



FROM THE CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

For the week of October 26, 2015

Inside the city

Information on latest happenings, items of interest.

To see events posted on the city wide calendar please visit our [website](#).

Council follow-up

Resolution of action items or requests from previous meetings.

Colorado Economic Development Commission approves new enterprise zone in Commerce City

The attached map shows the modified enterprise zone program boundary that was approved two weeks ago by the Colorado Economic Development Commission. The city's economic development division worked with Adams County Economic Development to modify the Adams County recertification application to address concerns Commission members [raised during their August meeting](#).

Businesses in an enterprise zone can claim a three-percent state income tax credit on equipment purchases, as well as credits for net new jobs, job training, and new research and development expenditures.

Commerce City selected as pilot community for Great Outdoors Colorado Inspire Initiative

Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) [announced Friday](#) that Commerce City was selected as part of the Northeast Metro Coalition as a pilot community for GOCO's \$25 million Inspire Initiative. The Northeast Metro Coalition represents 13 agency and nonprofit partners committed to increasing access and opportunities for underserved youth adjacent to the [Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge](#). The Coalition's geography includes rich resources of inspiring outdoor spaces that offer connections to the Refuge and seeks to engage and connect 27,900 youth to the outdoors, breaking down the physical, relationship, and perception barriers for a community where 77% of residents are people of color and a 42% childhood poverty rate exists.

The Northeast Metro Coalition partners collectively offer a broad spectrum of nature-based and outdoors programming for youth in our target area, building on existing relationships and long-standing community connections. Commerce City is proud to be part of this group, which will use the \$100,000 planning grant over the next 10 months to engage the community – especially our youth – to develop inclusive and innovative plans and programs that will secure \$1-5 million implementation grants from GOCO. We look forward to keeping you informed of the process, including opportunities to participate in the months ahead.

Northeast Metro Coalition Partners

- Commerce City
- Rocky Mountain Arsenal National Wildlife Refuge
- Sand Creek Regional Greenway Foundation
- Bluff Lake Nature Center
- Boys & Girls Clubs of Metro Denver



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- Environmental Learning for Kids
- Groundwork Denver
- Mile High Youth Corps
- The Urban Farm
- National Park Service Intermountain Region Rivers Trails & Conservation Assistance Program
- Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Department of Natural Resources
- Aurora
- Denver

Councilmember Douglas requested an update on the City's planned project to provide pedestrian facilities along Chambers Road at the narrow bridge north of King Soopers

The 2015 Capital Improvement Program includes a budgeted \$315,000 project to extend the sidewalk from its current end point north of King Soopers to a point north of Chambers where it would be appropriate to cross with one of those rapid flashing beacons. There is an existing soft surface trail on the east side that then transitions into concrete walk near Landmark.

The critical piece of the project is providing pedestrian facilities across Second Creek. Atkins, an engineering consultant, prepared a technical evaluation of the possible options and costs. In summary, three options were considered including:

- Cantilever a sidewalk off of the existing bridge
- Widen the existing bridge, or
- Install a pre-fabricated bridge

Atkins recommends widening the existing bridge based upon ease of construction, structure cost, needed field and design services, and future structure expansion. This option includes an approximate cost savings of \$7,000± over the cantilevered sidewalk and \$14,000± over a pre-fabricated bridge. These costs are for the structure only and do not include the trail itself and other bridge elements such as railings, signage, etc.

Widening the bridge will not require a hydraulic analysis of a new structure nor an environmental investigation, including an Army Corps of Engineers permit, which will greatly benefit the schedule. The city will need to secure a city floodplain development permit but Atkins can design the widening project this winter in time for construction to begin in the Spring of 2016, with work completed by summer of next year.

Ms. Bates requested pothole repairs on Willow Street, south of 88th Avenue, during the Oct. 19 city council meeting.

Pothole repair began late last week and will be completed on October 26. Staff will also sweep the streets in the area in accordance with the city's twice-yearly sweeping plan.

2015 Mill & Overlay project bike lane follow up

The 2015 Mill and Overlay project includes the following proposed work on 60th Avenue between Forest Street and Quebec Parkway:

- Replacing 42 pedestrian ramps along 60th Avenue to meet ADA accessibility



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- Installing two concrete medians along with rapid flashing beacons at the 60th & Krameria and the 60th & Kearney intersections to facilitate children crossing 60th Avenue and walking to Pioneer Park
- Installing bike lanes along 60th Avenue, in accordance with the [Walk.Bike.Fit](#) plan
- Removing the concrete “triangles” at 60th & Olive as the striped bike lanes will not leave enough room for these to remain
- Parking would be removed on 60th Avenue as we cannot accommodate both bike lanes and parking

Letters to residences were mailed the week of October 19. Door hangers will be distributed 24-48 hours in advance of construction beginning on any particular street. Both the letters and door hangers provide the pavement hotline number, **303-289-8118**, for questions. Updated information also is on the website.

At the October 19 council meeting, city council discussed modifying the scope of the project to eliminate the bike lanes and retain parking. The city manager directed staff to evaluate alternatives and report back; below is the information for council's consideration and discussion.

Due to the width of 60th Avenue, the city cannot accommodate even one lane of parking and still provide bike lanes. Staff hoped design would allow parking on the north side and still provide bike lanes but were unable to achieve that from an engineering perspective. So, it becomes an “either or” choice. Staff considered the following elements in recommending whether or not to include bike lanes:

- Conformance with the [Walk.Bike.Fit](#) plan. The plan recommends bike facilities on 60th Avenue to connect the Recreation Center, Pioneer Park, and the Civic Center. Specifically, chapter four of the plan calls out the following for 60th Avenue (on page 50):
 - A bike “boulevard” from Glencoe to Quebec Pkwy, defined as six-foot wide, on-street bike lanes
 - Traffic calming
 - Areas along the corridor where parking may need to be removed
- Adjacency to Paradise Island Pool as well as the other attractions at Pioneer Park. As more and more residents utilize these facilities, the city wants to ensure that residents have a safe, functional means of accessing the park. The planned bike lanes and improved pedestrian crossing facilities will help residents safely travel from their homes to the park.
- East 60th Avenue is classified as a minor/residential collector. As of 2013, there were a recorded 6,700 vehicles per day using 60th Avenue, between Quebec Street and Holly Street, and 10,200 vehicles per day, west of Holly Street. By implementing bike lanes and installing pedestrian crossing facilities, this will encourage lower speeds of travel and deter cut-through traffic and heavy trucks from using this roadway.
- On-street parking is close or adjacent to many homes already. Many homes along 60th Avenue are on a corner lot and therefore have parking available on the side street. Or, if there is inadequate parking space in the driveway of the homeowner, guests may park on a nearby side street and walk a short distance to the residence.

To get an idea of how many homes this will affect, staff counted the number of properties that have corner lots versus those that only front onto 60th Avenue. The totals shown below are just about 50:50.



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All properties do have driveways with at least two parking spots. The highest concentration of “fronting” lots is on the north side of Pioneer Park, between Krameria and Kearney streets and the north side from Olive Street to Quebec Parkway. In either of these areas, people would need to walk about a maximum of 350’ to get to an adjacent side street.

	Holly to Monaco	Monaco to Oneida	Oneida to Quebec	Total
Corner Lot	14	10	10	34
Fronting Lot	14	8	16	38
Total	28	18	26	72

Adjacent streets, such as 59th Avenue or 61st Avenue are narrower than 60th Avenue and also would require the removal of parking to accommodate bike lanes.

To date, the public works department received one comment from a citizen opposed to the removal of parking and one inquiry about the reasoning behind that decision.

Correspondence

- North Metro Rail Line News, October 2015

City Council Work Schedule

Attached please find the current city council meeting schedule.

From: [FasTracks North Metro Team](#)
To: [Gallegos, Lysa - CM](#)
Subject: North Metro Rail Line News October 2015
Date: Thursday, October 22, 2015 12:07:11 PM



October 22, 2015

Welcome!

Change is in the air. As the weather shifts from warm days to cool nights, our region is changing too. Make sure you are up to date on all areas of the project by checking the [website](#) for ever-changing information regarding construction.

Be sure to also check out the [Telephone Town Hall](#) events where you can speak with your RTD representative.

As we begin major construction activities along the line, it is important we get you updates in a timely matter, especially as construction will be occurring throughout different parts of the line. You can find a variety of the latest information on the [North Metro Rail Line website](#). You can also identify places along the line for area-specific updates. This will allow us to send construction notices to people directly affected by construction rather than sending them to our general mailing list. You can do this on our [sign up page](#) by checking the boxes for your geographical areas of interest.

News along the line

120th Avenue Bridge

The most recent construction efforts on the North Metro Rail Line is the single-track commuter rail bridge over 120th Avenue. If you drive 120th Avenue, chances are you will see the bridge quickly coming up just east of Claude Court. Although this bridge is smaller than the [Skyway Bridge](#), it's currently one of the more visible construction elements of the project.



The 218-foot bridge consists of 340 cubic yards of concrete and 87,570 pounds of rebar. This seems like a lot, but the Skyway Bridge will be more than 43 times as long as the bridge over 120th Avenue requiring that much more material. The bridge at 120th Avenue is expected to be completed in six to nine months, much sooner than the two-year long construction of the Skyway Bridge.

Crews are currently installing caissons (see picture, right) which are the base for the piers. Girders, the metal beams that cross the roadway, could be set as early as the first week of November. Overnight work and road closures will be required to set the girders. More specific dates and times will be provided via the [website](#) and through [emails](#) for those in the affected area.

Story along the line

Top 5 Haunted Attractions in the North Metro Colorado Region

In order to get the best experience at a haunted attraction this fall, look no further. North Metro's own Eryn Grover runs a [Colorado Haunts Facebook page](#) and ranked the top five attractions in the North Metro Region.

1. **13th Floor** is probably the most popular and well known haunted house in Denver. It is located on Brighton Boulevard, very close to the future National Western Center Station. For five years in a row this haunt has made number two in my statewide rankings. They have the best sets and props of any Colorado haunt. Every scene is incredibly realistic and detailed. The actors are always focused and stay in character. They know how to pace well for a great experience and the scare factor is top notch! **Not recommended for children under 15.*

 2. **Haunted Field of Screams** is located in Thornton right off 104th Avenue and Riverdale Road. There are three attractions which include: Dead Man's Night Maze, Zombie Paintball, and the Haunted Field of Screams. This place has by far the best Zombie Paintball in all of Colorado. Haunted Field of Screams started off by putting the fear in us right away! This is one of my favorite things for a haunt to do because it sets the tone for the rest of the experience. If you like paintball and scary corn mazes, I would definitely recommend this one. **Not recommended for children under 12.*

3. **Asylum** haunted house is near Monaco Parkway and Smith Road in Denver. This is by far the most terrifying haunt I attended this year. Amazing actors and an incredible set are what put this haunted house among the best. Asylum is three attractions in one. You have to find your way out of the escape room first. Then, you move into

Primitive Fear, which is a zombie apocalypse theme. Next comes the Asylum, where the most insane people of any realm reside—absolutely terrifying and “insanely” fun!! **Not recommended for children under 15.*

4. **Scream Acres** is located at Fritzler Farms in La Salle. They have a few carnival-like activities including a giant slide, rat roller race, jumping pillows, and ball toss. They also have food and a beer garden. This place is very kid friendly during the day. At night they run the Zombie Paintball adventure and the haunted Scream Acres. The whole paintball experience lasts about 30 minutes and is a ton of fun. Once you make it to Scream Acres itself, the scares are on! Overall, Scream Acres usually gets a pretty high ranking because of the enjoyment I get out of visiting every year. **Family friendly during the day, haunted house not recommended for children under 9.*

5. **City of the Dead** is located at 7007 E. 88th Ave in Henderson. There are two attractions here, City of the Dead and Curse of Darkness. The City is zombie themed, and they have one of the absolute best sets of all the Colorado haunts. The space is massive, it is actually the largest indoor haunted house in Colorado. Overall, scare factor is 100 percent and if you're terrified of the zombie apocalypse this haunted house will surely be a scream! **Not recommended for children under 15.*

Behind the scenes

Marion Street Bridge

There is quite a bit of activity at the Marion Street Bridge. North Metro's Lindsey Smith went to [see the bridge demolition](#) last week to get us more information. Currently, the crew is cleaning up from the demolition and getting ready to install the new bridge. You can visit the website for the [live webcam](#) of the construction of the bridge.

Activities along the line

All construction activities are subject to change. Please visit the [construction page](#) on the website for the most up-to-date info. Check out the [website](#) to learn more about the parts of a bridge.

- Crews continue working on relocating the sanitary sewer line on the National Western Stock Show property. (See picture, right)
- Demolition of the BNSF Bridge over Marion Street is completed and construction of the new bridge will begin shortly. 
- Demolition of buildings purchased by RTD for the North Metro Rail Line continues. The Reddy Ice building is completely demolished with the exception of the foundations.
- Construction of the Skyway Bridge in Commerce City is moving as scheduled. The first bridge girders should be placed in early December. Work on this bridge will continue through 2016.
- Construction of the 120th Avenue Bridge is underway. Girders could be set as early as the first week of November.
- Drainage work for New Union Ditch is underway.
- Work on the foundations for the 112th Avenue Station and the 124th Avenue Station are underway.

Question of the month

 Question: I know that the Thornton Crossroads - 104th Station has a parking garage, so it will probably take longer to build. So will Northglenn - 112th Station open before the Thornton Crossroads - 104th Station?

As station build out comes to fruition, stations often look complete and ready for service for transit riders. However, not many realize that although the project may look complete, testing of trains, crossing gates, and other signals are critical in opening the line—similar to what we see happening on the East Line out to the airport. All six funded stations, from Denver Union Station to Eastlake - 124th Station, on the North Metro Rail Line will open to the public at the same time in 2018—three short years. Hang in there!

Alphabet Soup

What does QA stand for?

- a) Quest Approval
- b) Qualifying Appropriation
- c) Quadrilateral Area
- d) Quality Assurance

The correct answer is D. *Quality Assurance are the steps taken to assure that the end product of a project meets all prescribed technical design specifications and performance criteria.*

Stay up to date and get involved!

Stay up to date on all of the North Metro Rail Line news by [subscribing](#) to our monthly e-newsletter and periodic emails and encourage your friends, neighbors and professional colleagues to do the same. The e-newsletters provide project information, upcoming community meetings and events and general FasTracks information. As the project moves into construction, we'll keep you informed about progress and where work zones might affect you and your community. Get social with us. Like us on [Facebook](#) and follow us on [Twitter](#). The North Metro Rail Line public information team is committed to staying in touch with you—so [contact us](#) with your questions, comments and concerns.

[Unsubscribe or Manage Subscription Preference](#)

City Council Work Schedule				
Date	Item	Description	Dept.	Time
November 2, 2015				
REGULAR		Call to Order; Pledge; Audience Intro; Citizen Comm; Minutes; Reports		1:00
PROC & RECOGNITION	15-78	Recognition of 2015 Colorado Parks and Recreation Award Recipients	PR&G	0:10
CONSENT	Res 2015-85	Resolution to approve the 2016 Federal & State Policy Principles	COMM	0:05
	Res 2015-78	Resolution Approving the Use of Condemnation for Land Acquisition for the Tower Road Widening Project	PW	0:20
	Res 2015-101	Approval of Easement Agreement with Denver Water	PW	n/a
	Res 2015-103	Second amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement creating the North Metro Task Force.	PD	n/a
	Res 2015-117	IGA for The Link	PD	n/a
	Ord 2072	Ordinance amending certain provisions of the City of Commerce City sales and use tax code to bring it into compliance with requirements of Colorado Law (1st reading Oct 5)	CMO	n/a
PUB HEARING	Res 2015-36	Close Public Hearing on 2016 Budget - Continued from Oct 19	FD	0:05
	Res 2015-120	CDBG Grant	FD	0:05
	CU-112-15	A Good Shop, Inc.; Conditional Use Permit for an auto body and paint shop; 7350 Highway 2	CD	0:20
RESOLUTION	Res 2015-115	RESOLUTION GRANTING ENTRY MONUMENT LICENSE TO BUCKLEY RANCH WEST HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.	CD	0:15
	Res 2015-119	RESOLUTION APPROVING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT TO JOINTLY FUND THE DESIGN OF A FACILITY TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL AND COMPREHENSIVE SERVICES FOR SEXUALLY, PHYSICALLY, AND EMOTIONALLY ABUSED CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES	CA	0:05
ORD 1ST READING				
PRESENTATION	15-94	Capital Program Update	CMO	0:30
	15-95	2015 3rd Quarter Work Plan Update	CMO	0:30
ADMIN BUSINESS				0:15
		Total Meeting Time		3:40
November 2, 2015				
NIGID		Reports	CMO	0:15
PUBLIC HEARING	Res NIGID 2015-02	Close Public Hearing on 2016 NIGID Budget - Continued from Oct 19	FD	0:05
		Total Meeting Time		0:20
November 2, 2015				
ECAGID		Reports	CMO	0:15
PUBLIC HEARING	Res ECAGID 15-01	Close Public Hearing on 2016 ECAGID Budget - Continued from Oct 19	FD	0:05
		Total Meeting Time		0:20
November 2, 2015				
ERAGID		Reports	CMO	0:15
PUBLIC HEARING	Res ERAGID 15-01	Close Public Hearing on 2016 ERAGID Budget - Continued from Oct 19	FD	0:05
		Total Meeting Time		0:20
November 9, 2015				
STUDY SESSION		Reports	CMO	0:15
DISCUSSION	15-436	Amendment to existing Prospect Valley Intergovernmental Agreement	CD	0:15
	15-414	Quality Community Foundation Follow-up	FD	1:00
	15-535	Buffalo Run Capital Project Update	PR&G	0:30
		Total Meeting Time		2:00

City Council Work Schedule				
Date	Item	Description	Dept.	Time
November 16, 2015				
REGULAR		Call to Order; Pledge; Audience Intro; Citizen Comm; Minutes; Reports		1:00
EXECUTIVE SESSION	15-65	An executive session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(e) for the purpose of instructing negotiators regarding water transactions and potential contracts	CD	1:00
	15-68	An executive session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(e) for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations concerning incentives for several potential economic development projects within the city	CMO	0:30
	15-69	An executive session pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(e) for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations concerning incentives for several potential economic development projects within the city	CMO	0:30
PROC & RECOGNITION				
CONSENT	Res 2015-87	Amendment to existing Prospect Valley Intergovernmental Agreement	CD	0:05
PUB HEARING	Res 2015-112	S-428-04-15: 120th & Buckley Associates; A subdivision for 138 lots of residential development for Villages East Filing 6	CD	0:45
	Res 2015-111	S-426-04-15: Northwood Village Associates; Plat 151 lots for Villages East Filing #7	CD	0:45
	Res 2015-91	Resolution making findings of fact for annexation AN-232-15	CD	0:05
	AN-232-15	City of Commerce City/Shell Oil Company - Annexation (2nd reading Dec 7)	CD	0:05
	Z-913-15	Shell Oil Company; Rezone from ADCO AG to CC AG; South side of E. 96th Ave ROW, NEC of Peoria St & E. 96th Ave, and the SWC of Buckley Rd & E. 96th Ave (2nd reading Dec 7)	CD	0:20
	Z-928-15	City of Commerce City; Rezone from AG to Public; North of E 96th Ave & West of Peoria St (2nd reading Dec 7)	CD	0:15
RESOLUTION	Res 2015-113	RESOLUTION APPROVING AGREEMENT FOR APPOINTMENT OF MUNICIPAL COURT JUDGE	CA	
ORD 1ST READING				
PRESENTATION				
ADMIN BUSINESS				0:15
				Total Meeting Time
				5:35
November 16, 2015				
URA		Call to Order		0:05
RESOLUTION	Res URA 2015-03	Resolution approving additional land donation for the Suncor Boys & Girls Club	CD	0:10
	Res URA 2015-04			
				Total Meeting Time
				0:15
November 23, 2015				
STUDY SESSION		Reports	CMO	0:15
DISCUSSION				
				Total Meeting Time
				0:15

City Council Work Schedule				
Date	Item	Description	Dept.	Time
December 7, 2015				
REGULAR		Call to Order; Pledge; Audience Intro; Citizen Comm; Minutes; Reports		1:00
PROC & RECOGNITION				
CONSENT	AN-232-15	City of Commerce City/Shell Oil Company - Annexation (1st reading Nov 16)	CD	0:05
	Z-928-15	City of Commerce City; Rezone from AG to Public; North of E 96th Ave & West of Peoria St (1st reading Nov 16)	CD	n/a
	Z-913-15	Shell Oil Company; Rezone from ADCO AG to CC AG; South side of E. 96th Ave ROW, NEC of Peoria St & E. 96th Ave, and the SWC of Buckley Rd & E. 96th Ave (1st reading Nov 16)	CD	n/a
	Res 2015-104	RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING NEGOTIATION AND AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION SERVICES FOR TURNBERRY AND VILLAGES AT BUFFALO RUN EAST PARKS	PR&G	n/a
	Res 2015-110	Award the New Recreation Center Design Services	COMM	n/a
PUB HEARING				
RESOLUTION	Res 2015-114	RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING NEGOTIATION AND AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR CONSTRUCTION SERVICES FOR BUFFALO RUN CLUBHOUSE RENOVATION	PR&G	0:20
	Res 2015-118	Resolution approving Economic Development incentives	ED	0:30
ORD 1ST READING PRESENTATION				
ADMIN BUSINESS				0:15
		Total Meeting Time		2:10
December 14, 2015				
STUDY SESSION		Reports	CMO	0:15
DISCUSSION	15-487	City Council Orientation	COMM	1:00
	15-533	Introduction of Youth Commissioners to City Council	COMM	0:20
		Total Meeting Time		1:35
December 21, 2015				
REGULAR		Call to Order; Pledge; Audience Intro; Citizen Comm; Minutes; Reports		1:00
PROC & RECOGNITION				
CONSENT				
PUB HEARING	CU-108-15	CU-108-15: RCI Investments, LL; Conditional Use Permit for metal recycling facility; 9985 E 104th Ave.	CD	0:30
RESOLUTION	Res 2015-116	S-629-15: RCI Investments, LL; Consolidation Plat; 9985 E 104th Ave.	CD	0:15
ORD 1ST READING	Ord 2068	LDC Amendments for Telecommunication Structures (2nd reading Jan 4 - Fast Tracked)	CD	0:15
	Ord 2073	LDC Amendments - Shared Driveways (2nd reading Jan 4 - Fast Tracked)	CD	0:15
PRESENTATION	15-518	Senior Advisory Committee Bi-Annual Presentation	PR&G	0:20
ADMIN BUSINESS				0:15
		Total Meeting Time		2:50
December 28, 2015				
STUDY SESSION		Reports	CMO	0:15
DISCUSSION				
		Total Meeting Time		0:15

