



Land Use, Transportation & Infrastructure Committee Summary Minutes

Tuesday, April 12, 2011

10:30 AM City & County Building, Room 391

Members Present: Johnson, Montero, Sandoval

Members Absent: Robb

Other Council Lehmann

Present:

Committee Staff: Gretchen Williams

Bill Requests

BR11-0263 Approves an amendment to Chapter 48 of the Denver Revised Municipal Code extending the solid waste program for the collection of compost material, charging residents for the service, and expanding to include DPS and municipal facilities as operational resources allow.

Charlotte Pitt, and Lars Williams, Solid Waste Management

As part of Solid Waste Master Plan process, a study of Denver's waste material was performed. The largest component of our waste is compostable materials - food scraps and yard debris. It is important to maintain the composting program to keep as much of this material out of the landfill as possible.

Currently, Denver's composting program is still a pilot program in limited areas across the city (to provide data from a cross-section) and funded by user fees. Approximately 2,200 participants (about half the number of participants in the free program) are now paying \$9.75 a month for a large green wheeled bin, a small collection receptacle, and weekly pickup service. The fees are based on the cost of the service, which must completely be self-supporting.

A-1 Organics is the City's partner in the program, and they have a 90-day process that creates an excellent soil amendment material. This is primarily used for

agriculture, but some is made available to residents.

The proposed ordinance amendments continue the program in the existing limited program areas; provides for the charge to residents for the service, with a \$10 discount for payment in full up-front; removes the program sunset language; and provides an opportunity for DPS facilities located in the existing program areas to participate. The ultimate goal is to grow the program.

The annual fee is \$117. In 2010, the fee covered all cost for that year with \$175,000. The program has almost covered its costs for 2011, with 80% of participants paid in full, and the recruitment effort is being rolled out again in the program areas.

A motion offered by Councilmember Sandoval, duly seconded by Councilmember Johnson to file a bill to extend the composting program carried by the following vote:

AYES: Johnson, Montero, Sandoval(3)

NAYS: (None)

ABSENT: Robb(1)

ABSTAIN: (None)

BR11-0258 Approves Text Amendment #7 to the Denver Zoning Code.

*Molly Urbina, Caryn Wenzara, Michelle Pyle and Michael O'Flaherty,
Community Planning & Development*

Zoning Code Text Amendment #7 was introduced to the Committee on March 29. The proposed amendments are primarily designed to 1) continue to improve the usability and organization of the code; 2) and to make clarifications and some substantive changes based on the experience of applying the code to actual situations for eight months now. Most of the presentation is the same as the March 29 presentation.

Public outreach concerning this package of amendments included:

*Feb. 25 - InterNeighborhood Cooperation (INC) presentation and discussion

*March 16 - Planning Board presentation as an information item

*March 17 - Business & Retail Working Group presentation

*March 25 - INC meeting

March 29 - Land Use, Transportation & Infrastructure presentation as information item

*April 6 - Planning Board Public Hearing; unanimously recommended approval.

The proposed changes are grouped by type:

Group 1. Design Standards Exceptions and Setback Encroachments (found in Articles 3-9).

Group 2. Rules of Measurement (found in Article 13)

Group 3. General Design Standards (found in Article 10)

Group 4. Use Tables and Use Limitations (found in Articles 3-9)

Group 5. Procedures (found in article 12)

Group 6. Building Form Standards and Definitions

Councilwoman Montero said that one of the Registered Neighborhood Organizations (RNO) in her district asked that the Committee delay action on the proposal. The RNO is meeting this evening to review the proposal and asked for more time. She asked the Committee to delay action for one week.

A motion offered by Montero, duly seconded by Sandoval that this item be held in committee until April 19 carried by the following vote:

AYES: Johnson, Montero, Sandoval(3)

NAYS: (None)

ABSENT: Robb(1)

ABSTAIN: (None)