



**PARTNERSHIP OF
DOUGLAS COUNTY GOVERNMENTS**

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100 North Wilcox Street • Castle Rock, Colorado 80104

Wednesday, September 20, 2017

7:00 – 9:30 am

Host: Highlands Ranch Metro District

Location: Highlands Ranch Mansion, 9950 E. Gateway Drive, Highlands Ranch

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS – Lone Tree Council Member Cathie Brunnick

In Attendance:

Castle Pines: Melissa Coudeyras, Tera Radloff

Douglas County: David Weaver, Lora Thomas, Barbara Drake

Douglas County Libraries: John Beckwith, Bob Pasicznyuk, Eleanor Brown

Douglas County School District: Gautam Sethi, Erin Kane, Meghann Silverthorn

Town of Castle Rock: Dave Corliss

Highlands Ranch Metro District: Vicky Starkey, Terry Nolan, Renee Anderson, Camille Mitchell

Town of Larkspur: Matt Krimmer, Sharon Roman, Dorothy Hise

Town of Parker: Joshua Rivero, Michelle Kivela

City of Lone Tree: Cathie Brunnick, Jay Carpenter, Seth Hoffman, Michelle Kelloff

Guests: Mike Dell'Orfano, Robin Coran, Diane Levesley, Merlin Klotz, Rob Hanna

WELCOME AND JURISDICTIONAL UPDATES

Lone Tree Council Member Cathie Brunnick welcomed the group at 7:35 am, and had everyone introduce themselves. Each entity was asked to provide an update since the last meeting.

Highlands Ranch – Welcomed everyone to the Highlands Ranch Mansion and invited everyone to take a tour after the meeting if they would like. The District is considering a proposal for fire and emergency services. A new director has come on board, Mark Dickerson. He has lived in Highlands Ranch for 15 years. The Highlands Ranch Mansion has expanded its hours and now offers daytime and evening hours to tour the facility.

Castle Pines – An open house was held in Castle Pines Valley with new model homes opening. They held their three day event, Party in the Pines the end of August. It was noted that the winner of the 9 mile Run Wild race donated his monetary win back to the City to purchase/plant a tree. American Academy opened its campus. And there is a new round about.

Douglas County – They are in budget season, with discussions about traffic congestion and where to find resources for GAP funding. Noted that CDOT is doing an excellent job on the C-470 project. Population numbers for Douglas County are currently around 335,000. Barbara Drake gave an update on the Mental Health pilot program that now has 37 partners that help to respond differently to mental health calls that

come into 911. Helping to keep these types of callers out of jail and the ER by having a team response that includes law enforcement, emergency medical, and a mental health clinician. Each person fulfills a different role and so far 65% of these types of cases have been treated on the scene with no need to transfer to an ER/jail.

A case manager also works to find placement into needed programs and arranges for proper follow-up. There is a plan to assemble a second team the first of the year.

Douglas County Libraries – Just finished their summer reading program for adults/teens/children. They are in the midst of The Great Douglas County Brew Tour. Information for fall opportunities to meet various authors are on the web site – Dan Brown is appearing in November – many of these authors waive their fee and visit the district for free. Remodels are planned for the Roxborough and Highlands Ranch branches.

Douglas County School District – the school year is off to a great start, opened two new schools which brings the number up to 89. They are proud of the state testing results and the improvements made. The District is considering a potential bond election in 2018 to build a school in Sterling Ranch and meet their capital needs. They also are considering suspending pay-for-performance for teachers for a year.

Castle Rock – has adopted its 2018 budget. They proposed a drop to the property tax mill levy for 2018 from 1.4 to 1.3%. They held a groundbreaking for a new fire station and plan to hire 12 staff when it opens next summer. The downtown transformation continues with Town Hall renovations being completed in October and Festival Park in November. The holiday lights will begin going up in two weeks.

Larkspur – Wrapped up the summer season and felt it went well. They held three Music in the Park events, their Autumn Arts and Crafts Fest along with the Warrior Dash – an obstacle course/5K run. The Book Exchange is open on Thursday evenings as well as Saturdays. The Town along with Centura Health and Douglas County Seniors' Council will host the first of a series of Medical Information Forums dealing with health issues and seniors at their fire station on October 10th.

Parker – The National Council for Home Safety and Security named Parker as number 33 in the Top 100 Safest Cities. Work continues on rewriting the Development Design Standards for the Town. Jordan Road widening is underway. During National Park and Recreation month they had a Hunt for a (rubber) Duck event along the Cherry Creek Regional Trail. The property and evidence room serving Parker and Lone Tree Police has been reaccredited by the International Association for Property and Evidence for three years. Barker Days closed the pool for the season with 1300 dogs attending and O'Brien Park ballfield was turned into a temporary dog park for the event. September saw 10,000 Maniacs, and Paul Reiser at the PACE Center. Oktoberfest was last weekend and Council named Michelle Kivela as the new Town Administrator.

Lone Tree – Link On Demand Launched the middle of August, right now it is a six month pilot program picking up/delivering residents/visitors to anywhere within City limits. This week the program is expanding to weekend hours too. The leaf and bridge are up, walls on both sides of the bridge are in progress with completion slated for around Thanksgiving. The Arts Center landscape/parking lot improvements are almost complete. Forks, Corks and Ales is this weekend at Park Meadows Retail Resort. Newks opened in Lincoln Commons. The Metro Denver EDC Site Selection Conference included another helicopter visit to the Charles Schwab campus. The Police Department participated in National Night Out and the Fall Citizen Academy just began and attendance is full. The second Sensory Friendly Summit was held at the Arts Center - its Executive Director, Lisa Rigsby-Peterson, has become a leader in sensory friendly programming. A teen court appreciation event was held with about 50 people in attendance. Money Magazine just named Lone Tree as the number seven Best Places to Live, some of the criteria judged was schools, public safety and parks – all represented in the room today.

Guests

Merlin Klotz, Douglas County Clerk and Recorder/Parker Water and Sanitation noted that one marker of the growth in Douglas County is the increase of 50 additional vehicle registrations per day. Election season is underway. New vending machines for license plates and tag renewals are now in place. The WISE water project is really coming together and delivering water. Within the next year all entities involved should be receiving water.

Diane Levesley, Douglas County Housing Partnership – talked about the assistance they offer from counseling for first time buyers, to reverse mortgage assistance to seniors.

Mike Dell'Orfano, South Metro Fire – thanked Douglas County for the assistance/air support and great collaborative effort to extinguish the recent brush fire by the law enforcement training facility.

INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Douglas County's Federal Lobbyist – Paul Miller, Miller/Wenhold Capitol Strategies joined the group by Skype. He began with an overview of his impressions of Washington today. “Oh my!” There's a new style of governing with a businessman in the White House. There have been rough patches in the first nine months of this administration. Never seen this amount of investigations or turn over. A positive is it has jump started and forced conversations, but the warp speed is hectic. There are the challenges of cutting budgets to agencies and being behind in filling roles. Wanting to be leaner and smarter is not working and more filled positions are needed to run effectively. Many believed having a Republican House, Senate and White House would move things along, but have discovered that sometimes managing your own caucus is harder than working across the aisle.

Mr. Miller moved onto transportation infrastructure. Four trillion is needed, but there is no concrete plan to find funding or where it would come from. An idea for 200 billion is the P3 model (public/private partnerships). One way to make progress is a plan to decrease permitting time from 10 years to two. The gas tax is something Washington doesn't want to talk about, but it is believed it needs to be raised and it is more likely that it will be based on vehicle miles travelled.

In 2010 earmarks for funding were done away with, now there is one pot that everyone fights for. There is also talk about TIGER grants (Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery) being lost which would be devastating to small communities.

The focus currently is to address healthcare reform because without healthcare reform there cannot be tax reform. The optimistic view is this year, the reality is probably two – three years with the biggest challenge being to write it all.

Mr. Miller took questions from the group. One was raised about new HUD regulations for fair housing as Castle Rock/Douglas County turned down Community Development Block Grants. His opinion was that stakeholder input was not taken seriously. Now final budget numbers for the year need to be looked at to see if there is any money to implement a program. He felt there is a need to formally roll back the new rules. When asked about the odds of the permitting process decreasing from 10 years to two he responded that there is currently broad bipartisan support and it has a strong chance of happening.

Lone Tree Hub Update – Lone Tree City Manager – Seth Hoffman

Mr. Hoffman presented a power point presentation and told the group that after much community outreach it was determined that the former library building would best serve residents/visitors as a multi-generational community center. The name was chosen from suggestions submitted by individuals in the City. The building is owned by the City with a South Suburban partnership to run the day to day operations and offer various classes/programs only presented at the Hub. Also included are limited library services provided by the Library District. It has become a popular space for rental opportunities and serves as a nice drop-in space. Its popularity is evident with the need to expand its hours/days within months of opening the facility. He answered a couple of follow-up questions. One dealing with teen usage – he reported that about 30% of users

are teens and that with Cook Creek pool next door, plans are being made for cross programming. Another question was if there is a charge for classes and if the facility is only for Lone Tree residents? There is a charge for classes – the facility is open to everyone, not just Lone Tree residents.

PARTNERING REPORTS

Douglas County Youth Initiative – Youth Congress is the following Monday held in the Capitol’s State Chambers. Plans for the day include a moment to remember Carla Turner who was the first director and passed in June. The teens will join in a fiscal experiment being given one dollar and figuring out how to be fiscally responsible when deciding how to spend it. They will focus on eight break-out sessions: Community Events for Older Teens, Vocational Training/Partnering with the Community, Substance Abuse, Mental Health, Truancy, Curfew, Expanding Community Service and Youth Representation in Local Government. George Brauchler will be the closing speaker.

Douglas County Open Data Initiative – is working to make it easier for citizens to “get what they want” and find the information more easily. They want to unify information in the County and include interactive maps.

Before closing the meeting the Larkspur Town Manager announced that Larkspur/Douglas County will serve as the Partnership chairs for 2018 and introduced his team.

ADJOURN

Next Meeting:

PDCG Elected Officials Legislative Reception, Thursday, November 9, 2017 (name and date amended)

Host: 2018 Chair – Larkspur/Douglas County

Highlands Ranch Mansion

9950 E. Gateway Drive, Highlands Ranch