

DENVER CITY COUNCIL



Proclamation No. 25-1622

Recognizing the Service of Registered Neighborhood Organizations & Denver Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation to the City of Denver

WHEREAS, neighborhood civic leaders including Michael Henry, Bernie Jones, Kathie Cheever, and Tom Morris came together to found the Denver Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation (INC) in 1975 to unite neighborhoods and create a citywide platform for sharing information, raising concerns, and informing public policy; and

WHEREAS, what began as a grassroots effort has grown into an inclusive network of Registered Neighborhood Organizations (RNOs) across all corners of Denver, committed to representing their communities, strengthening civic participation, and shaping the city's future; and

WHEREAS, in 1979, INC along with neighborhood leaders from across the city, successfully advocated for the Neighborhood Registration and Notification Ordinance, ensuring that city government informs and listens to neighborhoods on issues affecting their quality of life—a principle that continues to guide RNOs citywide; and

WHEREAS, INC and RNOs have played influential roles in shaping city policy on land use, zoning, housing, public safety, and environmental sustainability, while hosting forums and civic education initiatives that empower residents to engage in local governance; and

WHEREAS, neighborhood collaboration through INC helped launch programs like Denver Digs Trees, growing from Gertie Grant's grassroots efforts into a citywide program that has added more than 65,000 trees to Denver's urban canopy; and

WHEREAS, INC and neighborhood leaders have long supported youth, from Steve Nissen leading distribution of dictionaries to every third grader in Denver Public Schools for more than 25 years to Jane Potts' efforts to support teen-led community civic projects through the INC Youth Awards; and

WHEREAS, through longstanding partnerships such as Denver Decides with the League of Women Voters and Denver 8 TV, INC has promoted fair, informed, and accessible elections for all residents for over 25 years; and

WHEREAS, INC's committees have developed long-term policy platforms that have guided key city decisions, including safe sidewalks, park designations, and neighborhood planning initiatives across Denver; and

WHEREAS, today, INC represents neighborhoods encompassing over 40% of Denver households and continues to work alongside a diverse spectrum of over 60 RNOs citywide to strengthen communities, elevate resident voices, and build a more connected Denver.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE DENVER CITY COUNCIL:

Section 1. That the Denver City Council honors the 50th Anniversary of the Denver Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation.

Section 2. That the Clerk and Recorder of the City and County of Denver shall affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to LaMone Noles and Keith Meyer of the Denver Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL October 27, 2025

PRESIDENT

