

Christopher Johnston
1459 Milwaukee St
Denver, CO 80206

Dear Denver City Council,

My name is Christopher Johnston and I live with my wife and young children on the 1400 block of Milwaukee Street, just across from the All Inn Motel (3015 E Colfax). I am writing in support of the DURA proposal for this blighted property and am urging you to vote **YES!**

We need to be taking plywood down from Colfax's windows, not putting more up. The request being put forth by DURA will help accelerate Colfax's Greek Town Business District out of the stagnation that COVID created and anchor it for many years to come. The DURA proposal will activate the surrounding area and help it thrive. In my discussions with local businesses still present, the excitement and possibilities this project creates are obvious. A neighborhood hotel can support the loved ones of patients at National Jewish Hospital. It can serve as a resting and gathering spot for families and friends visiting Denver residents who live in the surrounding neighborhoods. There will be protected commercial space for local entrepreneurs to establish and grow their small businesses. The growth mentioned above will increase the tax base for our city. The list of benefits this hotel will provide goes on and on.

As you all know, this property has been in its current state for decades. I understand the motel is currently being used for a small number of housing vouchers, but we should not withhold future municipal support from a business just because they participate in the voucher program. Voting no on this proposal will disincentivize future voucher enrollment and resources. I know the current owner is working hard to get better housing for the few individuals who could potentially be impacted by this change.

Finally, it is important for City Council to know that the "no recommendation" coming out of the Planning Board was not due to lack of support, but that they simply did not have enough members present for the majority vote in favor to carry. Don't let this information get skewed in any other way.

Please, vote **YES** to help this area of Colfax bounce back from the pandemic. Vote **YES** for your constituents who want to see Colfax thrive. Don't let this property remain in its blighted state for decades to come. Without your support, this is sure to happen.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'C Johnston', written over a horizontal line.

Christopher Johnston
Congress Park Resident and neighbor to the All Inn Motel