideas on what we can do to make our city more affordable.

[RSVP here](#), as seating is limited. Language interpretation is also available for those in need, please send any request for language interpretation to Sterling.Simms@denvergov.org.

★ SUSTAINABLE 6 TIP ★

We're in the top 10! Of most polluted cities for ozone in 2024. Denver ranked 6th to be exact, not the most brag-worthy ranking... so let's break down what this all means, what causes it, and what you should do on high ozone days.

First things first, ground-level ozone is different than the ozone layer shielding earth. Ozone is a pollutant that forms, mingles with other pollutants, then mixes with heat and sun to produce ozone alert days.

·**Climate change does contribute to high levels of ozone.** Whether it's from wildfire smoke or sulfur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide, pollutants released from a variety of industries, these all heighten the level of ozone which is harmful to humans. What to do? Check the Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment's webpage on Air Quality. If the ozone is high, try to limit the amount of time you spend outside.

·**What else can we do? Make changes** to lessen our dependency on fossil fuels. Nitrogen dioxide is released from gas-powered equipment like cars and generators. Commit to trying out some alternatives such as taking the bus once a week, using electric gardening equipment rather than gas, and supporting policy at all levels that aides in climate resiliency.

The temps this summer continue to level within the 90s so we might see more ozone alert days before we feel the crisp crunch of fall. Keep healthy, be safe, and let us know what changes you might make to support a healthier climate.



★ CITY COUNCIL SCHEDULE ★

COMMITTEE MEETINGS, GENERAL MEETINGS, PUBLIC COMMENT

NOTE: No meetings week of 9/2 in observance of Labor Day

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, 4th 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](#)

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** (345 E Evans Ave, at the corner of University and Evans), with parking available in the back.



★ DISTRICT 6 NEWS ★

JOIN YOUR REGISTERED NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION

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](#)



UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Cook Park Neighborhood Organization (CPNA):
Thursday, 9/19, 6p.m.

Cook Park Rec Center (7100 Cherry Creek S Dr)
Virtual option: [Join the Zoom Meeting](#)
For more information, visit the [CPNA website!](#)

University Neighbors Neighborhood Association (UNNA):
Thursday, 9/12, 6:30p.m.

Virtual only: Email masha.lior@denvergov.org for Zoom link

The LoVVe Project



As of January 2024, The LoVVe Project now 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, 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.

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

DU Food Pantry



The University of Denver supports its students, staff, and faculty by offering an on-campus resource known as The DU Food Pantry. Members of the DU community are welcome to visit the pantry once a week to stock up on pantry staples, quick meals, and fresh produce. Additionally, The DU Food Pantry provides personal care and hygiene products. To foster a sense of community, The DU Food Pantry hosts a weekly Community Dinner. At these dinners, ingredients are provided based on recipes chosen by the community. This offers the opportunity to enjoy diverse, warm meals, destigmatizing food insecurity one plate at a time.

The DU Food Pantry relies on donations from the community to continue its operations. Every contribution, no matter the size, makes a significant impact in destigmatizing food insecurity and ensuring that no one in our community goes without. [To donate, please visit the University of Denver Give Campus webpage and select the Food Pantry Gift Fund.](#) Thank you for your kindness and support. Keep up to date with DU Food Pantry events and programming by following @foodpantry.du on Instagram!

DENVER PUBLIC LIBRARIES

Eugene Field Branch Library



You won't want to miss all that's happening at your [Eugene Field Branch Library](#) in September! Check out all that's on offer and find yourself at the library soon.

In addition to our weekly children's offerings—[storytimes](#), [a craft program](#), and [LEGO Club](#)—we're hosting [Family Yoga](#) on Friday,

September 6 at 10:30 a.m. This program is ideal for ages 1-6 with a caregiver. Registration is not required, but space is limited!

And just for tweens ages 8-13, we're hosting a [Tween Hangout](#) on Monday, September 9, with snacks, games, and button-making.

Adults, we've got a great variety of programs happening in September. Learn why [electric vehicles](#) are the future of transportation, stroll through Wash Park and hear from Denver Parks & Rec on our [Discover Walk](#), decorate cantaritos (ceramic cups) at [Create & Relate](#), and hear about [the history of redlining in Denver](#). We're also hosting [The Artist's Way](#), a half-day exploration of the book and its practices. Please note: Registration is required for this program!

And all are welcome at our [Jigsaw Puzzle Swap](#), where you can bring puzzles of 250+ pieces to trade with other jigsaw enthusiasts.

All our branch events can be found on our [calendar](#) and stay connected [on Facebook](#). You're always welcome at your Eugene Field Branch Library, and we can't wait to see you!

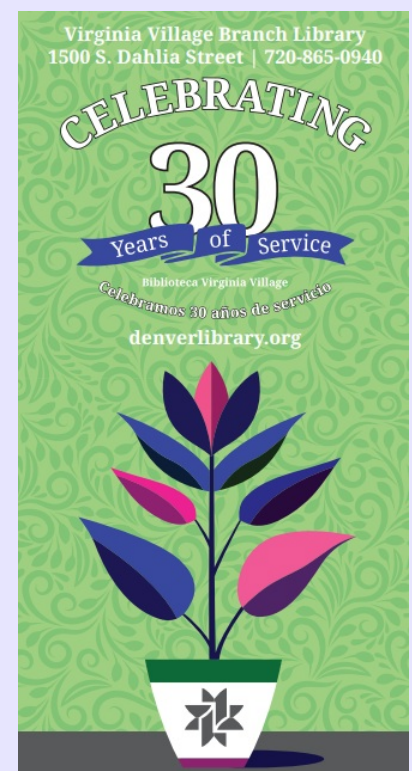
Virginia Village Branch Library

We are going to be celebrating our 30th birthday party at Virginia Village Branch Library! It will be on **Saturday, September 7, 2024 from 11-12:30.**

Special Collections Librarian Brian Trembath will be presenting a talk about Denver history, plus Virginia Village Library-specific information such as why the building is designed to look like a greenhouse, fun facts about our Dragon Bench, and the mid-century modern architecture that surrounds us.

We will have celebratory cake, a tree scavenger hunt, and button making activities. The branch will be filled with all things Virginia Village, including neighborhood stories, photos, and articles.

We hope you can join us!



Bright Nights at Four Mile Historic Park



Step into a world of wonder at Bright Nights at Four Mile Historic Park! Visit Four Mile through September 29th and marvel at larger-than-life lanterns illuminating the historic grounds. From dragons to Colorado critters, to mythical beasts, this year's lanterns are guaranteed to impress - it's a summer experience you won't want to miss! [Find more information and buy tickets here](#)



★ CITY-WIDE NEWS ★

Denver Boards & Commissions Openings!



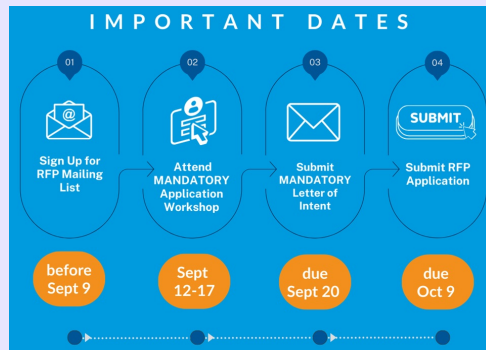
Looking for more ways to engage with the city? All Denverites can shape our city's future in

meaningful ways, one of which is by joining a City of Denver Board or Commission. Board members strengthen community representation, collaborate alongside other leaders, and influence city policies. [Check out the current list of Boards and Commissions openings and consider applying!](#)

Openings includes

- African American Commission
- American Indian Commission
- Asian American Pacific Islander Commission
- Latino Commission
- LGBTQ Commission
- Nonprofit Engagement Commission
- Commission on Aging
- Commission for People with Disabilities
- South Downing Street Local Maintenance District
- Women's Commission

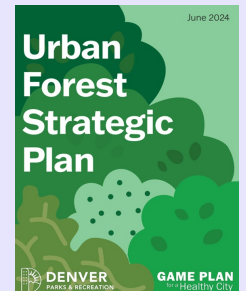
Announcement from the City and County of Denver Office of Children's Affairs



The 2025 Child and Youth Development Programs RFP will be released on **September 9, 2024**. The goal of these funds is to provide affordable, high-quality community-based programs to support a diverse array of services to positively impact the health, well-being, care and development of children and youth. Please see the timeline of important dates below and [visit our website](#) for additional information.

Final Urban Forest Strategic Plan

Thanks to the previous year of community feedback, research, and planning, the city's first Urban Forest Strategic Plan is now complete. Thank you to everyone who helped co-create the plan! [Read the final plan here.](#)



This plan has been shaped by:

- 2 community surveys in 3 languages with over 4,800 respondents
- 3 open houses in 2 languages with over 390 attendees
- 10 external focus groups with key stakeholders

Make sure you are signed up [for the Denver Forestry email list](#) to stay involved with future updates to the Rules and Regulations and Municipal Code, as well as future improvements to enhance access to resources and tree canopy information, and [subscribe to the DPR Newsletter](#) for general updates here.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENT NEWS

Register for Puppy Mill Presentation



Did you know animals that come from puppy mills can suffer from malnutrition or starvation because of inadequate or unsanitary food and water? Sick animals may receive little or no vet care, while the adult animals can be

DDPHE Launches Free Online Basic Food Safety Class

The Denver Department of Public Health & Environment (DDPHE) recently launched an online version of their free Basic Food Safety Class. This class is a comprehensive introduction to the basic





discussion on the cruelty of national puppy mills this month.

It coincides with Puppy Mill Awareness Day the third Saturday in September, which encourages those looking for a new dog, to adopt, not shop. The free webinar takes place on Sunday, Sept. 8, at 10a.m. [Register to attend](#)

Support Denver Animal Shelter and Have Fun Doing It

Who knew riding a bike or devouring a delectable brunch could help homeless pets in our community? With upcoming [Cycle for Strays](#) and [Paws and Platforms](#) fundraisers, Denver Animal

Shelter (DAS) has made it possible to help the animals while having fun. **Cycle for Strays** rides off into the sunset on Saturday, Sept. 28. The event is the shelter's team for the Denver Century Ride, which brings together nearly 2,000 cyclists to ride up to 100 miles through the city and into the mountains. You can join their team and/or donate to support the 12,000+ animals DAS cares for each year.



Paws and Platforms Disco Drag Brunch sashays through DAS on Sunday, Oct. 13, 11a.m.-1p.m. Dress up in your finest drag or 70s style to raise money for DAS, our community's only full-service, open-admission animal shelter. Ticket price includes two drink tickets, brunch buffet, tour of the shelter and entertainment by fabulous drag stars. Note - this is a 21+ event.

skills and knowledge needed for safe food handling and operations. The class is taught by DDPHE investigators and topics covered in the class include good hygiene practices, time and temperature control, safe food storage, and sanitation standards. This free, online class is a valuable tool, especially for those looking to enter the food service industry.

After taking the class, participants should have good foundational knowledge they can leverage when applying and interviewing for jobs in the field. If you are already working in a restaurant, the class can also provide a refresher on best practices and review what investigators look for during an inspection. You can [learn more and take the Basic Food Safety Class](#) on DDPHE's website.

DDPHE Offers Resources During Suicide Prevention Month

September is Suicide Prevention Month, a time to remember lives lost to suicide,

and acknowledge the families and communities impacted. Colorado has one of the highest rates of death by suicide in the nation. The Denver Department of Public Health & Environment (DDPHE) recognizes the importance of suicide prevention through global awareness efforts and local initiatives within the community.



[DDPHE's suicide prevention response](#) strives to remove barriers, improve systems, and advocate for change, while promoting equity in the care system. DDPHE is addressing youth mental health directly in local schools through the [We Got This!](#) program. During the school year, DDPHE hosts mental health events, providing a platform for teens and young adults to speak honestly and frankly about mental health and wellness. Learn more about the risk factors and warning signs of suicide as well as resources on DDPHE's [Suicide Prevention website](#).

DENVER YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES!

Mayor's Youth Commission seeking applications!



Youth: Grades 9-12 for 2024-2025 school year and attend a DPS school or live in Denver
Adults: Work for the City and County of Denver or work for a youth serving organization
The Mayor's Youth Commission provides youth the opportunity to develop leadership skills and advise the director of the Office of Children's Affairs on issues impacting youth living in the City and County of Denver!

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 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!

and County of Denver! [More info and apply 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.

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](#).

Rent & Utility Assistance Open with New Online Application!



Denver's Temporary Rent and Utility Assistance (TRUA) program is open! 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

