



Overland Park Neighborhood Association (OPNA) – March 28, 2019

Meeting called to order at 6:32 pm by Co-President Amy

Welcome and Open Comments

20+ members and guests were present.

Note: See our website for recordings from the [Mayoral Forum](#) located under the Meeting/Minutes page.

Minutes from February 2019 meeting

Minutes from the February meeting were approved as written.

Treasurer Report

Reminder: Annual dues apply to the full calendar year.

\$10 per household, \$25 business.

Paid members are voting members

Beginning Balance		\$ 4,839.25
Membership Deposit		\$ 65.00 (pending)
Bank Fees		\$ (5.00)
INC Check		\$ (40.00)

Ending Balance Per Bank		\$ 4,794.25
	OPNA Funds	\$ 2,982.86
	ART Funds	\$ 1,811.39

Police Report

CRO Jim Lopez

720-913-1248

Jim.lopez@denvergov.org

District 3

1625 S. University Blvd.

Non-emergency dispatch # 720-913-2000

pocketgov.org/police

BROADWAY COP SHOP

487 S Broadway

Follow the Denver police twitter page to see any information on line.

[Denver Police Dept. \(@DenverPolice\) - Twitter](https://twitter.com/DenverPolice) <https://twitter.com/DenverPolice>

pocketgov.org/police is the Nextdoor version for police reporting where you can sign up and find out about any crimes in your own or other neighborhoods.

Jim Lopez spoke about upcoming events including Pups on Patrol and Neighborhood Watch where he encouraged us all to become engaged in our neighborhood. They will also be hosting a fishing event in the upcoming months where kids can learn how to fish. Look for announcements on Nextdoor.

Doug – asked about the homeless situation along the Platte River. Please report anything to Jim's email for him to followup and contact homeless outreach group. Make sure to specify the location and if it is outside the boundaries of Denver (South of Yale), then he will contact the appropriate city for them to handle.

Question - Is there a law on people smoking pot outside? With the new laws, people can smoke in their house but not outside. This is no the highest priority call for the police since not related to any violence, when reporting, it helps if you are there to point out what is happening in the moment.

Clarence w/ Senior Planet website <https://seniorplanet.org/>

Senior Planet provides free courses and workshops designed for older adults. They have many community partnerships and also are building a new community center in Lowry. They currently have a partnership with Athmar park and looking for more. Workshops include

- Computer basics, intermediate and advanced.
- Starting a business
- Health and wellness.
- Civic advocacy.

Check out their Website for more details of upcoming events.

Jolon Clark's Office (Council District 7) www.luckyDistrict7.org

Maggie provided the following updates

- Now passed 15\$ hour minimum wage for anyone working for city.
- April 9th 6pm – Iowa underpass project. Public meeting for the design phase. Meeting held at Grant Beacon Middle School. Attend to see the overview of how they will be getting rid of the stairs at Iowa underpass and improve the crosswalk at Santa Fe. There will be renderings on display that night and can also be found on City website.

History Corner

Check out our [website](#) to watch neighbors telling historic stories from Overland Park neighborhood. Let us know if you have a story you would like to share in one of our upcoming meetings

Overland Social

Overland Socials occur on the second Wednesday of the month: It is a chance to get together with neighbors and hang out at one of our local restaurants. The next social is

April 10 at **La Chiva** <https://www.lachivacolombian.com/> Please RSVP on Facebook.

Watch for reminders on our Facebook page **Overland Park Neighborhood Association - OPNA**

Community announcements (open to anyone)

[Vape and Play](#) – Taylor and Megan gave an update on their operation where they had

initially opened in January, ran into a few obstacles, regrouped in March where they created a joint venture with the event planning company [Dean Ween's Honey Pot Lounge](#). There is no ownership change and the same times and signs remain. With the new joint venture, there will be more musical acts and lively entertainment. Monthly membership and daily passes will be sold. They will be open to the public starting April 6th where opening hours are still set at 10am-10pm.

Amy - on the agenda next month will be a discussion about **Initiative 300** where we will host both for and against positions. See some additional information at the end of these notes. Maggie also encouraged everyone to do their homework on this as it could have a major impact on the city.

Amy - Invited all to the upcoming conference on April 6th.

"Into the Neighborhood": A One-Day Conference on Outreach and the Registered Neighborhood Organization, Saturday, April 6, 2019, 10a.m.-3p.m. Keynote by Irene Aguilar.

The East Colfax Neighborhood Association and the Overland Park Neighborhood Association are excited to announce a one-day conference on how registered neighborhood organizations (RNO's) support the needs of those who may be marginalized and oppressed within our communities.

Into the Neighborhood:

Outreach & the Registered Neighborhood Organization



Please join us! The East Colfax Neighborhood Association and the Overland Park Neighborhood Association are hosting a one-day conference on how registered neighborhood organizations can effectively and equitably support the needs of those who may be marginalized and oppressed within our communities.

Questions? Email opnainfo@gmail.com



East Colfax
Neighborhood Association
A Registered Neighborhood Organization In Denver, Colorado

Compassion

See our website for recordings from the [Mayoral Forum](#) located under the

Meeting/Minutes page.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm

OPNA meetings are held the 4th Thursday of every month, excluding November and December.

Upcoming meeting dates for **2019** include the following: April 25, May 23, June 27, July 25, August 22, September 26, October 24

Next neighborhood meeting will be on **Thursday, April 25**, 2019, at **6:30 pm** at **Studios at Overland Crossing 2205 S. Delaware St.**, Denver, CO 80223. Come join us and find out what is happening in our neighborhood.

Also, check us out on our [Website](#) and also to read the **minutes** from past meetings.

And like us on [Facebook](#) **Overland Park Neighborhood Association - OPNA**

Contact us at: OPNAinfo@gmail.com

City & County of Denver
1437 Bannock St. | Denver, CO 80202
www.denvergov.org/mayor

Initiative 300 Potential Impacts

This memo outlines potential impacts to City operations should Initiative 300 on the May 2019 municipal ballot become law. The proposed ordinance would grant broad rights for people to shelter themselves from the elements in public spaces, including parks, sidewalks in front of private businesses and homes, and the 16th Street Mall. The following ordinances are intended to be superseded if the measure is adopted:

- Unauthorized Camping Ordinance
- Sit/Lie Ordinance
- Trespassing on public property
- Park curfew laws
- Health regulations

- Park permits
- Refusing to show identification

The measure also would potentially create new civil and criminal liability and legal causes of action against private individuals, homeowners, businesses, city employees and city government. This likely would create a chilling effect for police officers, park rangers, health inspectors and others to enforce laws and may make them reluctant to assist those in need.

If the measure passes, it will be the first of its kind. While jurisdictions such as Rhode Island, Puerto Rico, Illinois and Connecticut have passed Homeless Bills of Rights, this measure differs. It explicitly overrides existing laws and makes it a crime for law enforcement agencies or other entities to violate the rights established by the measure.

Parks & Recreation Impacts

- Park curfews, which have been in existence in Denver for over a century, would no longer be enforceable. Nor would ordinances that prohibit overnight camping or setting up of tents and structures in parks.
- Permitted events in parks often require a park to be cleared for set-up activities and to establish limited access points for safety and crowd management. This ordinance could render it impossible for a permitted event operator to manage the space for their event.
- Closing areas of parks for turf, trees and landscaping to rest, restore and regenerate would be prohibited.
- There would be additional costs for maintaining and repairing parks, trails and open spaces impacted by uncontrolled use.
- The City's mountain parks also would be impacted by the proposal.

Human Services Impacts

- The ordinance would make it unlawful to "harass" anyone exercising a right to shelter themselves in public. The ordinance does not provide a clear definition of harassment, which may lead social workers, co-responders, outreach staff, peer navigators and others to limit their interactions with those needing services.

Police Department Impacts

- Similarly, the Police Department's Homeless Outreach Team may curtail interactions with individuals in need of services to avoid accusations of harassment.

- The ordinance would grant significant privacy rights to personal belongings. DPD may not be able to investigate the contents of potentially dangerous items left in the public right of way without a warrant, such as an unattended tent or a backpack at the airport or a bus stop.

Public Health & Environment Impacts

- Charitable food service operations – while well-intentioned – have the potential to impact the public health and environment. The initiative could tie the city’s hands in addressing unsafe food, litter, rodent infestations and other risks.
- The ordinance may limit actions that can be taken to abate public and environmental health nuisances in encampments on public or private property. This could include efforts to address public health threats such as Hepatitis A, rodents, feces, urine, trash and discarded needles.

Public Works Impacts

- The ordinance would enable individuals to set up tents in a non-obstructive manner on sidewalks, alleys and streets, so long as the right-of-way is not completely “impassable.” This may impede access for people with disabilities, with no means for the city to clear obstructions.
- The ordinance would make it more difficult for city officials to remove individuals sheltering themselves within public infrastructure assets such as bridges and storm-water drains.
- The ordinance would make it difficult for Public Works staff and contractors to remove abandoned or discarded trash from the right-of-way because of the initiative’s language regarding rights to privacy of belongings.
- Existing permit regulations that allow permitted encroachment and use of rights of way (e.g. permits to allow for outside dining patio space at a restaurant) may be impacted and prevent those with permits from managing that permitted space as they desire.
- As with Parks, there will be new cost implications for maintaining and protecting city assets that would be impacted by use other than as intended.

General Services Impacts

- City staff would be limited in ability to close and protect outdoor public assets like the grounds of the City and County Building under this ordinance. There are likely cost implications for additional maintenance and repairs if assets are improperly used or overused.

Legal Conflicts

- Attempts to create civil rights outside of the US Constitution
- Attempts to trump any conflicting state laws (which can't be preempted by city law)
- Creates a confusing enforcement system in which the city could be both the plaintiff and the defendant in civil suits.