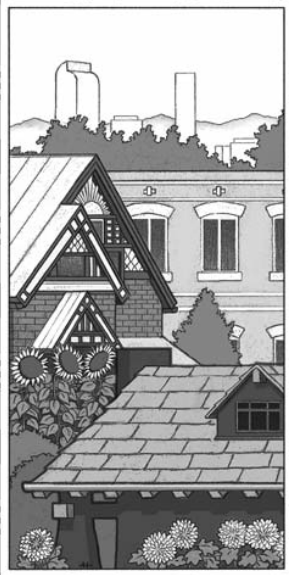


WHITTIER NEIGHBORHOOD SPOTLIGHT

A PUBLICATION FROM THE WHITTIER NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION • VOLUME 1.09



WHITTIER
NEIGHBORHOOD
DENVER, COLORADO

UPCOMING EVENTS

FREE DAYS

Denver Art Museum
First Saturday of every month

Children's Museum of Denver
First Tuesday of every month

Denver Zoo

Sat., Jan 10 & Mon., Jan. 19

Denver Museum of Nature & Science

Sun., Jan. 11 & Mon., Feb. 2

Denver Botanic Gardens

Mon., Jan. 19

MLK MARADE

Mon., Jan. 19 • 10:45 A.M.
City Park

MLK HEALTH FAIR

Mon., Jan. 19 • 8 A.M. – 3 P.M.
Manual High School
Free health screenings & services
For details, call 303.344.7960.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

WNA
MEETING

WED., JAN. 21

6:30 P.M.

COMMUNITY CENTER
2900 DOWNING STREET
SUITE 1B



The buildings currently on the site of the proposed "Fourth Quarter Project", a 28-unit apartment building for the homeless to be built at Martin Luther King Blvd. and Downing Street.

Homeless housing project continues to generate confusion, mistrust

Residents of the Whittier, Cole and Curtis Park neighborhoods were asked for their opinions at the end of the final public hearing addressing a 28-apartment project for the homeless to be built at Martin Luther King Boulevard and Downing Street.

The meeting, held Dec. 16, concluded with an opinion poll to help Councilwoman Carla Madison decide if she should continue to seek funding to support an enhancement of the project that would make it a better fit to the Downing Street area and its upcoming zoning changes. The opinion poll also was extended to neighbors who were not at the Dec. 16 meeting through emails and Whittier Neighborhood Association (WNA) members going door to door. To verify the counts, all results were forwarded to Councilwoman Madison's office for her review and to the meeting facilitator, Elizabeth Suarez.

The Fourth Quarter Project, a homeless facility spearheaded by the Bo Matthews Center (BMC), was the focus of a meeting of more than 100 residents on Dec. 16. The project, as proposed, targets the homeless and includes a call center to be used as a job-training and revenue-generating

instrument for the BMC. Councilwoman Madison and the three neighborhood associations have asked the BMC to consider a project that would better serve the community, allowing rezoning, adding additional units and integrating the homeless with residents of mixed incomes. They are also asking for shops or services on the first level of the project to serve the community and jump start investment along the corridor.

It was emphasized at the meeting that the issue isn't if housing for the homeless will be built but how the project is developed. But confusion about the project and the issues was a constant theme. Members of the neighborhood associations told the audience they have struggled to get answers from the consultant for the Fourth Quarter Project, Claudie Minor. And although the neighborhood associations have emphasized they are not against housing for the homeless and only want a project that serves the broader needs of the community, opponents repeatedly accused those favoring a mixed income development of being against services for the poor and homeless.

See *Housing Project* on Page 2

RECREATION TASK FORCE

RECOMMENDATIONS

After 16 community meetings and reviewing the community's priorities for the recreation system, the Recreation Center Task Force is ready to present their draft recommendations and solicit feedback. After the community meetings, the Task Force will reconvene to finalize and submit final recommendations to Kevin Patterson, Manager, Parks and Recreation.

All meetings are 7–8:30 P.M.

Tues., Feb. 3

MLK Recreation Center
3880 Newport St.

Wed., Feb. 4

East High School Cafeteria
1545 Detroit St.

Thurs., Feb. 5

Swansea Recreation Center,
2650 E. 49th Ave.

After Tues., Jan. 6, the draft recommendations will be posted on the Parks and Rec. web site, www.denvergov.org/parksandrec.

FORD-WARREN

LIBRARY PROGRAMS

Hora de estudio para el

GED: los martes empezando el 20 de enero, 6:30–7:30 P.M.

Inglés conversacional –

2 niveles: los miércoles empezando el 21 de enero, 6:30–7:30 P.M.

Computación para

principiantes: los sábados empezando el 24 de enero, 2–3 P.M. Estas clases son muy básicas — cómo prender la computadora, usar el ratón, introducir el código para conectarse al internet inalámbrico, trabajar con documentos, crear una cuenta de e-mail, navegar por el internet — todo a un nivel introductorio para los que nunca han usado una computadora.

No es necesario registrarse. Solo venga con lapiz y papel y ganas de aprender. Habrá actividades para los niños al mismo tiempo.

Fourth Quarter Project

- 28 studio, one- and two-bedroom apartments
- One unit for a manager, the remainder for chronically homeless residents
- Support services for residents only if funding and a GNA are approved
- Ground floor parking
- Stucco and metal exterior
- Funding: Private investors and federal funds

Neighborhood-requested changes

- Rezoning to allow for:
 - at least 50 or more units including original 28 with remaining apartments for those with incomes of under \$40,000.
 - Retail and commercial space on first floor to house community-oriented businesses.
 - parking allocation alteration to allow for more amenities in and to the building.

Housing Project *from Page 1*

The Fourth Quarter homeless facility is funded by a private, for-profit group of investors and federal funds through the Colorado Housing and Finance Authority (CHFA). The project also is in line for City funding through Denver's Road Home to add support services for residents. To get the Road Home funding, the BMC is required to develop a Good Neighbor Agreement (GNA) with the three neighborhood associations.

The GNA also has raised questions as to its effectiveness. If the BMC were to violate the agreement, the only recourse is withdrawal of the very funds supporting services to the residents (while not removing the facility causing the problems) or a lawsuit paid for and brought on by the neighborhoods. Minor made clear at the Dec. 16 meeting that the BMC was moving forward with the

homeless facility whether Road Home money or a GNA was forthcoming or not. While open to accepting additional funding for a bigger project, Minor said they could not slow their timeline down to investigate that possibility because the project's private investors are counting on federal tax credits that have an expiration date.

The next steps in the process are for Councilwoman Madison to determine if she will continue to pursue funding for the requested enhancements on behalf of the BMC, and a review of the feasibility and language of a GNA. The timeline for those steps and the outcome of the poll have not yet been determined.

Please send your comments, opinions and questions to WNA president, Linda Dowlen at wnapresident@gmail.com.

Welton Street corridor focus of City development study

A recent study of the Welton Street Corridor produced a vision of a vibrant, clean, safe, pedestrian-friendly corridor that gives tribute to the historic origins of Welton Street and provides access to commercial businesses that will support the surrounding neighborhoods. This vision, and a market analysis of the area, were developed after a series of meetings with Welton street business and property owners, the City of Denver, and the consulting firm, Progressive Urban Management Associates (PUMA).

The City selected five commercial districts within Denver for a strategic planning process called the Marketplace Initiative. The Welton Street corridor was one of the selected areas. The intent of the Marketplace Initiative is to better understand the needs of the selected areas and to prioritize the city's resources so that they can be used most effectively.

The city engaged PUMA, to develop a

market profile of the Welton Street corridor and a district development plan. Surrounding neighborhoods, including Whittier, were included in the market profile and analysis. Input from the surrounding neighborhoods was also solicited through the survey.

The profile and analysis are still in draft, but overall, most are looking to capitalize on the uniqueness of the area, its proximity to downtown, its access to transit and its historic past.

The next step for the initiative is creation of a district development plan to be used for resource prioritization. The Whittier Neighborhood Association will keep residents informed of the status of this initiative and any input needed from Whittier residents.

If you would like to read the Welton Corridor market profile and draft of the district development plan, please visit the WNA web site.



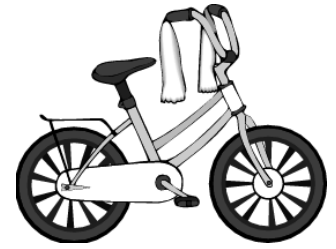
2009 Transit Alliance Citizens' Academy

The Transit Alliance Board holds an academy for citizens interested in becoming better informed about Denver transit and developing a working knowledge on how to get involved to make a difference. There is an academy coming up this February. There have been very few participants from Whittier. There are a number of upcoming public transportation decisions that will directly affect Whittier's mobility and economic development. The Academy is free, but does require time and commitment.

What is the Transit Alliance Citizens Academy? The program hosts a maximum of 50 participants over 7 weeks to discuss the complexities of combining transportation and community development to support the regional success of Transit Oriented Development (TOD) in the Metro Denver area. The cornerstone of this unique program is that participants will take their new knowledge and put it in action.

When does the Academy Meet? The Academy will meet on Wednesday evenings from 6–9 P.M. for seven consecutive weeks **Weds., Feb. 25–Apr. 8, 2009** at the Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce, 1445 Market Street, 5th Floor.

Applications due Weds., Feb. 4. Find information and application at www.transitalliance.org/Academy. You can also apply to District 8 City Councilwoman Carla Madison at carla.madison@denvergov.org or 303.298.7641.



DONATE A BIKE FOR KIDS' SAKE

Sat., Jan. 31 • 1–3 P.M.
Hundreds of bicycles in our community are, at this very moment, languishing in alleys, basements, hallways, attics and garages. Give your bike the circle of life by donating it to Denver kids in need of a bike.

Rude Recreation Center recruits 12–15 kids every other month to participate in classes to teach them basic care and maintenance of their bicycles as well bike safety tips. Each participating youth will receive a bike helmet to go along with their new bike.

To donate, contact Dave Bauer at 303.788.0672. For more information on the program, contact either Ken or Martin at Rude Rec. Center, 2855 Holden Place, 720.865.0570.

JAN. 21 WNA MEETING FEATURES PETER PARK, Manager, Denver Community Planning & Development

Mr. Park has specialized in urban design and planning work requiring innovative design solutions that balance development needs with unique site and design quality concerns. He has worked with a variety of organizations dealing with regional planning, neighborhood planning, urban design, design guidelines and building renovation.

Bring your questions about Whittier's zoning and how Blueprint Denver will affect the neighborhood. To view the Blueprint Denver plan, visit www.denvergov.org/Blueprint_Denver



The owner of the building at 3090 Downing Street, (located on the corner of 31st Ave. and Downing, formerly know as Kiva) is seeking to upgrade the liquor license of the facility to a "Dance Cabaret" license.

Liquor license upgrade sought by building owner

The owner of the building at 3090 Downing Street, (located on the corner of 31st Ave. and Downing, formerly know as Kiva) is seeking to upgrade the liquor license of the facility to a "Dance Cabaret" license. The upgrade would allow "live or recorded entertainment and patron dancing is permitted." This would allow special events, like wedding receptions or parties, to be held at 3090 Downing, with dancing. It would also allow the owner to potentially turn the building into a nightclub.

The public hearing for the license upgrade is **Weds., Jan. 7 at 6 P.M.**, Wellington Webb Building, 201 West Colfax Ave., Room 2.H.9, Dept. 206. **You are encouraged to attend if you have strong opinions for or against the license upgrade.** Only three people from each side may speak and a representative from the WNA will speak on behalf of Whittier residents. Currently, the WNA has engaged in the creation of a Good Neighbor Agreement (GNA) with representatives of the building owner. The GNA will attempt to outline reasonable and enforceable conditions or restrictions that the applicant agrees to in writing to be attached to the license.

The WNA wants input from residents to find out what impacts you think the change of license would have on you and whether you favor the upgrade. Please contact Cathy Calder ASAP via e-mail at chc@blondedesign.com or phone 303.296.1680.

WNA BOARD2900 Downing St., 1B
Denver, Colorado 80205**PRESIDENT**Linda Dowlen • 303.282.6672
WNAPresident@gmail.com**VICE PRESIDENT**

Position open

TREASURERNathan Beal • 303.667.2801
nathanbeal@yahoo.com**RECORDING SECRETARY**Jeff Neuman-Lee • 303.589.3882
jeffneumanlee@msn.com**CORRESPONDING SECRETARY**Gary Kleiner • 303.282.6672
GKVideoguy@aol.com**AT-LARGE MEMBER**Scott Rittinger • 303.297.0777
sgrittinger@msn.com**ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CHAIRPERSON**Carla Beal • 303.564.5214
croche004@yahoo.com**COMMUNICATIONS CHAIRPERSON**Cathy Calder • 303.296.1680
chc@BlondeDesign.com**MEMBERSHIP CHAIRPERSON**Amy Angelilli • 303.963.5965
smaartpr@comcast.net**Beautification Committee**

Volunteers needed

House Tour CommitteeGary Kleiner and Linda Dowlen, Co-chairs
303.282.6672 • WhittierTour@aol.com**Community Services****& Health Committee**
Jim Considine, Chair • 303.837.1164
WhittierCSHC@gmail.com
Volunteers needed**Education Committee**Nancee Braan, Chair • 303.296.1793
braandn@earthlink.net
Volunteers needed**Public Safety Committee**Dave McGuinness, Chair • 303.963.5665
dmacaudio@comcast.net
Volunteers needed

Newsletter editors: Cathy and James Calder Newsletter design: Blonde Ambition • Please submit articles for the Whittier Spotlight to chc@BlondeDesign.com. Only digital files accepted. Due to space constraints, your submission may be edited. **Spotlight Advertising Opportunities:** Please contact Cathy Calder at 303.296.1680 or chc@BlondeDesign.com • **Newsletter funding:** Thanks to a generous grant from The Denver Foundation

COMMUNITY CENTER RENTALS—Both a current schedule of use and a reservation request form can be found at **WhittierNeighborhood.org**. Find them on the Community Center page. All reservation requests are now handled on the web site, so please don't call—you'll just be redirected to the web site.

RESOURCES**BANYAN TREE/WHITTIER DRUM PROJECT**
303.322.4418**BO MATTHEWS CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE**
303.295.0376 • matthewscenters.org**COLORADO GOVT.** • colorado.gov
Senator: Peter Groff • 303.866.4864
peter.groff.senate@state.co.us
Representative: Rosemary Marshall
303.866.2959
rosemary.marshall.house@state.co.us**DENVER CITY COUNCIL**
District 8 Office, 2713 Welton
Councilwoman Carla Madison
carla.madison@ci.denver.co.us
303.587.6543**At Large**
Councilman Doug Linkhart
doug.linkhart@ci.denver.co.us
720.865.8000
Councilwoman Carol Boigon
carol.boigon@ci.denver.co.us
720.865.8100**DENVER CITY GOVT. INFO**
Just dial 311 • denvergov.org**THE DENVER FOUNDATION**
303.300.1790 • denverfoundation.org**DENVER PUBLIC LIBRARIES**
Blair Caldwell branch
720.865.2401
Hours: Mon., Tues 12–8 P.M.
Wes & Fri. 12–6 P.M. • Sat. 9 A.M.–5 P.M.**Ford Warren branch**
720.865.0920 • Tues. & Wed. 12–8 P.M.
Thurs. & Fri. 10 A.M.–6 P.M.
Sat. 9 A.M.–5 P.M.**DENVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS**
dpsk12.org**DENVER POLICE DEPT.**
District 2 • 720.913.1000
Tech. Reyes Trujillo • 720.913.1094
Neigh. Police Officers Choice Johnson &
Andrew Richmond • 720.641.1596**GRAFFITI CLEAN-UP**
720.865.7867 • denvergov.org/graffiti
Supplies: Cop Shop, Park Ave. & Champa St.
303.295.4007 • WhittierCSHC@gmail.com**HOPE COMMUNITIES**
2543 California St.
303.860.774 • hopecommunities.org**LEAD SAFE DENVER**
303.377.3334 • leadsafedenver.org
hud.gov/offices/lead/outreach/
remodel.pdf**MANUAL HIGH SCHOOL**
720.423.6300 • rob_stein@dpsk12.org**NORTHEAST COMMUNITY CONGRESS
FOR EDUCATION (NCE)**
Meets every Tuesday • 6:30 P.M.
Blair Caldwell Library, 2401 Welton St.
303.294.1141**RTD REPRESENTATIVE**
Chris Martinez • 303.317.7218
chris.martinez@RTD-Denver.com**RADIO READING SERVICE OF THE ROCKIES**
For the blind, visually impaired and
handicapped • 303.786.7777 • rrsr.org**RIDE ARRANGERS (Alt. transportation)**
303.458.7665 • drcog.org**SALVATION ARMY RED SHIELD CENTER**
2901 High Street • 303.295.2107**TRASH PICKUP**
Recycle: Jan. 5–16
Recycling service set-up: call 3-1-1**UNITED WAY COMMUNITY RESOURCE
AND REFERRAL SERVICE**
Just dial 211**VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA COMMUNITY
CONNECT PROGRAM at Manual High School**
720.423.6322
communityconnect@voacolorado.org**WHITTIER K-8 PTFCO**
2nd Tues. 5:30–6 P.M., dinner 6–7:15 P.M.
303.910.6698 • gkmortimer@comcast.net

Thinking of buying or selling?
Go to www.whittierneighborhood.org.
Click on "Whittier Today"
to see addresses sold.

	'06	'07	'08
Home Sales	112	134	95

Call us! We know Whittier.Rebekah Brock & Heather Heuer
R&R Team, Prestige Real Estate Group LLC
303.831.1160www.randrteam.comthe r&r team
RESOURCES IN REAL ESTATE

Become a member of the Whittier Neighborhood Association—or renew your membership—and start making a difference today!
Membership cards are available at monthly WNA meetings.

Name _____

Names of others in household _____

Address _____

Phone (home) _____ (work) _____

E-mail _____ Interests _____

I am enclosing **\$20/household (\$12/Senior household)** as new member(s) _____ as renewing member(s) _____
plus an additional donation of \$ _____ to the Whittier Neighborhood Association.

Your membership is fully tax deductible and will be used to support the Whittier Community Center at 29th Ave. and Downing St.
Please enclose check made payable to Whittier Neighborhood Association and mail to 2900 Downing Street, 1B • Denver, CO 80205