

June 16, 2011

City and County of Denver
Community Planning and Development
201 West Colfax Avenue, Department 209
Denver CO 80202

RE: Support for National Jewish Health Property Rezoning - Gove School Property

Dear Members of the Planning Board, Blueprint Denver and City Council:

On behalf of Colorado Boulevard Health District (CBHD), we are writing to express our support for National Jewish Health's (NJH) request to rezone the Gove Middle School property located at E. 13th & E. 14th and Colorado Boulevard and Ash Street. The Gove property is shown on the attached Exhibit A. This request specifically includes the following:

Proposed Zoning Change:

Intent to change the zoning of the larger portion of the Gove property (bounded by 13th & 14th Avenues and Colorado Boulevard) from G-MU-5 to CMP-H, and the smaller portion of the property (bounded by 13th & 14th Avenues and Ash Street) from U-SU-C zone lot to CMP-H2. The purpose of this request is to get zoning in place that will support the development of this property for medical uses. National Jewish Health would like to develop facilities in support of their mission as a preeminent international healthcare provider and research facility, including facilities for patient care (in-patient and out-patient), research and education. The CBHD understands that the purchase of the Gove School property by NJH from Denver Public Schools is contingent on obtaining zoning that will support healthcare/medical uses.

Since early April of this year, NJH has been working collaboratively with local neighborhood associations, individuals, Denver City Council members, and the CBHD. Our Board created a subcommittee to work with the surrounding neighborhood organizations to formulate the proper zoning for this site. The subcommittee initially recommended approval and then the CBHD Board voted on the rezoning. The Colorado Boulevard Healthcare District supports this rezoning application and applauds NJH for their commitment to remain and grow in Denver.

We urge the City and County of Denver to approve this request as submitted by National Jewish Health and are available to answer any questions you may have.

Sincerely,


Mary Nell Wolff, Chairperson
Colorado Boulevard Healthcare District