

# INC 2015 Candidate Survey

**\*1. What is your name please?**

**\*2. Which Counsel district do you hope to represent?**

- |                                  |                                  |                                   |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> District 1 | <input type="radio"/> District 5 | <input type="radio"/> District 9  |
| <input type="radio"/> District 2 | <input type="radio"/> District 6 | <input type="radio"/> District 10 |
| <input type="radio"/> District 3 | <input type="radio"/> District 7 | <input type="radio"/> District 11 |
| <input type="radio"/> District 4 | <input type="radio"/> District 8 | <input type="radio"/> At Large    |

**\*3. Please tell us the best way to contact you if we have a question..telephone or email.  
Please provide either or both in the comment box below.**

## INC Education Committee

### Vision Statement

The INC Education Committee is dedicated to the understanding and improvement of a wide range of educational opportunities available to Denver communities through active engagement between Denver registered neighborhood organizations and education providers.

Although our major focus is on primary and secondary education within the Denver Public School system, we also understand the importance and connection of life-long learning opportunities for residents of all ages at universities and community and technical colleges.

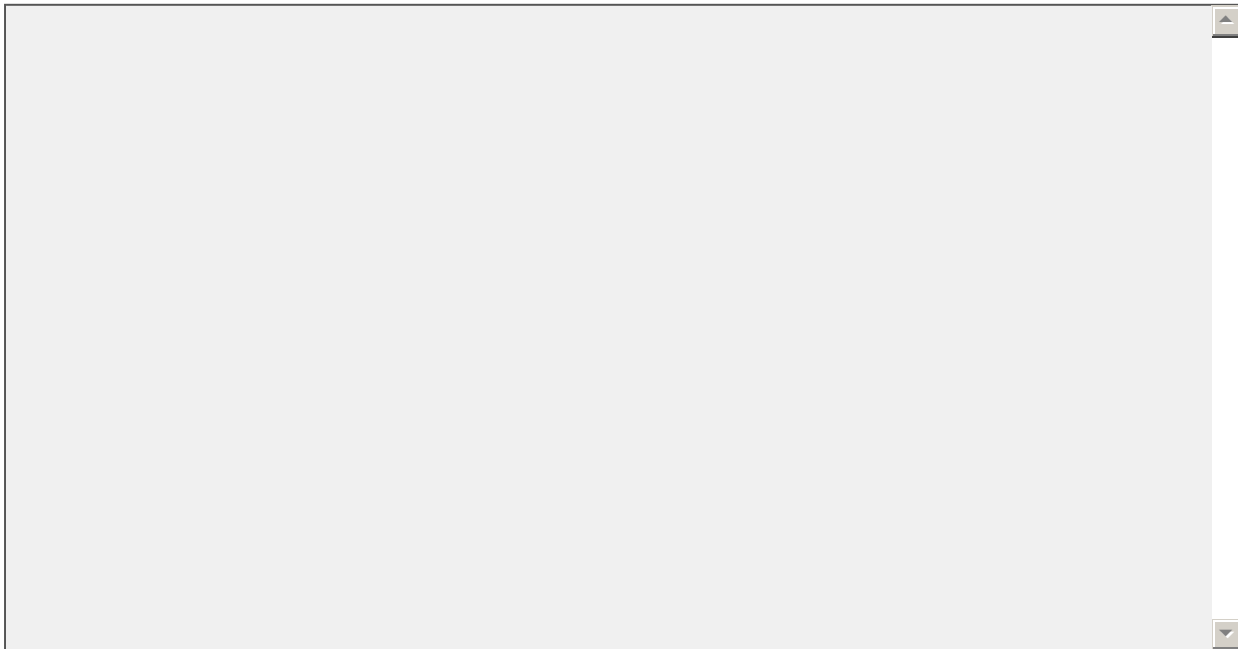
Although it is the Denver Public Schools' (DPS) Board of Education which establishes policies for our public schools, recently the Mayor, City Council and Parks and Rec. crafted, with the DPS administration, a land swap that not only de-designated important open space as park land (for a school), but also attempted to drop historic designation from the Emily Griffith Opportunity School building. This occurred without an authentic process involving the citizens/constituents in these important decisions impacting their communities

**\*4. Do you believe it is the ultimate obligation of City Council members to represent and advocate for their constituents in the neighborhoods they represent, rather than expedite the Mayor's office or private businesses that may benefit from these types of transactions between governmental entities?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment:



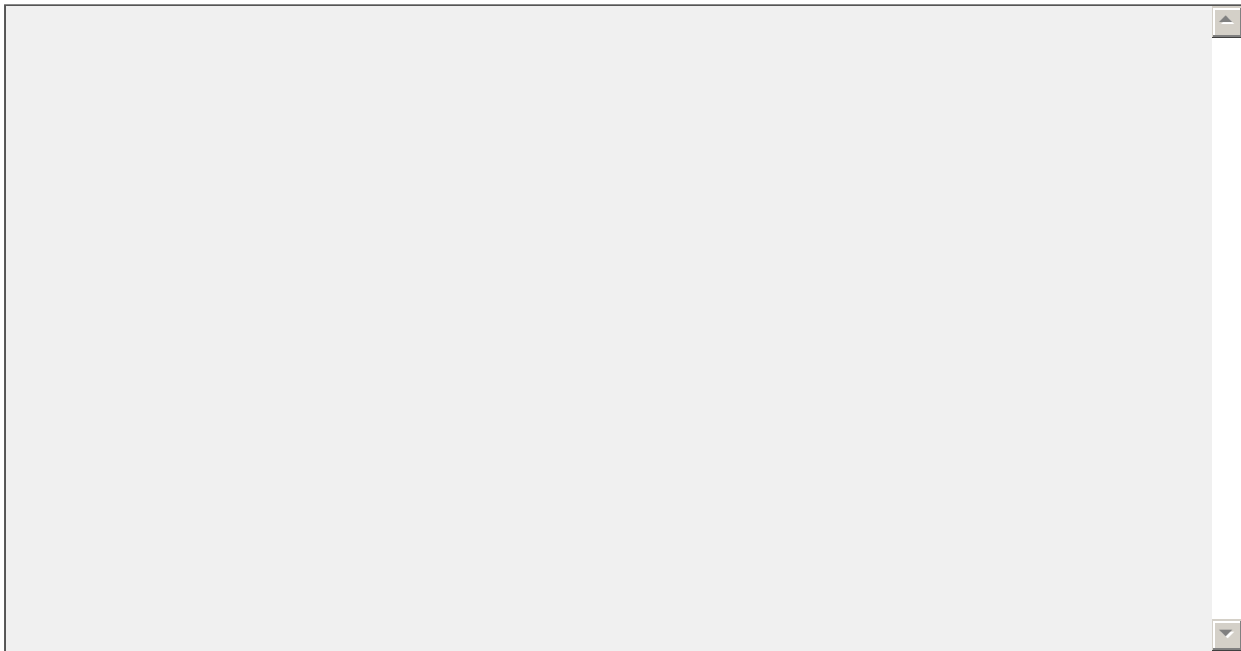
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**\*5. Do you believe that preserving strong public neighborhood schools in each of our communities is very important to the viability and strength for the future of our neighborhoods?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment:



## INC PARC Committee

The Platform for Denver's Urban Parks was created and supported by the Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation (INC) Parks and Recreation Committee and approved by the Delegation of Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation, January 8, 2011. The platform provides a proactive and positive framework in which citizens of the City of Denver may discuss public policy pertaining to the size, function, location and purposes of urban parks with the City's Department of Parks and Recreation, elected officials and other residents. Over the past several years, INC has taken positions in reference to the following Denver Department of Parks and Recreation proposals: Admission Based Events, U.S. Open Air Cinema, Park Zoning, Dog Park Master Plans and Advertising in the Parks. Opposition to aspects of these proposals and presentation of constructive alternatives reflect INC's concerns over the commercialization of urban parks, the limitation on the use of urban parks by the public, and a perceived erosion of support for the principle that urban parks should provide opportunities for equal access by all citizens to the experience of nature. The platform is an extension of prior positions taken by INC. It is designed to move public policy discussions toward broad solutions to conflicts that have emerged over the use of urban parks. The platform is based on four broad assumptions:

- There is a need to preserve open green space and citizen's opportunities to experience nature through free and open access to parks;
- There is a need to implement a community-based process for the development of park policy;
- There is a need to significantly increase the amount of parkland within the City; and
- There is a need to have sustained and dedicated revenue sources for parks. In this way, park policy will be anchored in Denver's historic commitment to providing access to open green space for its citizens and oriented toward the future development of urban parks in the 21st century. The questions below flow from the INC Urban Park Platform and specific concerns of citizens that have emerged since its development.

## I. DESIGNATION OF UNDESIGNATED PARKS, PROTECTION OF OPEN SPACE, MORE PARKLA...

DESIGNATION OF UNDESIGNATED PARKS, PROTECTION OF EXISTING OPEN SPACE WITHIN PARKS, AND NEED FOR MORE PARKLAND

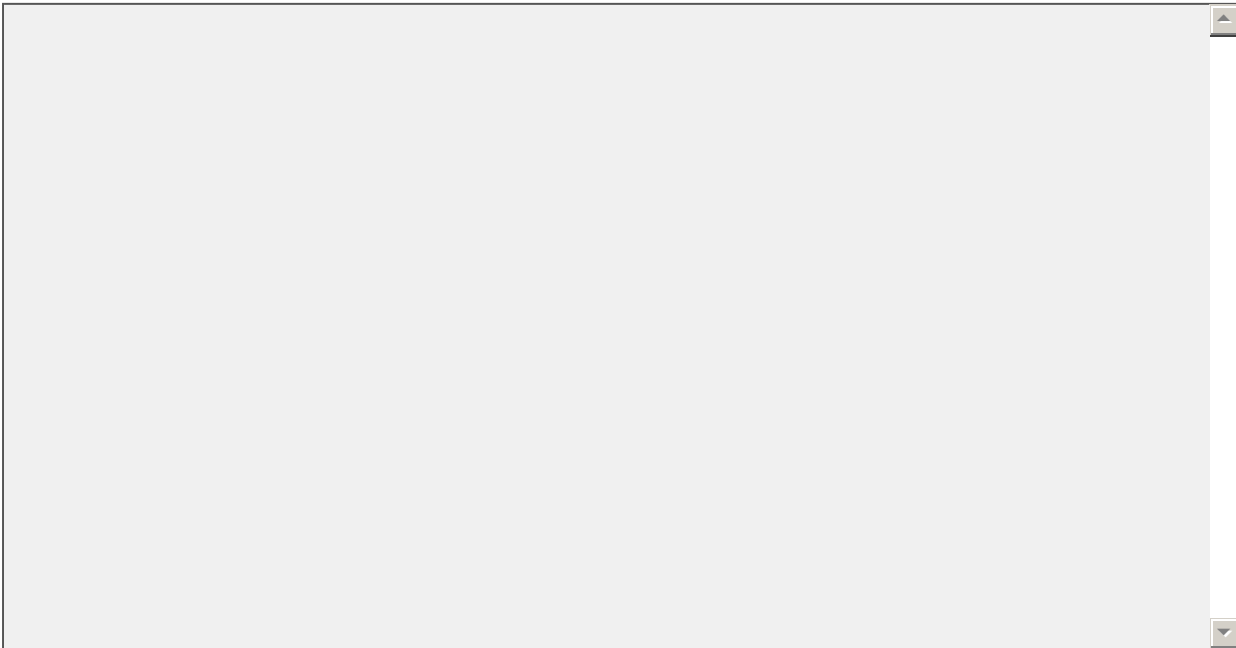
**\*6. INC, in response to a request from the Department of Parks and Recreation, formed a committee to aid the department's effort to designate undesignated parks. While this committee has made progress over the past two years, the work is not finished.**

**Would you support a concerted effort within all city departments affected to complete the designation of all undesignated Denver parks that are legally available for designation?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment:



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**\*7. In addition to designating undesignated parks, we also need to prevent the transfer of open space within designated parks to institutions within parks. Over many years, open space in designated parks has been re-allocated by the Manager of Parks and Recreation to institutions within parks such as recreation centers, museums, and zoos. It is important that open space within parks is protected.**

**Would you ask for policy changes to protect open space within designated parks?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment:

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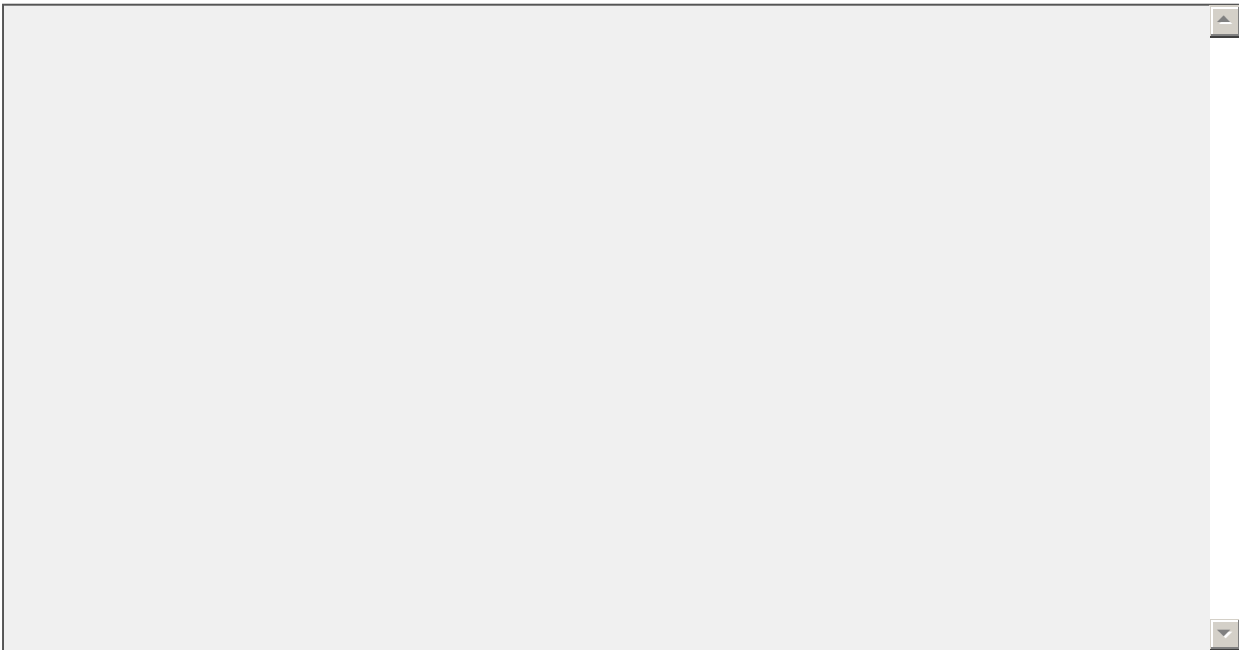
**\*8. There is inadequate urban parkland in Denver given the size, density, and expected growth of Denver's population. For example: The city had 555,000 residents in 2000 and is projected to have 700,000 in 2020. While the Hancock administration may add additional parkland to the park system, the current plans focus on the acquisition of land at the periphery of Denver. We need parkland in the center of the city where the population is growing and "density" is a goal of the administration's urban development plan.**

**Would you support the acquisition of additional parkland and open space within the center of the City of Denver?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment:





## II. ACQUISITION OF PLAYING FIELDS AND A FESTIVAL SITE

The urban parkland that does exist is viewed increasingly as a site for multiple and oftentimes conflicting purposes

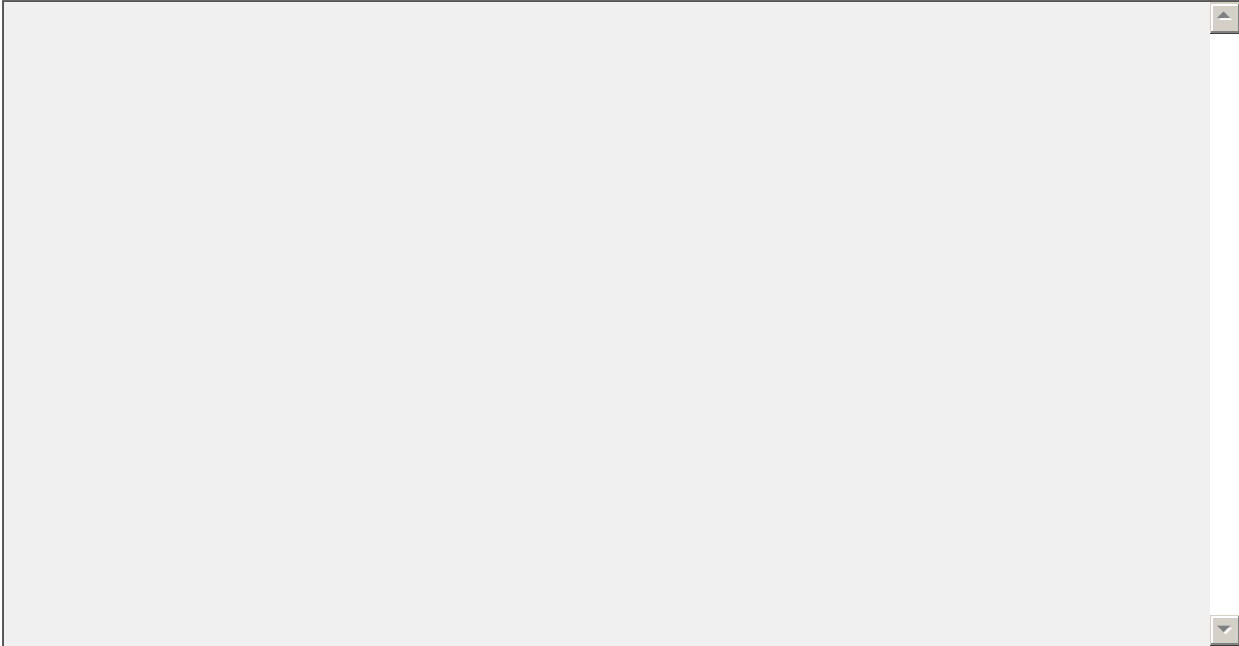
**\*9. The urban parkland that does exist is viewed increasingly as a site for multiple and oftentimes conflicting purposes-- opportunities to experience nature, spaces in which teams can play, and sites for large festivals. These uses of the same land has created problems within our parks including damage to parkland and vegetation, limitation of public access to parks, and distress for neighborhoods bordering parks (eg., unacceptable levels of noise, traffic congestion, threats to public safety, and problems parking). As a result, a site is needed for large ticketed events such as festivals that is not located within neighborhoods. Well-lighted playing fields with bathrooms and parking outside of city parks are also required.**

**Would you support the development of a Festival Site?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment:



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**\*10. Would you explore opportunities for and support the development of playing fields outside of city parks for Denver citizens?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment:



## III. USE OF RECYCLED WATER IN PARKS

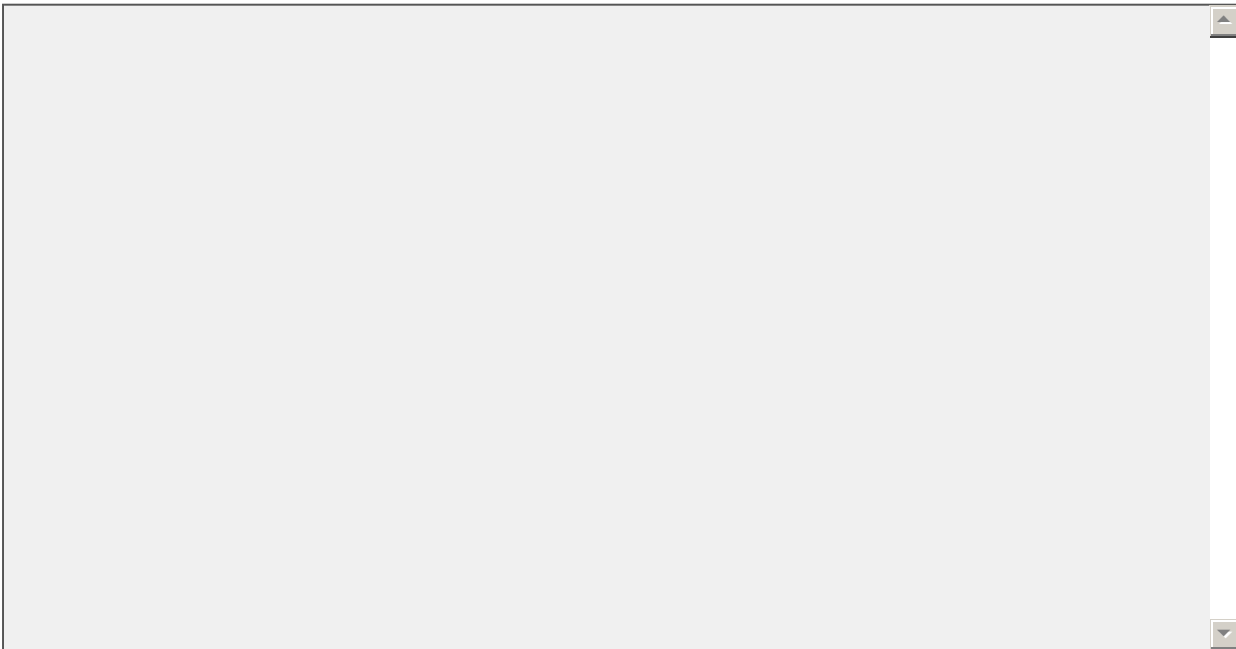
While use of some forms of recycled water may be necessary for people, animals, and plants in Colorado, not all forms of recycled water are desirable for use in parks. The current use of recycled water in parks with a high salt content poses a threat to the health of mature trees and possibly other vegetation. On this issue, scientifically valid information and communication with the public are critical.

**\*11. Would you ask the City administration to convene a panel of independent experts in plant physiology, soil chemistry etc. to evaluate the safety of the type of recycled water used in our parks and to report the results to the public?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment:



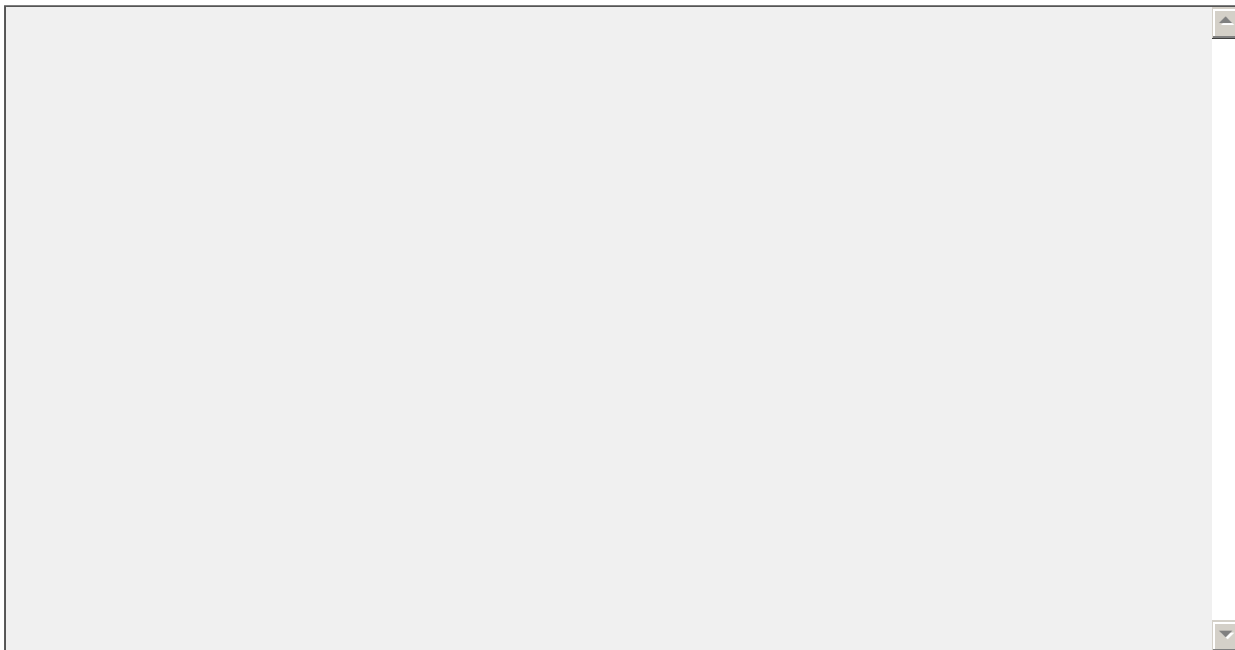
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**\*12. If the risks of the type of recycled water currently in use are found to be too high, would you support all steps necessary to eliminate these risks?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment:



## IV. PARK ADMINISTRATION

Effective government requires citizen engagement.

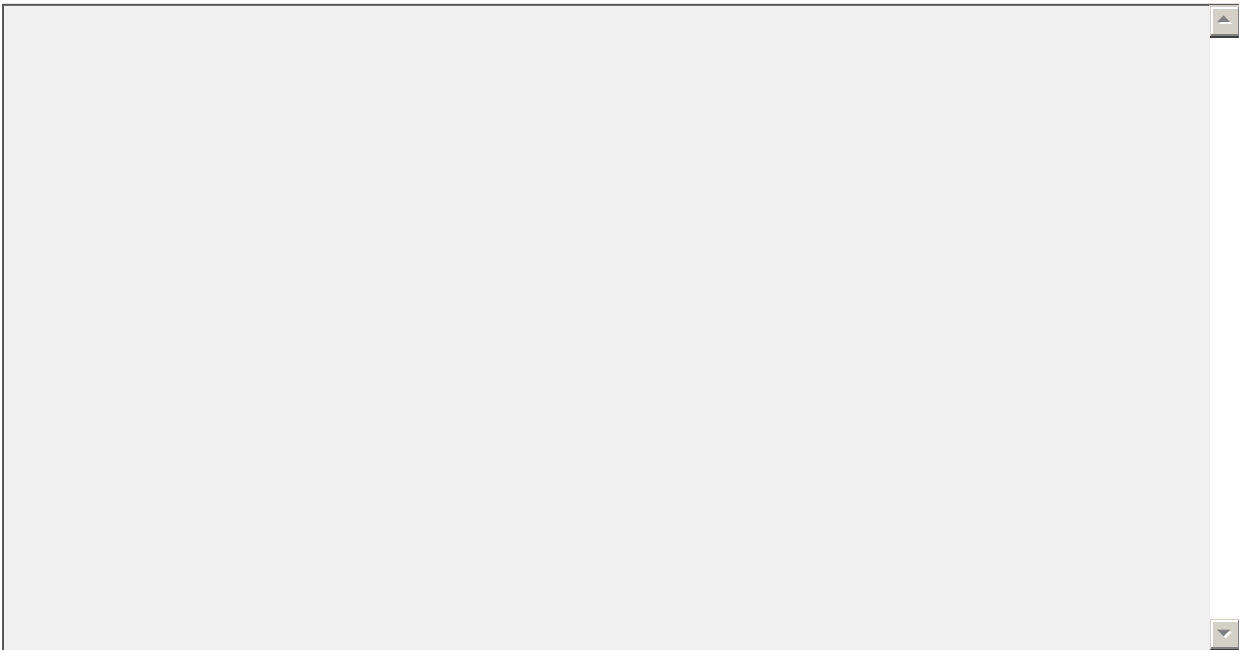
**\*13. Effective government requires citizen engagement. INC has received multiple complaints and over many years pertaining to the use of parks. Complaints include the difficulty citizens have in influencing park policies.**

**A new Office of Special Events has been formed by the Mayor and its function will have an impact on what events occur in parks. Would you advocate for INC representation on an Advisory Board for the Office of Special Events?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment:



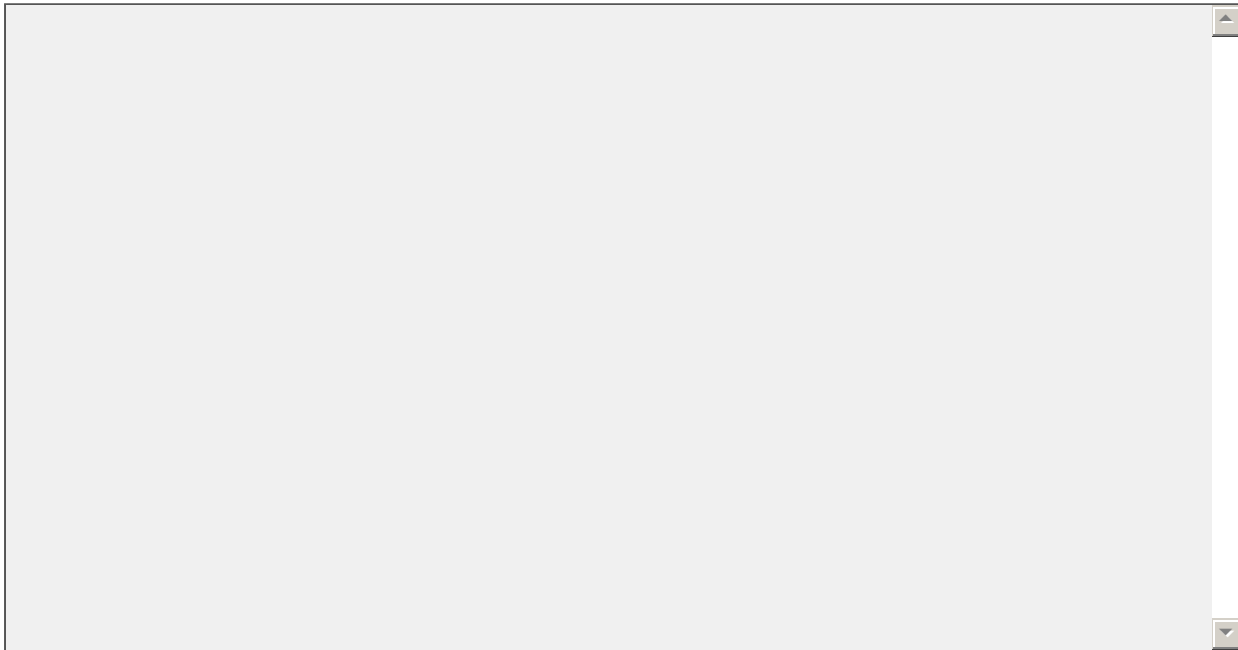
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**\*14. Would you direct funds to the Department of Parks and Recreation to ensure enforcement of park rules and regulations within the entire park system?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment:



## V. PARK FUNDING

Denver's park and parkway system is grossly under-funded.

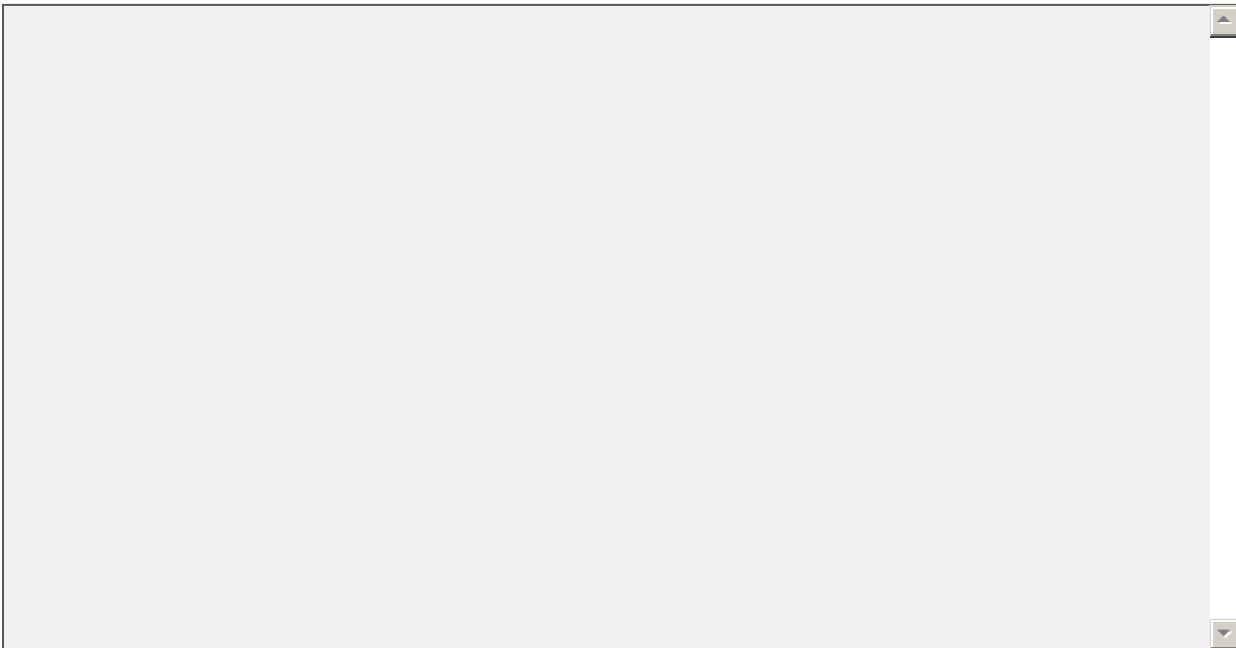
**\*15. Denver's park and parkway system is grossly under-funded. A broad range of funding sources must be pursued in order to sustain and to expand Denver' park system. This funding includes local and state-level dedicated revenue sources. Denver is surrounded by municipalities that fund their parks with a tax levy dedicated to parks.**

**Would you support a tax levy to provide a stable funding source with which to acquire land for parks, open space, a festival site, playing fields, and for maintenance of all these for Denver's park system?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment:



## INC Transportation Committee

The Committee Purpose is to monitor transportations issues that impact the residents within Denver County and to present feedback and positions on such activities as is appropriate.



## Discretionary Projects

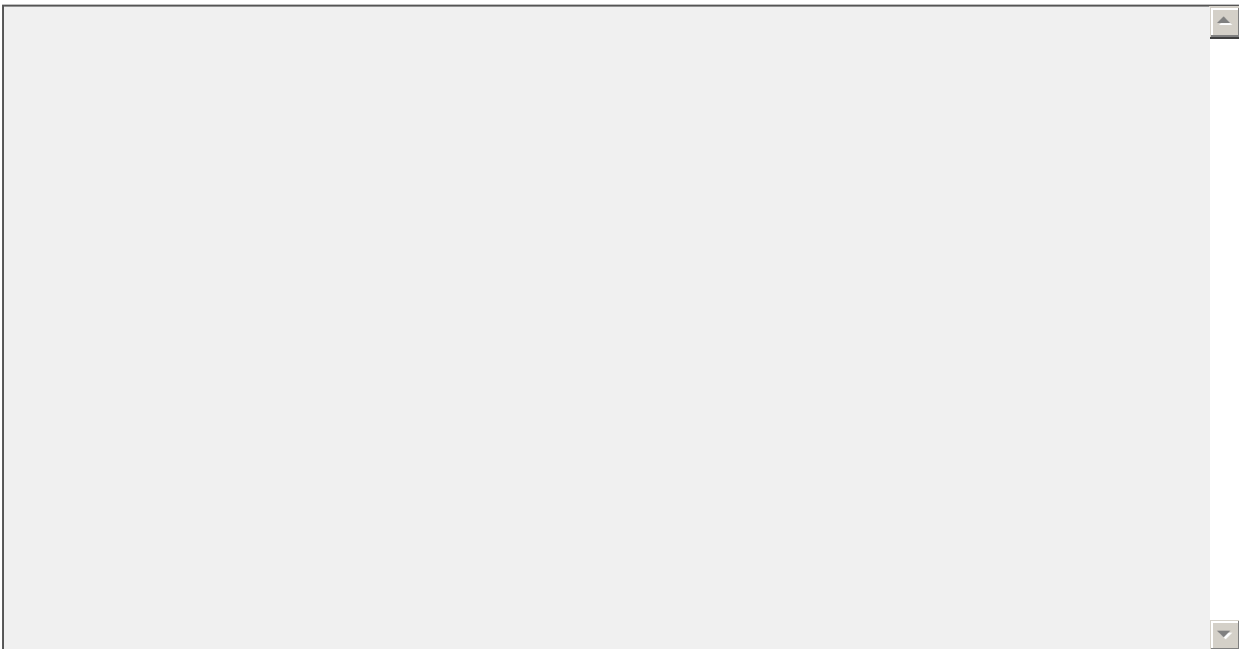
Many neighborhoods have long-standing lists of transportation changes they are waiting to see implemented, but the incredibly small size of the discretionary projects part of the Public Works budget means that these neighborhood priorities aren't getting addressed. Public Works does the best they can to make the limited funds go as far as possible, but there is only so much they can do.

**\*16. If elected, would you support an increase to Public Works funding for discretionary projects in neighborhoods?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment:



## Committment to Vision Zero

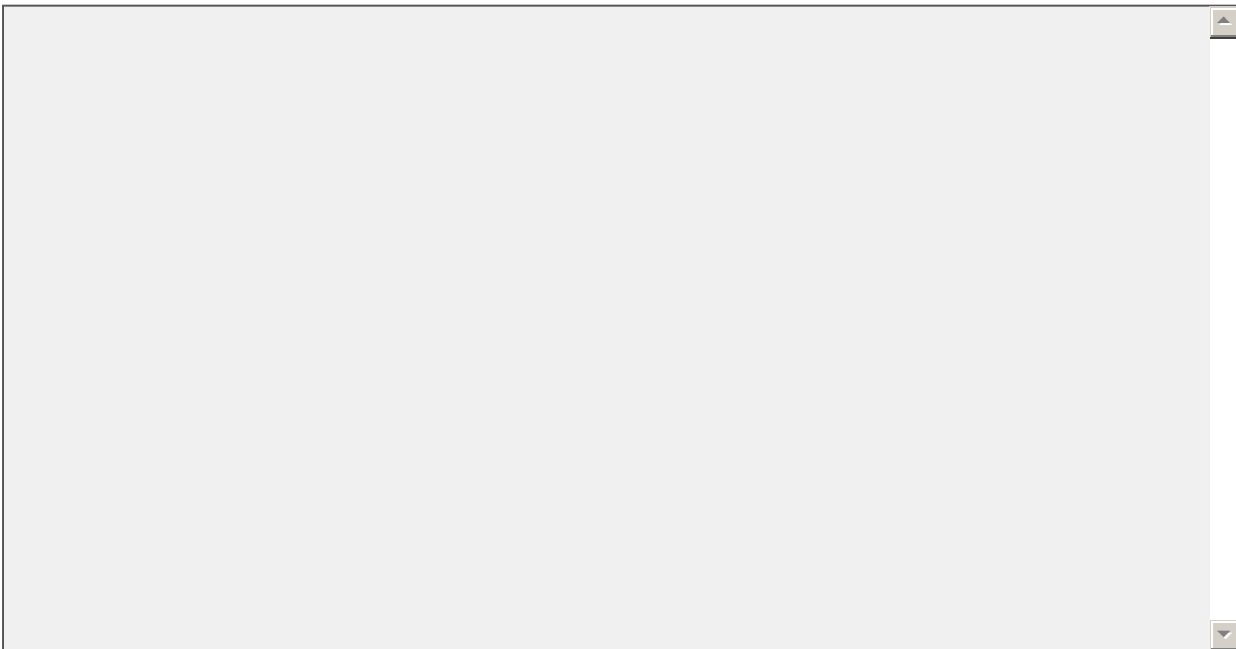
An increasing number of cities are recognizing that with smarter design of streets and continuous review of incident data, traffic accidents can be dramatically reduced, and are aiming to eliminate traffic fatalities and serious injuries using an approach known as Vision Zero. After implementing changes through the Vision Zero approach, New York City in 2014 had the lowest pedestrian traffic death year on record. Chicago, Seattle, Portland, Los Angeles and San Francisco are also committed to Vision Zero.

**\*17. Would you support Denver joining the ranks of cities that target elimination of traffic deaths and serious injuries as a moral priority by adopting a Vision Zero approach?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment:



## Best Practices regarding sidewalk installation and maintenance

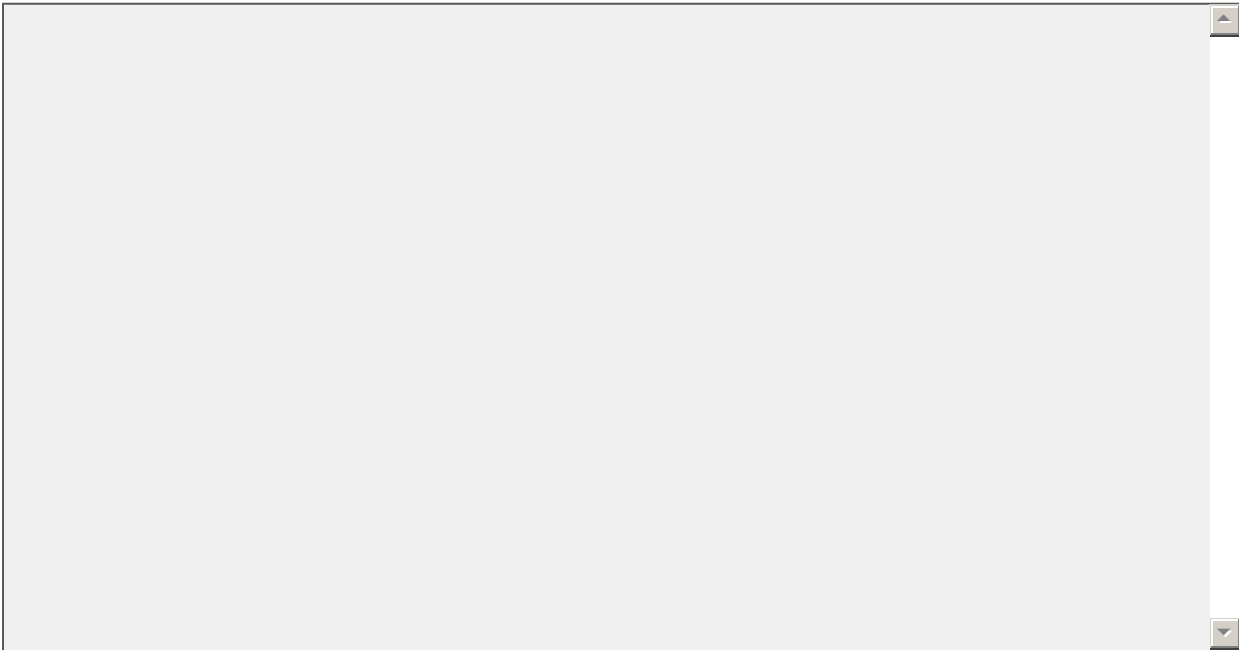
No matter how you get around, having sidewalks that are complete and safe are critical to mobility at the start and end of every trip. The better the pedestrian environment is, the more people can choose, trip by trip, whether walking might be the easiest, healthiest option. Today, the sidewalks of Denver are incomplete and in widely varying condition. The Mayor has convened a Pedestrian Advisory Committee and Public Works will be creating a new Denver Moves: Pedestrians and Trails plan, which will be looking at these issues and more.

**\*18. Would you support Denver pursuing and implementing best practices from other cities regarding sidewalk installation and maintenance, with the goal of increasing walkability?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment:



## INC Zoning and Planning Committee

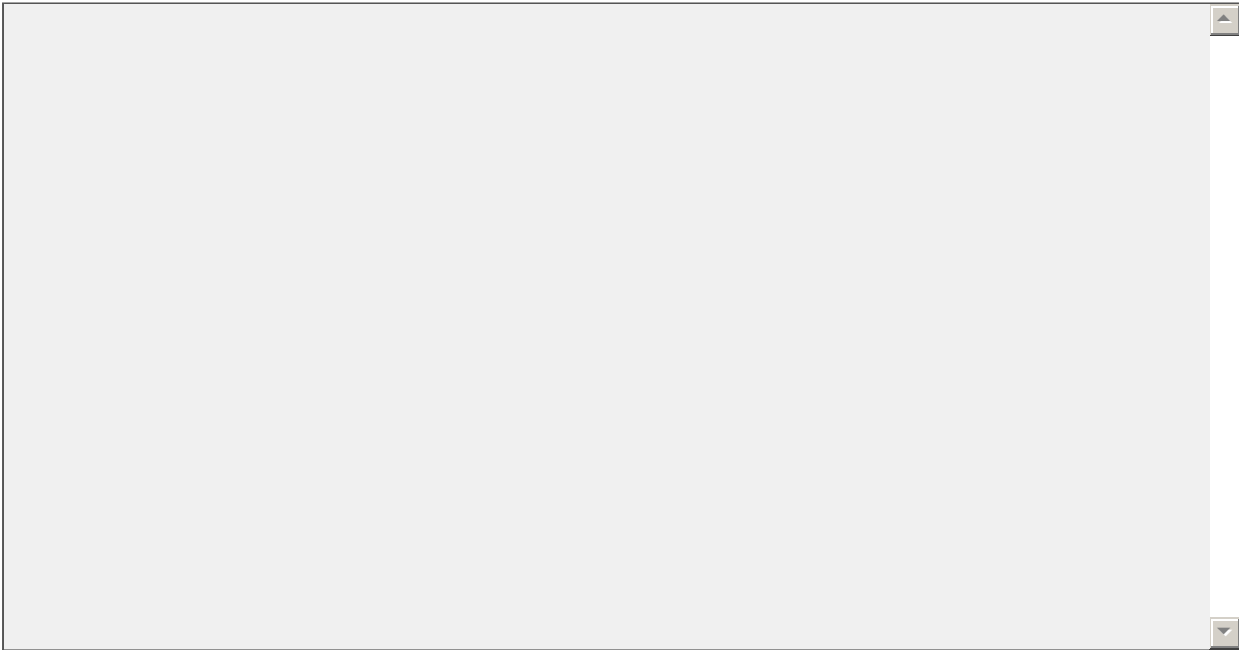
The mission of the INC Zoning and Planning Committee is to learn about zoning, planning, licensing and urban design issues and processes in Denver, including sidewalks and tree lawns; to assist neighborhood groups in dealing with such matters; and to provide advocacy, recommendations and comments to city government, with emphasis on the need for and importance of involvement of neighbors and neighborhood organizations in city issues.

**\*19. . Would you support the City of Denver engaging consultants to study the effects of parking on neighborhoods in areas where high rise development is contemplated prior to approval of the development. If so, what parking study process would you suggest?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment:




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**\*20. Do you believe the 2010 Zoning Code adopted by City Council in 2010 has benefited all neighborhoods in Denver or some neighborhoods? Please cite examples.**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Examples:

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**\*21. What changes do you believe need to be made to the 2010 Zoning Code, If any, and why.**

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**\*22. Will you urge the Mayor and city officials to appoint representatives of residential neighborhood organizations to all city boards, commission, advisory committees, collaborative groups and task forces which consider planning and zoning issues. If so, describe the efforts you would take to ensure such appointments are made.**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment:

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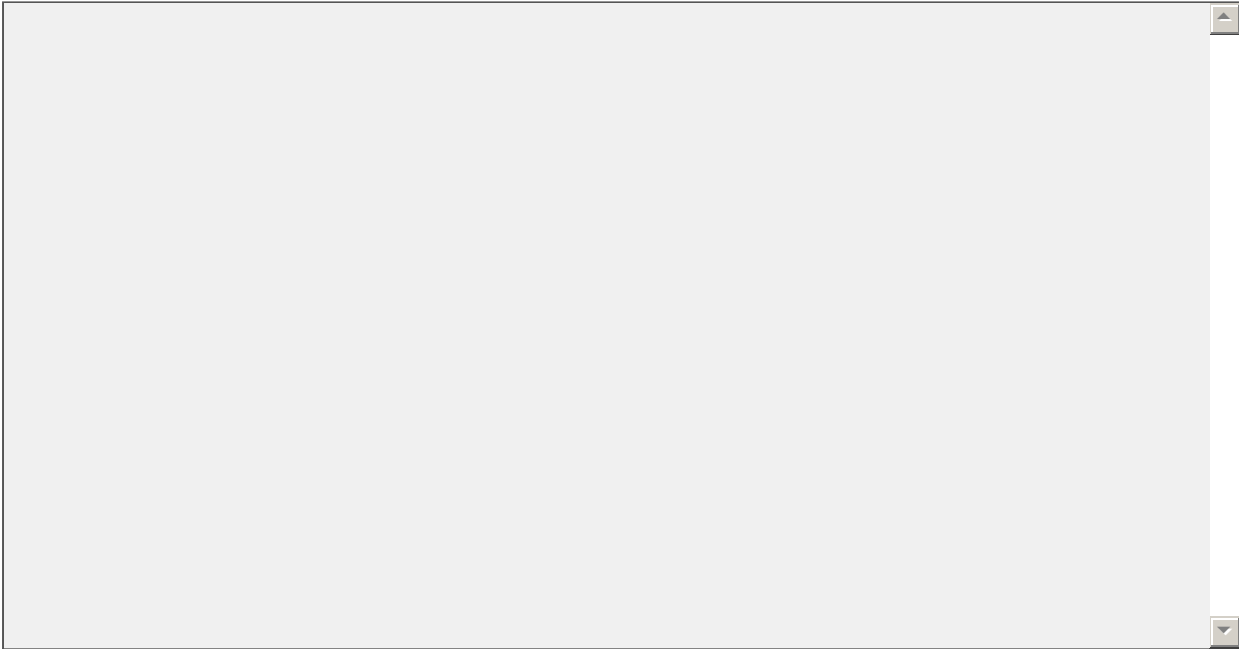
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**\*23. INC has been advised that the Director of Community Planning and Development is recommending Blueprint Denver be revised and updated. Do you support such a recommendation and describe what process you would support to ensure neighborhood participation.**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment:

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**\*24. Please describe your vision of “smart growth” for the City of Denver in ten words or less. The vision should capture stakeholder expectations of your anticipated leadership on City Council.**

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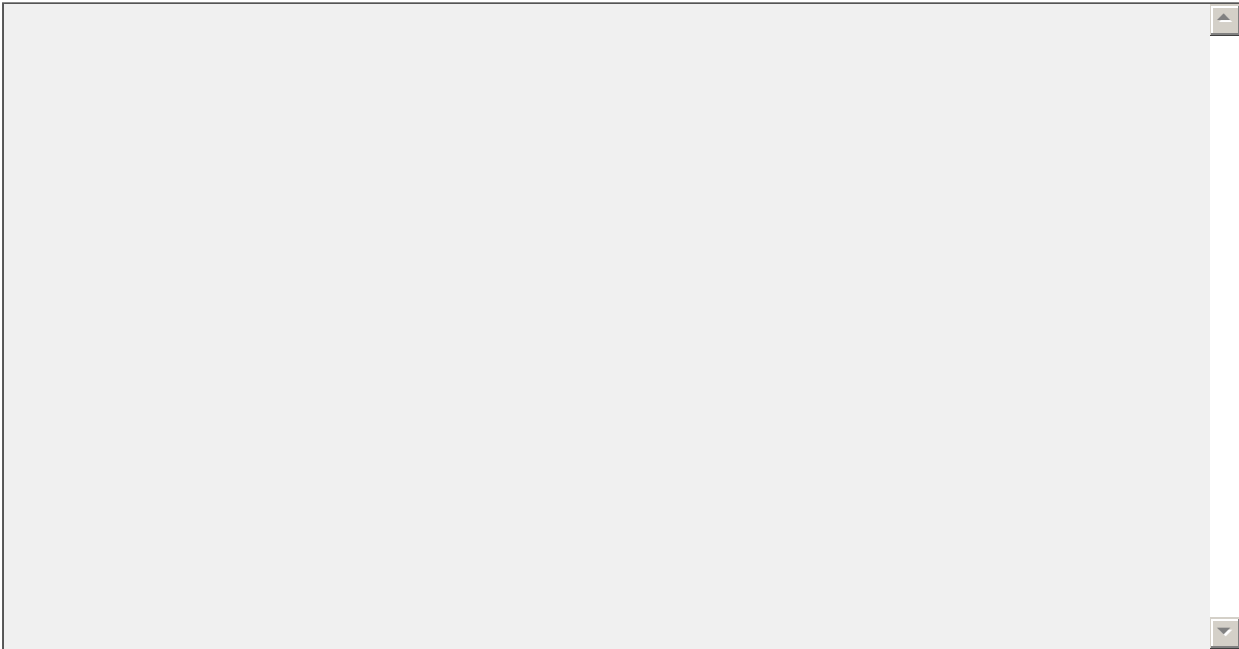
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**\*25. . Entertainment districts which extend the hours for alcohol to be served, often until 4:00 a.m., have been adopted in a few cities throughout Colorado. Would you support an entertainment district in certain areas in Denver? If so, where and until what time?**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment:





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**\*26. Short term rentals, that is rentals for less than 30 days are now illegal in Denver residential neighborhoods. Do you support the adoption of an ordinance which would permit short term rentals in Denver residential neighborhoods. If not, why not. If you would support an ordinance to allow short term rentals in residential neighborhoods, please describe the process you would support, including the process for funding.**

☐ Yes

☐ No

Comment:

