



**Team Highlands Ranch
July 21, 2008**

Attendees:

Rochelle Logan
Dorothy Hargrove
David Starck
Dave Weaver
Debby Novotny
Melanie Worley
Carolyn Schierholz
Nancy Smith
Vicky Starkey
Terry Nolan
Gary Debus
Laura Hopkins
Krista Simonson
Steve Dyer

Burning Issues:

Library: They are currently surveying the county to help with ballot decision. Come out for Shakespeare Festival this weekend at Civic Green.

School District: Bond and Budget – still waiting for Board Decision. \$400 million expected total, but still TBD. The 50th celebration started July 2nd. July 31st will be big celebration.

HRCA: Come out to concerts at Highlands Heritage Park.

Douglas County: The County Fair is the second week of August. Money magazine ranks Douglas County and Highlands Ranch as great places to live.

HRMD: The groundbreaking of Vets Moment was July 1. Ninety eight thousand dollars has been raised so far.

Chamber: Open house next Thursday 4 to 7pm. They have done some remodeling. Last week they had speaker on the economic impact of the Democratic Convention.

2008 Goals Progress Discussion

5:15 - 5:40 p.m.

1. Civic Engagement – Wendy (who was absent) – We have shared the citizen survey. The Library will be a polling site and will be holding a voter registration drive in Sept. Krista said that communication piece of the survey was eye opening, and may help us set better goals. Dorothy suggested that we might need to more clearly set goals before measuring our progress. We noted that it was hard to discuss this issue without Wendy. Melanie says she will suggest Wendy call a meeting.

2. Environmental Sustainability – Vicky – The Inventory is complete. It has been turned over to the PIOs (Public Information Officers) for packing into bucket lists (air quality, transportation, water, etc.) for an educational presentation to our residents. Douglas County has contracted to put out a resource list in about 3 months. Any holes will also be indentified, along with estimated price tags.
3. Cultural – Gary – Through the Cultural Affairs Organization, they have started talks with DC. It has been put on hold a bit. They have participated in Art Encounters. They have gone through grant process with the Cultural Council. Gary thought that Tier 2 might be a multiyear process.
4. Transportation Issues – Krista asked that we communicate how the cameras on top of the light polls are used. Vicky suggested that the answer get put on DC's website under traffic. DC is implementing their TIP. There is no action on Toll lanes. While there has been no action on Regional Transportation Authority, they might have a meeting in the next month and half. DC and Metro are hard at work on an IGA to improve road repair. Melanie suggested that we talk to RTD. Melanie suggested that the future Light Rail station might be at risk. Gary suggested that we invite new RTD board members as soon as possible. General consensus was for the November meeting. We slightly renamed our goal, and added RTD as a subset.

Regional Trail

5:40 – 5:55 p.m.

Randy Burkhardt – Interim Parks Director, DC

EastWest regional trail runs from 85 on the west to Parker on the east, along the northern tier of DC. The trail will be approximately 15 to 17 miles when finished. The development agreement of 1988 (between Shea and DC) set aside the land. Bluffs Regional Park is the eastern terminus for Highlands Ranch. The project was started in 2004. Work was done in 2005 and 2007. The next work will be coming out of the underpass on Monarch and work north toward Bluffs Regional Park. Twelve miles of trail are expected to be built this year. This part of the trail will be a 6 foot wide natural surface (fenced) on the HRCa property. Then it will transfer to an 8 foot wide crusher fines trail. Another section will connect from the second Monarch underpass to Griggs Road with soft surfaces. Watch for elk in this section. No motorized vehicles or dogs off leash will be allowed. The Griggs Road trailhead parking will be for 30 cars and 5 trailers at the 90 degree corner of the road. From Mountain Vista to 85, the trail will include a bridge over the large dry wash, on 6' soft surface trail. When out of Backcountry and onto HRMD property, it will go back to 8' wide.

The project was awarded a GOCO grant for \$1 million, the largest ever, to help fund the project. We got 1 of 4 grants out of 28 applications. The team is still working on the design process, with construction work to start late fall. Eventually, they hope to end the trail at Redstone. They have put out some press releases and worked with DC8 for publicity. A 6th grade class put together a video on this project.

Youth Congress Video

5:55 – 6:10 p.m.

Carla Turner – Douglas County Youth Initiative.

The Partnership of Douglas County Governments had started this drive with feedback from the School District. They found that there were 250 youth resources that weren't interacting with each other. The program started in Sept 2005. Access & Involvement, Prevention, Intervention

are their three big areas. Their Douglas County Wraparound is a system of care approach which saves money and impacts more people. Thirty six percent of families using it come from HR. They also run Youth Leadership Douglas County, which is also underway with their first sets of seniors. There are also Youth Initiative Teams working on Truancy, After-School Activities, Substance Abuse Issues, and Teen Driving.

Sheriff's Substation

6:10 – 6:25 p.m.

They have just completed programming. They are looking to build 30,000 sq feet, with patrol, investigation, and records areas. The parking lot in one plan would hold 50 to 70 cars. Paul Architects is doing the designing, now on schematics. There will be a large meeting room for 100 people. In the long term it could be used a court room. The actual site is TBD, but has been narrowed to two locations - east of the RTD lot on Highlands Ranch at Ridgeline, or Lucent at Town Center drive, near the potential Target. They hope to open late 2009 or early 2010. Dave hopes to save money and drive time with this building. Vicky hopes to bring a rendering to September meeting. This is being paid for by the Justice Center sales tax. It will look much like the Park Meadows substation on Lincoln.

Administrative

6:25 p.m.

AUGUST MEETING CANCELLED

Please RSVP to Carolyn for attendance in September so that we can better plan food.

Next meeting/food provider - September 15th/Chamber

Ranch Wrap

6:25 - 6:30 p.m.

Adjourn

6:30 p.m.