



July 27, 2020

Eric Hiraga  
Executive Director  
Denver Economic Development Office (DEDO)

On behalf of Montbello 2020, we are writing in support of the proposed Flyway project at the southeast corner of Green Valley Ranch and the planned Airport Boulevard just east of Montbello and west of Pena Boulevard. As community leaders, we felt it very important you hear why many of us across the neighborhood support this project. Montbello 2020 is The Registered Neighborhood Organization. We are governed by the City Charter with no political affiliations. We are a premier, relationship driven community organization. Our mission is to Inform, Educate and Empower community around issues that affect our Quality of Living, Health, Welfare and Aging in place. Montbello values education, safety, diversity and inclusiveness.

Montbello 2020, RNO believe it's a matter of equity, equality and transparency. This project represents many of the goals included in our Neighborhood Plan which was adopted in 2019. Montbello has been advocating for decades to have a project like the Flyway come into our community. We have watched as other neighborhoods around us and across the city get investments that help them reach their goals. We support that investment in those neighborhoods, and believe it is time for that same investment to be made in ours.

What are our neighborhood goals? They include full service quality grocery store, retail, restaurant options, that include healthy food options, family style dining, places for community to gather, areas for children and seniors, walkability. Good paying jobs with benefits that support a livable wage, and provides for home ownership. Open space, financial institution Easy and Safe access to the project. For many years we have gone outside the community to shop, This project provides the opportunity for residents to live, play, shop and keep our tax dollars in the community.

Added to support of these neighborhood goals, I understand this project also seeks to include a town center concept that is likely to be home to a community meeting space, something we desperately need in Montbello. While this is not central to our support for the project it represents an added benefit and reflects the desire of the developers to listen to community needs and respond where they can.

We know this project doesn't do everything for everyone, we believe it is a solid investment for the city in a critical investment in our neighborhood. It provides basic building blocks for the ongoing success of Montbello and all its residents. I ask you to consider our neighborhood goals and support the project.

Sincerely,

*Ann White* Director

Montbello 2020, RNO  
501 c (3)

Date: 24 July 2020

Eric Hiraga  
Executive Director  
Denver Economic Development Office (DEDO)

Dear Director, Hiraga,

On behalf of, Montbello Golden Age Club, I am writing in support of the proposed Flyway project at the southeast corner of Green Valley Ranch and the future Airport Boulevard just east of Montbello and west of Pena Boulevard. It is critical that you hear the community voice as you are making decisions about this project. It is also critical that you know many of us believe this project, and an investment from the city, should move forward.

The Montbello Golden Age Club is a social outlet for seniors. The goal is to provide a warm and comfortable place for senior citizens to mingle and share experiences. The main hook is playing cards at the local Montbello Recreation Center twice a week. We also schedule trips for our members, and we provide vital information such as this proposal keeping them aware of public events that may impact them.

The proposed project is really a question of equity. Will the city invest in our community and help us reach our goals in the same way it has invested in other communities across the city? If the answer is yes, then you must support this project because it does move us closer to accomplishing many of our foundational neighborhood goals

Specifically, this project accomplishes two important things. It provides high paying, good benefit jobs and puts quality grocery options in our backyard. For decades, we have been working toward these two goals because they anchor so much of our quality of life, and our ability to sustain the generations who call Montebello home.

It should also not be forgotten that many in our neighborhood would prefer their tax dollars support our neighborhood by being spent in our neighborhood. Currently, we drive many miles to shop and then see the tax dollars we pay support other communities.

The Montbello Golden Age Club supports senior members specifically. However, our membership also serves Green Valley Ranch, Gate Way, Park View and now Avion. The introduction of the Fly Way so close to our neighborhood would be a major weapon in fighting the food desert we have suffered for decades. In addition, the jobs and revenue remaining in our community is an added plus to its positive image.

Montebello is a diverse, inclusive, and proud neighborhood that deserves the city support and investment. This project does not solve all our challenges, but it is an answer to some and allows the city to show it believes we, like many other neighborhoods across our city, have a bright future worth supporting.

Sincerely,  
Lawrence Murray  
Montbello Golden Age Club, VP  
720-341-9953



July 22, 2020

Eric Hiraga  
Executive Director  
Denver Economic Development Office (DEDO)

Dear Director Hiraga,

On behalf of Families Against Violent Acts, I am writing in support of the proposed Flyway project at the southeast corner of Green Valley Ranch and the planned Airport Boulevard just east of Montbello and west of Pena Boulevard. As community leaders, we felt it was very important you hear why many of us across the neighborhood support this project. MONTBELLO 2020 is a RNO that collaborates with the many organizations like Families Against Violent Acts to keep us informed when a project like the Flyway is planning to be a part of the Far North East Community that will impact us all with many great opportunities FAVA consider this project a blessing.

This is about equity. Investment in our community on this new retail community center represents many of the goals for which we have been advocating for decades. While we watch other neighborhoods around us and across the city get investments that help them reach their goals, we continue to struggle with key issues such as the need for more high paying jobs and access to high-quality grocery in our community. While we support that investment in those neighborhoods, the time is now to make the same investment in ours.

We want to be able to buy high quality groceries close to our homes and in our own city. We have been working together as a community for years trying to attract a high-quality grocery that would help more of our residents get healthy food. We also want to shop and spend our tax dollars in our neighborhood, instead of driving miles only to see those dollars support someone else's community needs by helping their tax base grow at our expense.

We need more higher-paying jobs with good benefits for our residents and families. This project would advance those efforts by providing hundreds of the types of jobs that allow people a living wage as well as necessary health care and other benefits. Job stability supports family stability. We have not appreciated for many years not having a community gathering place like our former grocery store provided. These gathering places outside of city owned facilities help foster community contact.

This project doesn't solve all of the issues facing our community, but it is a strong investment for our community. Access to food and goods impacts everyone in our community; this will help to improve that access. I ask you to consider our neighborhood goals and support the project.

Sincerely,  
Dianne Cooks  
Executive Director (720) 276-4611  
Favafamilies@gmail.com



August 5, 2020

RE: Flyway Project

Dear Denver City Council:

Families Forward Resource Center is a full service resource center that provides family support services in areas of community health, youth development, family advocacy, and adult education. We are one of 32 family resource centers in the state of Colorado and one of four that is located in the Denver Metro area. Families Forward Resource Center serves families of Far Northeast Denver and North Aurora communities.

Because of this, I am writing in support of the proposed Flyway project at the southeast corner of Green Valley Ranch and the future Airport Boulevard near Montbello. It is important that you consider our community's voice and support us as this project moves forward.

This project meets two important community goals. The first is access to high-quality grocery items within our community. Currently, many of us drive several miles to shop in other communities for our grocery needs. Secondly, the goal of this project meets the addition of high paying jobs that offer good benefits in our community. For both of these reasons, we need this project to come to fruition. It is a real win for all of us.

The question now is, will the city of Denver invest in the Far Northeast Denver communities in the same way it has invested in so many communities across the city? I strongly hope the answer is yes. I believe our city leadership is willing to make equity investment a priority. Our ability to advance our neighborhoods and support our upcoming generations depend at least in part on our ability to receive fair investment in our goals from the city.

Montbello is home to Families Forward Resource Center and many other organizations that would benefit from this project. Nearly 18% of the residents in Aurora/Denver metro area were born outside of the United States, and a language other than English is spoken in 27% of households. The median income is \$56,258, with 49% of houses being rentals, and 14% of its residents with incomes below the federal poverty line. It is our hope that the city of Denver will lend its support and help move toward the future we seek to assist the families we serve.

Sincerely,

*Chanell R. Reed*

Chanell R. Reed, MPA  
Executive Director

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P. O. Box 39634, Denver, CO 80239  
720-620-5735

August 4, 2020

Eric Hiraga  
Executive Director  
Denver Office of Economic Development (DEDO)

Dear Director Hiraga,

I am writing on behalf of Montbello Walks, a grassroots total community walking initiative that partners with approximately 25 organizations to promote and support walking, biking, developing and improving pedestrian infrastructure and safe access to public transit.

In conjunction with that initiative, Montbello Walks advocates for car-free open streets where possible, especially in relationship to community events. The opportunity for a Town Center as part of the proposed Flyway project in a key Montbello location, the southeast corner of Green Valley Ranch and the future Airport Boulevard, would unquestionably be a huge asset to the community-at-large, offering walkable and bikeable amenities, aligning beautifully with our organization's goals to help secure more community spaces. It is why we support the Flyway project and hope you will join us in that support.

Two long-standing, important challenges in our community include the lack of access to fresh grocery options and the ongoing challenges in creating living wage jobs with good benefits. This project helps with both of those challenges. By allowing all of us to shop in our own backyard, you would not only help us with mobility issues that make our current food desert particularly difficult for many, you would also help us invest in our community by keeping our tax dollars with us.

We all know that jobs must pay a living wage in order to be truly meaningful. We worked hard for many years to recruit these kinds of jobs with some success. But the opportunity to literally add hundreds more would be a major victory for us.

I sincerely hope the city sees the value of this investment in our community as it has been in so many communities around us and across all of Denver. It would seem a matter of simple

fairness and equity that when a project meets so many community goals and would help with two major community challenges, that the city would ensure the project moves forward.

As part of an organization that has worked hard to better Montbello, I hope you will take seriously Montbello Walks interest in having this project move forward and find a way to support the project yourself.

Sincerely,

*Pam Jiner*

Pam Jiner, Director  
Montebello Walks  
P.O. Box 39634  
Denver, CO 80239  
720-620-5735



July 31, 2020

Eric Hiraga, Executive Director  
Denver Economic Development Office  
101 W Colfax Ave  
Denver, CO 80202

Dear Mr. Hiraga,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Montbello Organizing Committee (MOC), an organization with which you have great familiarity. MOC's work is to develop leadership among the residents of Montbello and to advocate for our 36,000 residents and businesses around issues of individual and neighborhood health, wealth and well-being. To that end, MOC is stating its support of the Flyway project as it is currently proposed.

The Flyway project's adjacency to the neighborhood provides opportunity for nearby employment for Montbello residents and additional access to grocery items – two of MOC's highest priorities. In keeping with MOC's philosophy of all new development benefitting the community first, we strongly encourage Flyway's development team to continue to engage with the adjoining neighborhood representatives and follow Councilwoman Robin Kniech's lead regarding having Community Benefit Agreements in place prior to receiving City permits.

As we all know, the Greater Montbello Neighborhood has suffered from a historic lack of ongoing support from the City and County of Denver. In recent months we have begun to see a measured turn toward public sector investment. Your department in particular, Mr. Hiraga, has taken the lead in supporting a move toward neighborhood equity for Greater Montbello. The Flyway development could be another step toward the investment this community demands and deserves.

We hope that you will consider our suggestions and support for this project.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Donna M. Garnett".

Donna Garnett  
Executive Director  
**Montbello Organizing Committee**  
**FreshLo Initiative Project Director**  
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