



Overland Park Neighborhood Association (OPNA) – September 24 2015

Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by President Mara Owen

Business

- August Meeting minutes approved
- **Michael Bouchard**
 - Presentation:
 - Has been promoted to assistant director, no longer river vision lesson. New person TBA and until then he is doing both jobs.
 - Lots of damage from rain, need to redo ramps to jetty, crusher fines eroded away, new ramp in concrete
 - On track to be done by thanksgiving for Pasquinel's Landing
 - The Thanksgiving finish date may not include workout zone as it's on different schedule
 - Playground at Pasquinel's Landing still in master plan, not funded through river vision funds.
 - Plans to start Pasquinel's Landing playground after River Vision is done
 - Grant Frontier has 2 big holes currently, the reason is that 17,000cubic yards needed to be removed, 10,0000 to be given to Ruby Hill. Needed to be moved before Grant Frontier was ready to start due to the fill material sharing agreement with Ruby Hill.
 - The contractor who was excavating all this in Grant Frontier identified a previously unknown Denver water main running through the excavation zone. The surveyor incorrectly marked this as an irrigation pipe. The excavation crew realized the survey mistake and managed to keep any damage from happening to the water main.

- They are currently checking with FEMA to see if Overlandstretch qualifies for any disaster funds, no word yet.
- Grant Frontier will use the savings they got from Pasquinel's and all remaining funds of the grant.
- Construction to begin officially on Grant Frontier in November
- River vision will have a financial report for us by the first of January for a better idea of where we stand
- Jack introduced the idea of public outdoor instruments for the park
- Mara asked about the possibility of a temporary play area in Pasquinel's Landing to not have to wait so long until a playground. Perhaps something more informal and similar to Johnson habitat would be more feasible. Michael will take that into consideration.

• **Colorado Public Radio**

- This is a Pre application conversation
- They are meeting with us before they file an application with the city or doing any formal work with the city.
- CPR are thinking about moving their headquarters from Centennial to Ruby Hill, and are looking for input from neighbors about the move. Peter and Mara have been a part of some even earlier meetings with them as a working group to identify any issues the neighborhood may have.
- The 10 acres they currently own on the top of Ruby Hill has an old radio tower, and residential zoning. They've owned the land for a while but it's only been used for their tower so far.
- Current offices are in a donated space in Centennial which they've occupied for last 12 years. It's 36,000 sq ft of office and CPR has overgrown it.
- CPR Presented concept ideas. No designed or official ideas, just the ideas for where it could sit on their property.
- They are planning to have it include a public wing and community space for meetings and events like the neighborhood association or INC.
- Parking at their space they plan to be shared with the Levitt Pavilion since they won't need parking after hours.
- Radio Tower - looking to replace with free standing, much more

attractive tower, without guy wires.

- Their space is larger than they need, they only plan to be using around 80,000sq ft with a 2 story limit which fits with the current residential zoning now.
- Looking at 5 year plan. If everything goes right, they would hope to start building on their 50 year anniversary, in 2020.
- Curt Upton with the City talked about the zoning that would be required to allow for this.
- The city thinks the zoning tool they would use is a PUD zoning which is a “tailored” zoning tool that allows them to include all the special circumstances CPR has such as the tower, but still impose restrictions on building height and size, and the way the property works with the park. Current zoning is single family residential
- Curt encouraged people to please call him with questions
 - Curt Upton, Senior City Planner
 - Phone: [720-865-2942](tel:720-865-2942)
 - Email: Curt.Upton@denvergov.org
- Q&A
- Ray asked about public space; CPR staff is currently 104, space will be big enough for them?
- They are planning for the long term and for growth, especially since they plan to sell their centennial offices so wouldn't have two locations. Just the one.

• **Jolon Clark**

- Talked about his trip with the City forester to the Midwest to research Emerald Ash Borer
- He has pushed for EAB funds through city budget
- By the time EAB is actually discovered in a city, the infestation is 3-5 years in
- Personally he believes that they are in the city of Denver already. Boulder has them and is in year 2-5 of infestation so it seems very likely
- The Emerald Ash Borer is expected to have 10x more impact on the Denver tree canopy than Dutch elm disease did
- They have found that a direct treatment injection has 90%+ effective in Midwest, and is actually bee friendly unlike other treatment methods

- If the city takes no action, the entire Ash canopy will be lost in 10 years
- The money that is being put to treatment doesn't include trees on private property

• **News on the old Shattuck site**

- It has been Sold
- Jewel bridge landing is on property, the original plan was with former owner. Nevitt is back in the fray to make sure new owners are aware of this.
- There might be a right-of-way option as back up
- Jack noted that right of way soil is most likely contaminated
- Peter mentioned go co grant for bridge planning, Jolon says that if it fits into the cycle as not to compete with other Denver projects. Parks would know what cycle we could enter on.

• **Maggie Thompson with Jolon Clarks Office**

- This weekend from 1st to Bayod, Broadway will be repurposed as a bike facility on one lane. Will be there 1-5 pm Saturday at a park-let
- 9 am ribbon cutting with mayor Friday
- Saturday businesses will be activating the space with sidewalk fair
- This is the beginning for a study for a bike lane on Broadway.
- There are 14 miles of new bike lanes in next year's budget

• **Announcements**

- Casey asked about an elevator at Evans Station- Answer is there is no plan to put an elevator at Evans, but the effort is currently in putting the jewel bridge with ramp/ elevator
- New lights at Evans and Santa Fe ramps
- Bridge Art
 - We have a permit with the City of Denver, waiting on the one from CDOT
 - We expect 3 weeks of work, with prep, pounce, and painting
 - Need Volunteers!! Plan for dates within November 5- 23
 - EMW has offered to help by hosting supplies
 - Suggested creating a volunteer committee
- Urban waterways meeting has been postponed till January
- Stompin' grounds event through Warm Cookies Of the Revolution at Ruby hill

- Featuring Jack and Ronnie as historians
 - Child care available in advance
 - Translation services available
 - Casey needs volunteers for Overland pond, just a few hours Saturday morning, 8-10 is the plan
 - 7:53 meeting called to a close
-

Do you know someone who would like to be on the mailing list? Please reply back to this email with their information. Also find more information at the following link.

<http://www.opnadenver.org>