

From: [Velez, Kelly - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafoya, Ean T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: A comment on the proposed Denver Rescue Mission Center
Date: Monday, April 28, 2014 8:24:40 AM

From: Jynx Messacar [mailto:jynx@merchantsofficefurniture.com]
Sent: Sunday, April 27, 2014 7:48 PM
To: dencc - City Council
Subject: A comment on the proposed Denver Rescue Mission Center

Dear City Council Members,

I urge you to listen to your constituents within the Ballpark Neighborhood and Arapahoe Square areas. We stand united in our opposition to the proposed Day Center for the Denver Rescue Mission.

As a long term adjacent business owner (53 years here), a dedicated volunteer to the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless (6 years), a member of the Ballpark Neighborhood Association (6 years), and friend and donor of the Denver Rescue Mission - I urge you to more carefully consider the true irresponsibility of spending the tax payer dollars to build a \$8.6M day center to simply hide the queue. Why is this money being spent to build a facility that will offer daytime refuse to the very few that seek it? There is no demand for a facility like this (simply our City's desire to hide the lines); there is overwhelming demand for housing.

Our company has shared an alley with the Denver Rescue Mission since it located to the neighborhood in the late 1970s. We've long since dealt with the queue (as it has a tendency to align our building nightly) as well as all the other consequences that go along with being a neighbor to an emergency shelter. We manage the element to the best of our ability. We've never put pressure on the City to build a facility to deal with the lines. Who is asking for this project? It is not the adjacent neighbors.

I urge you to rethink this project. There are so many other ways to responsibly spend this money. Give the homeless community what they so tremendously need - affordable housing.

Please distribute to all City Council members.

I appreciate your consideration.

Jynx Messacar

MERCHANTS Office Furniture

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303-297-1100 o
303-297-0300 f

From: [dence - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafoya, Ean T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: Proposed shelter expansion
Date: Saturday, April 26, 2014 6:05:54 PM

From: Mike Kelly [mailto:mike@cocksclark.com]
Sent: Friday, April 25, 2014 9:59 PM
To: dence - City Council
Subject: Proposed shelter expansion

Hello, please distribute to all council members, thank you:

I have spent the last 35 years (1979) working one block from the Rescue Mission on Lawrence and Broadway.
Before retiring my father worked the same business here for 35 years going back to 1955.
The name of the business is Cocks-Clark Engraving Company (dbaCocksClark Graphics Inc.) and has been at this location consecutively since 1929.
I come from a Catholic, Jesuit, Christian upbringing and I am as sympathetic to the poor as anyone.

Running a business near a shelter would be unimaginable for most people, while all the good that is going on there, it is mirrored with drug peddling and abuse, crime, human defecation on our sidewalks and menacing style of panhandling.
We have often lost business due to a tangent element that surrounds this neighborhood, I am asking that some public discussion may take place before City Counsel votes to award money and to expand and hide this problem.

The homeless people in the ballpark neighborhood need a LASTING helping hand.
I don't believe they want to panhandle and deal in drugs and crime. I believe they want a JOB.
Why can't we create some jobs with this grant money and put them to work like Franklin Roosevelt did in his New Deal Programs.
Instead of spending money to build walls to hide them from the public.
This grant money could be spent doing much more positive things like getting people busy feeling good about themselves.

Instead of expanding in this neighborhood, why not discuss sharing the burden of the homeless situation.
Why is this neighborhood carrying the load after so many years, can we get a break?
What is the logic in having a shelter in such a populated area, is the temptation to panhandle keeping some homeless from boarding

a van and going to a job site where they could be paid for a job.

I am just one business owner, and this is how I feel, I am sure there are many others who's voices should be heard.

Please, allow us to express our feelings about the future of our neighborhood.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Mike Kelly
CocksClark Graphics Inc
[303-292-6242](tel:303-292-6242) Office
[303-919-3920](tel:303-919-3920) Mobile
mike@cocksclark.com

From: [dence - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafoya, Ean T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: Denver Post endorsement
Date: Friday, April 18, 2014 11:11:00 AM

From: Art and Flo Tonelli [mailto:aftonelli@comcast.net]
Sent: Friday, April 18, 2014 10:20 AM
To: dence - City Council
Subject: Denver Post endorsement

The Denver Post endorsed the construction of the Denver Rescue Missions new addition. Guess you're smiling today: you have the DP in your pocket on this issue. Obviously no one on the editorial board---or maybe even on the City Council---lives in the Ballpark neighborhood. Come on down and walk the streets during the early morning hours and late day afternoon, evenings and after midnight. You might get a change of heart. Homeless folks are being abused and neglected. The neighborhood around Park Avenue and Larimer looks like a slum. The folks who have invested in businesses and homes are hassled.

We get a report on the crime in the area. My bet is that Ballpark has one ---if not THE--highest rate of crime in the city. Please don't put all your attention and funding in the River Front neighborhood at the expense of Ballpark.

Flo Tonelli
2261 Blake Street 5G
Denver, CO 80202
303-933-6158
aftonelli@comcast.net

From: [dence - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Fatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: Lawrence St. Comm Ctr.
Date: Thursday, April 17, 2014 2:04:19 PM

From: Rick B [mailto:rmbor90@hotmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2014 2:01 PM
To: dence - City Council
Subject: Lawrence St. Comm Ctr.

To Whom It May Concern:

We have been in the neighborhood for the past 23 years, renovating buildings, participating in City improvement projects and living in the area. Our office is there as well. As you surely know this area is burdened with 90% of the city's homeless shelters, etc. Enough is enough already. Drive the area to see what is going on instead of reading about it only. Please listen to the neighbors and what they are saying about this new project. Most everyone is AGAINST it. More of this population will inundate us. The existing shelters don't do enough to clean the streets, alleys and sidewalks for their existing clientele now.

Please listen to the community's testimony before letting this project move forward.

Thanks

Rick Borman

From: [Velez, Kelly - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafoya, Ean T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: Lawrence Street Community Center proposal
Date: Friday, April 18, 2014 8:12:33 AM

From: Robyn Loup [mailto:insightsbyrobyn@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2014 8:38 PM
To: denc - City Council
Subject: Lawrence Street Community Center proposal

Members of Denver City Council:

I was made aware today that there will be a review by City Council on the Lawrence Street Community Center. Please include citizen testimony for a solution based opportunities for the homeless population.

Please don't rush this process without hearing exactly what the developers intend to do FOR the homeless population as a long term solution.

Thank you,
Robyn Loup

--

Insights by Robyn, Life Coach LLC
Robyn Loup
303-870-3151

From: [dence - City Council](#)
To: [# City Council Councilmembers](#)
Cc: [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: Lawrence Street Community Center
Date: Thursday, April 17, 2014 1:54:41 PM

-----Original Message-----

From: Jared Blauweiss [<mailto:jaredblauweiss@yahoo.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2014 1:44 PM
To: dence - City Council
Subject: Lawrence Street Community Center

Please forward this on to all Denver City Council Members

Council members,

I'm writing you to express my great frustration with how you are handling the proposal to spend taxpayer dollars to fund the Lawrence Street Community Center. Not only do I disagree with the notion that this will improve the problems Denver's homeless population faces, but I am very disappointed in the expedited manner of which you are pushing this project through. I attended the hearing where all but one of you voted to approve the funding of your constituents' tax dollars, while openly denying us a chance to voice our opinions on the matter. Perhaps you feel this is not deserving of an open discussion? Councilwoman Montero, how is it you feel the business owners and residents of the Ballpark and Lodo Neighborhoods are not deserving of a say in the matter? We elected you to be our voice not our silencer! Shame on you. Ms. Susman, how can you oversee such a significant financial expenditure with even greater social consequences rushed through without any open public dialogue? Apparently you feel this type of project is OK to approve while only consulting the members of the Denver Rescue Mission. And apparently you think it's OK to deny a voice to the representatives of the thousands of tax payers living and working in this district.

Despite Councilwoman Montero's notion that this will provide additional services to the homeless, it DOES NOT. It merely provides a courtyard to hide the expanding homeless problem that you have done nothing effectively to address since Denver's Road Home has begun. These people need psychiatric and addiction services. They need job training. Not a wall to stand behind where everyone (drug dealers included) will be permitted access. This will only make the neighborhood more dangerous than it already is.

I implore you to stop this expedited process of approving the Lawrence Street Community Center and allow an open dialogue consulting all Denver Citizens that this will effect....Not just the Denver Rescue Mission.

Jared Blauweiss

From: [dencc - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafoya, Ean T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: Mission?
Date: Monday, April 21, 2014 11:02:33 AM

From: Chase Campbell [mailto:chasedaviscampbell@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 21, 2014 10:58 AM
To: dencc - City Council
Subject: Mission?

Hello City Council-

I am Writing this email as a concerned business owner and native of the Denver metro area. I just want to give you some information I have gathered about the two homeless shelters that Dave the COO from the Denver Rescue mission keeps using as examples for this project.

The Phoenix Rescue Mission is 5.31 miles from Chase Field, that is Arizona's Major League Baseball Stadium. A big reason for this is not enough beds and not everyone wants a bed when the courtyard closes. So when the courtyard closes you have hundreds of homeless, drug/alcohol users flooding the streets of your city. The Denver Rescue Mission will be closing it's courtyard at 10pm right around the time Rockies games get out and all of the people that don't want a bed will be out on the street for the remainder of these nights. With the mission not worrying where they go or what they are doing once they step foot outside of there facility. They provide zero cleanup for the area, security or additional police force for these problems.

The Distance from Dodger Stadium to it's rescue mission is 2.7 miles. Again a big reason for both of these places doing this is the users and alcoholics don't want to be in a bed where they cant consume there poison of choice and these city's decided to protect one of there city's biggest investments which is there Major League Baseball team and stadium.

One of you needs to have the courage to stand up to this and at least slow it down and look at all other possible options and here out your community and taxpayers. There are better options than this that could add more beds and more outdoor space. I think you have a duty to protect the ballpark neighborhood and the investment of Coors field. 8.6 million dollars is a lot of money and with that and the sell of there property they could build a much bigger and better facility just outside the city with more beds and land for a larger outdoor area.

Judy Montero is not the council member to listen to on this issue. We know where she stands and has for a very long time. She has let down all the business's and residence in her district and has not listened to any of us. This is not the best thing for our great ballpark neighborhood. Please reconsider the decision to move forward with this and at least have a public hearing and examination of all other options, because there are better options.

Thank you for your time

Chase Campbell

Chase Campbell

Co-Founder / Mile High Spirits

Tel: [\(303\) 296-2226](tel:(303)296-2226)

www.MileHighSpiritsLLC.com

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To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafoya, Ean T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: Please Review the Lawrence Street Community Center with everyone impacted
Date: Friday, April 18, 2014 2:42:47 PM

From: Daniela Borja [mailto:daniborja@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, April 18, 2014 2:38 PM
To: dencc - City Council
Subject: Please Review the Lawrence Street Community Center with everyone impacted

Dear Denver City Council, please share my email with the entire City Council

I had written to some of your members already raising my concerns but the lack of interest of the city to share and explore the best solution for the homeless and the community together and the intent of the city to rush the approval through without letting the wider community voice their opinion on the use of taxpayers money is highly concerning and shortsighted.

Firstly, we all agree there are not enough services for the homeless and every winter this is a concern and we cannot end homelessness until we provide more beds.

Secondly, spending \$8.6M of taxpayers money in creating a "holding pen" for the homeless so that they can be less visible and a "safer parking lot" for Rescue Mission employees and volunteers is simply trying to cover up the lack of progress and highly insensitive towards the homeless and shows the city and Rescue Mission's awareness on the high crime and lack of safety in the area

Thirdly, the same \$8.6M of taxpayers money could be invested right away in building a center for homeless in a cheaper piece of land (perhaps 2-3 miles further from the city center) where the investment will go further and enable more homeless people not only to have a warm bed at night but also more services including training, rehab and support. This is a better use than a holding pen for the homeless and a parking lot for the Rescue Mission.

Fourthly, the Rescue Mission existing center could keep its doors open for longer during the day for far less money than \$8.6M and hence accomplish more with the existing center while investing in better services. This will also enable the Rescue Mission and city to evaluate the true need during the day versus more beds and permanent housing on a regular basis and free funds for true services to end homelessness.

In addition, the city does not have the tools or police resource to provide safety in the area today and increasing the density of crime and homeless in 4 blocks is utterly irresponsible.

Finally, the way that the city council is handling this proposal raises many concerns around potential irregularities. The proposal was not shared with the wider community in detail until March, the process is on a fast track path to get it approved quickly and at the last session when community members wanted to voice their opinions, when the speaker asked if the

community should be allowed to speak, the council member, who was elected to represent the district and all its constituents, chose not to want to provide a voice to the community.

As a Denver resident in the Ballpark area and a taxpayer, I am requesting for a review of the process and the reasons for rushing this decision versus exploring most effective uses to serve the homeless with taxpayers money.

Regards,

Daniela Borja
Ballpark resident

From: [dencc - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafoya, Fan T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: Please send to all of City Council
Date: Monday, April 21, 2014 2:03:50 PM

From: W. Goodwyn Ferrell Jr. [mailto:Wyn@MileHighSpiritsLLC.com]
Sent: Monday, April 21, 2014 2:03 PM
To: dencc - City Council
Subject: Please send to all of City Council

Today is a big day for small businesses in the ballpark neighborhood. You have the power to make a decision that will forever impact the look, feel, and safety of downtown Denver.

Remember that you are elected to be the voice of tax paying residents and businesses in Denver!

Let me give you some background on how I am involved in this issue. I am an owner of 2201 Lawrence street - the largest hangout area for the homeless population. Everyday we have to go and clean our property for 30 minutes in order to avoid city fines for the large amounts of trash that is left behind from the missions clientele. We pick up heroin needles, crack pipes, crack rocks, human feces, and urinated clothing on a daily basis. I would love to think that the courtyard "hangout" area would eliminate these problems but I can tell you that it wont. We live it every day and I can tell you that while there are people that the courtyard will help, there are more that will continue to do what they do best - receive free food, clothes, and services, while being allowed to pan handle at over \$10 an hour to buy drugs and consume them outside of my building. The programs in town have made this a very entitled group of people. Large gatherings exist in front of our building every day and when we arrive to put in a hard day work we are greeted, at our front door, with threats since we call the police so much. Threats include - I am going to fucking kill you white boy - Keep calling the police and see what happens to you - You think you can fuck with us? We run this bloc - To name a few. These are service resistant people that live a very easy life that is fueled by free services drugs and illegal activity. Do you think the courtyard is going to save these people? Do you think they will want to be in the missions courtyard? You are delusional and very disconnected from the issue if you think so. Even if they do use the courtyard, what happens when they all hit the streets with no where to go at 10pm?

It may seem like this is something good to do for the homeless population but this funding will not expand their capacity nor their services and is a gross misuse of taxpayer funds. The fact that \$8.6 million does not expand the capacity of the mission is mind blowing. Since there are not enough beds for the homeless, the courtyard will close at 10pm which will result in hundreds of homeless flooding the streets of ballpark/Iodo area with no where to go other than sidewalks, storefronts, alleys, and parking lots. This crowd brings with it a lot of crime that includes, drug use, drug sales, prostitution, violence and littering. Do you know how bad that will make the neighborhood at 10pm, the most common time for Denver's youth to hit the town? Why do they need the money to build a courtyard when their current facility isn't even open during the day? Why don't we start with the Mission letting people hang out in their current facility all day?

We have met with Councilwoman Judy Montero and Councilman Albus Brooks and it has become very obvious that our voice has not been heard nor does it matter what we have to say. We pay excise tax on top of sales tax, occupational privilege tax, and employee taxes. We spent of \$400,000 on taxes last year! It is a shame that our voice on the matter seems to be drowned out by the fact that the government is looking to push this through as fast as possible.

The Downtown area has proven to be a toxic area for homeless services as it leads to drug dealers poaching the homeless population and being able to quickly escape police activity by walking away and blending in. Hiding the homeless (that are willing to use the courtyard) with a 10 foot wall until 10pm is simply a bandaid that wont fix anything. I challenge you to really get to know this issue by going down to the ballpark neighborhood at 6pm to walk around, better yet, 10pm. Tell me if you feel safe. Ask the people you see if they want to be in a courtyard where services will be pushed on them - most of them will say no way. Ask them if the crime at 10pm will be just as big if not bigger than it already is because there will be a huge influx of homeless drug addicts hitting the streets. How much money are we the taxpayers going to have to give the mission before we realize that the location will always be toxic for this population?!?

Please have an open mind to other solutions. Imagine using the 8.6 million and the property value of the mission and the samaritan house to create an elite facility outside of downtown? It would create an atmosphere that would encourage growth and alienate drug dealers as they would be very easy to spot and arrest. Imagine how many more people you could house and feed with a facility that is specially designed for homeless services. Imagine the triangle park area surrounded by bars, shops, and high end condos while the homeless services can accommodate more beds, more feeding, and more program support outside of downtown Denver. Imagine that when thousands of people come to Denver to go to a ball game or enjoy downtown they aren't greeted with a huge homeless population wandering around downtown at night. Imagine how property values would skyrocket and Denver would be known as a clean, well run city!

I don't know if I have the best answer to this problem but I can tell you the 8.6 million dollars being given to the mission to build a courtyard that will not house more homeless people is insane.

Thank you for your time and I hope that you will consider listening to the tax paying citizens and businesses that are working hard to make Denver the best city in the country.

Wyn

William Goodwyn Ferrell Jr. Partner | Mile High Spirits

Phone: (303) 296-2226

Email: Wyn@MileHighSpiritsLLC.com

Website: www.DrinkMileHighSpirits.com

Address: 2920 Larimer St | Denver, CO
80205



From: [dence - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafoya, Fan T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: Proposed Addition To Homeless Services - Ballpark Neighborhood
Date: Friday, April 18, 2014 1:42:43 PM

From: Stephen Wilder [mailto:steve@voodoocomedy.com]
Sent: Friday, April 18, 2014 1:22 PM
To: Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9
Cc: Sandoval, Amanda P - City Council Operations; dence - City Council; gregorydaellis@gmail.com
Subject: Proposed Addition To Homeless Services - Ballpark Neighborhood

Dear Councilwoman Montero,

I am a business owner and proprietor in the Ballpark Neighborhood of Denver and I vehemently oppose the proposal for an additional facility for the homeless in our neighborhood. I request that you used your elected powers of office to oppose the proposal.

The Ballpark Neighborhood already has plenty of services for the homeless, to the point of saturation. Any proposal which would effectively serve to further increase the concentration of homeless people in this area is ill-thought-out and fails to recognize the issues already caused by the concentration of homeless services we already have. Criminal behavior, persistent begging, loitering, etc. already combine to give the Neighborhood a feeling of being unsafe and an undesirable place to live or frequent. To believe that this wouldn't worsen as a result of the current proposal is shortsighted and wrong.

As a business owner in the Ballpark Neighborhood, I have a vested interest in ensuring the area is safe and clean for my customers. I also would like to see the city take a much more active interest in ensuring the same. 22nd Street runs directly through the neighborhood, and that street is *the* main artery into Downtown from the freeway. When out-of-town guests and customers travel into town to visit my theater and many other businesses in the area, they pass directly through the Ballpark Neighborhood, and for many guests who are having their first Denver experience, the lasting impression they get is of a dirty, crime-riddled, unsafe neighborhood, to which they will be very reluctant to return.

In short, I fully understand the need to provide Denver's homeless community with necessary services, and your own place in the chain of facilitating the expansion of these services. However, I cannot support either the location of these proposed services for the reasons already set out, or, the use of so much public money in providing this particular facility ahead of alternative homeless services which would serve as a more effective use of public funds. I do not have all the answers to solve these problems, but I am certain that the Lawrence Street Community Center expansion is not an appropriate answer either.

Please help us save our neighborhood through your leadership.

--

Stephen Wilder, Owner & Artistic Director
Voodoo Comedy Playhouse
Phone: 303-900-2123 - Fax: 720-442-8203
[VoodooComedy.com](#) - [Facebook](#) - [Twitter](#)

From: [dence - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafoya, Ean T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: Proposed addition to homeless services in Ballpark Neighbourhood - District 9 - Denver
Date: Friday, April 18, 2014 10:02:59 AM

From: Greg Ellis [mailto:gregorydaellis@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, April 18, 2014 9:48 AM
To: dence - City Council
Subject: Fwd: Proposed addition to homeless services in Ballpark Neighbourhood - District 9 - Denver

Dear sir/ madam,

Please can you cascade my email in opposition to the proposed 'Lawrence Street Community Center' to your council members.

I believe opposition to this proposal has not and will not be given adequate time to be heard; this should be the case as the proposal is using public money regardless of whether this was signed off for 'general measures' in the past or not.

Many thanks

Greg Ellis - Ball Park Resident
720-232-1917

Begin forwarded message:

From: Greg Ellis <gregorydaellis@gmail.com>
Date: April 16, 2014 at 12:53:06 MDT
To: "judy.montero@denvergov.org" <judy.montero@denvergov.org>
Cc: "amanda.sandoval@denvergov.org" <amanda.sandoval@denvergov.org>
Subject: **Proposed addition to homeless services in Ballpark Neighbourhood - District 9 - Denver**

Dear Councilwoman Montero,

I am a resident in the Ballpark neighborhood of Denver and I vehemently oppose the proposal for an additional facility for the homeless in the Ballpark neighborhood. I request that you used your elected powers of office to oppose the proposal.

The Ballpark neighborhood already has enough services for the homeless, and by 'enough' I mean 'has reached saturation'. Any proposal which would effectively serve to further increase the concentration of homeless people in this area is ill-thought-out and fails to recognize the issues already caused by the concentration of homeless services we already have. Criminal behavior, persistent begging, loitering etc. already combine to give the Neighborhood a feeling of being unsafe

and an undesirable place to live or frequent. To believe that this wouldn't worsen as a result of the current proposal is shortsighted and wrong.

I have been lucky to have lived in a number of different cities and countries before settling here in Denver. All of those places had homeless services; none saw fit to concentrate them in one particular area of the city for the obvious problems that would cause. From what I also believe, the proposal does little to deal with the causes of homelessness, namely addiction, unemployment and mental illness, lack of affordable housing and healthcare, but serves as a 'band aid' to corral men into a courtyard where they can be homeless out of sight. Who comes up with these ideas?

The Ballpark Neighborhood is currently experiencing a high level of business and residential development as you know. I believe this proposal will impact negatively on the ability to fill these rentals as prospective residents will think twice about moving into the area and will favor places elsewhere. This will therefore have a detrimental impact upon the businesses in the area as what has become an important center for Denver's urban redevelopment will stall and regress, residents and businesses will leave, and potential investors will look elsewhere in the city.

In short, I fully understand the need to provide Denver's homeless community with necessary services, and your own place in the chain of facilitating the expansion of these services. However, I cannot support either the location of these proposed services for the reasons already set out, or, the use of so much public money in providing this particular facility ahead of alternative homeless services which would serve as a more effective use of public funds.

Please help us save our neighborhood through your leadership.

Thank you,

Greg Ellis - Ballpark Resident
[720-232-1917](tel:7202321917)

From: [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#)
To: [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#)
Subject: Fw: Support for the Lawrence Street Community Center
Date: Thursday, April 17, 2014 2:17:31 PM

For packets

Councilwoman Judy H. Montero, District 9

From: Matt Bischoff [mailto:matt.t.bischoff@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2014 01:55 PM Mountain Standard Time
To: Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9
Subject: Support for the Lawrence Street Community Center

Ms. Montero,

I would like to indicate my support for the Lawrence Street Community Center and would urge your vote for this important project on Monday, April 21 at city council. The Denver Rescue Mission does great work in the community and it is their hope, and mine, that this Community Center will be a safe place where they can help people get off the streets and become self-sufficient.

The proposed Community Center's features will include:

- A drug and alcohol free space where homeless persons can congregate safely.
- A staging/queuing area for food service, winter overflow transportation and for men wanting to access the surrounding shelters.
- A dining area for individuals to be served meals and to reduce lines outside the DRM facility.
- Showers and bathrooms to reduce human waste on nearby properties and in neighborhoods.
- Water fountains for access to safe drinking water.
- Cameras to monitor the dayroom and courtyard for added safety.
- DRM staff onsite to observe and ensure the safety of individuals, providers and volunteers.

Thank you for your consideration.

Matt Bischoff

303-579-2911

From: [dence - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafoya, Ean T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: The Union Rescue Mission Expansion: NO!
Date: Thursday, April 17, 2014 4:38:16 PM

From: Jeffrey Hopper [mailto:rmidener@ecentral.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2014 4:33 PM
To: dence - City Council
Subject: The Union Rescue Mission Expansion: NO!

Dear City Council,

Please find a way NOT to allow The Mission to expand. You need to find away to spread the homeless issue throughout the city. Our neighborhood has 90% of the homeless services. I've been in the Ballpark Neighborhood since 1988 at 2195 Arapahoe Street. I stopped going to the neighborhood meetings in 2004 and writing my council representative because I could never have a voice in the controlled meetings or phone conversations. I was never heard.

As a property manager of three mixed use buildings in the neighborhood, the amount of time I have had to spend to clean up after the homeless or control their behavior is countless and disgusting.

If you don't allow the citizens to voice their opposition on the first reading, I can't continue to stay in the city. I'm done. You've worn me out. I have no confidence in the governance of this city.

Jeffrey Hopper
R. Merrill, Inc.
Historic Places to Live & Work Downtown
Desk: 303-778-1100
Cell: 303-884-4140
Fax: 303-293-3161
EMail: rmidener@ecentral.com
Web: www.rmidener.com

From: [dence - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafoya, Ean T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
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Date: Thursday, April 17, 2014 4:38:16 PM

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Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2014 4:33 PM
To: dence - City Council
Subject: The Union Rescue Mission Expansion: NO!

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R. Merrill, Inc.
Historic Places to Live & Work Downtown
Desk: 303-778-1100
Cell: 303-884-4140
Fax: 303-293-3161
EMail: rmidener@ecentral.com
Web: www.rmidener.com

From: [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#)
To: ["sarah@sarahkellyco.com"](mailto:sarah@sarahkellyco.com); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#)
Subject: Re: Denver Rescue Mission - Lawrence Street Community Center
Date: Monday, April 21, 2014 1:38:21 PM

Ms. Kelly,

Thank you for your email. I support the project and plan to vote "yes."

Judy Montero

Councilwoman Judy H. Montero, District 9

From: Sarah Kelly [mailto:sarah@sarahkellyco.com]

Sent: Monday, April 21, 2014 10:10 AM Mountain Standard Time

To: Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council; Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6; Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2; Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11; Susman, Mary Beth - City Council; Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4; Kniech, Robin L. - City Council; Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3; Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8; Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9; Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7; Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10; Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1

Subject: Denver Rescue Mission - Lawrence Street Community Center

Dear City Council Member,

I would like to indicate my support for the Lawrence Street Community Center and would urge your vote for this important project on Monday, April 21 at City Council. The Denver Rescue Mission does great work in the community, and it is their hope, and mine, that this Community Center will be a safe place where they can help people get off the streets and become self-sufficient.

The proposed Community Center's features will include:

- A drug- and alcohol- free space where homeless persons can congregate safely.*
- A staging/queuing area for food service, winter overflow transportation, and for men wanting to access the surrounding shelters.*
- A dining area for individuals to be served meals and to reduce lines outside the DRM facility.*
- Showers and bathrooms to reduce human waste on nearby properties and in neighborhoods.*
- Water fountains for access to safe drinking water.*
- Cameras to monitor the dayroom and courtyard for added safety.*
- DRM staff onsite to observe and ensure the safety of individuals, providers and volunteers.*

Thank you for your consideration.

Sarah Kelly

Sarah L Kelly CPA

Sarah L Kelly & Company, LLC

Tel (303) 840-1483

Fax (303) 840-1506

Sarah @ SarahLKellyCo.com

From: [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#)
To: ["Doug@pepc.org"](mailto:Doug@pepc.org); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#)
Subject: Re: Denver Rescue Mission
Date: Monday, April 21, 2014 1:39:14 PM

Mr. Resler,

I also support the project and. Plan to vote, "yes."

Judy Montero

Councilwoman Judy H. Montero, District 9

From: Doug Resler [mailto:Doug@pepc.org]

Sent: Monday, April 21, 2014 10:10 AM Mountain Standard Time

To: Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council; Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6; Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2; Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11; Susman, Mary Beth - City Council; Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4; Kniech, Robin L. - City Council; Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3; Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8; Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9; Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7; Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10; susan.shepherd@denverg <susan.shepherd@denverg>

Subject: Denver Rescue Mission

I would like to indicate my support for the Lawrence Street Community Center and would urge your vote for this important project on Monday, April 21 at City Council. The Denver Rescue Mission does great work in the community, and it is their hope, and mine, that this Community Center will be a safe place where they can help people get off the streets and become self-sufficient.

The proposed Community Center's features will include:

- *A drug- and alcohol- free space where homeless persons can congregate safely.*
- *A staging/queuing area for food service, winter overflow transportation, and for men wanting to access the surrounding shelters.*
- *A dining area for individuals to be served meals and to reduce lines outside the DRM facility.*
- *Showers and bathrooms to reduce human waste on nearby properties and in neighborhoods.*
- *Water fountains for access to safe drinking water.*
- *Cameras to monitor the dayroom and courtyard for added safety.*
- *DRM staff onsite to observe and ensure the safety of individuals, providers and volunteers.*

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Rev. Dr. Doug Resler

Senior Pastor, Parker Evangelical Presbyterian Church

Sent from my iPad

From: [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#)
To: ["steve@voodoocomedy.com"](mailto:steve@voodoocomedy.com); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#)
Subject: Re: Proposed Addition To Homeless Services - Ballpark Neighborhood
Date: Friday, April 18, 2014 1:33:40 PM

Thank you for your feedback.

Councilwoman Judy H. Montero, District 9

From: Stephen Wilder [mailto:steve@voodoocomedy.com]
Sent: Friday, April 18, 2014 01:22 PM Mountain Standard Time
To: Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9
Cc: Sandoval, Amanda P - City Council Operations; dencc - City Council; gregorydaellis@gmail.com <gregorydaellis@gmail.com>
Subject: Proposed Addition To Homeless Services - Ballpark Neighborhood

Dear Councilwoman Montero,

I am a business owner and proprietor in the Ballpark Neighborhood of Denver and I vehemently oppose the proposal for an additional facility for the homeless in our neighborhood. I request that you used your elected powers of office to oppose the proposal.

The Ballpark Neighborhood already has plenty of services for the homeless, to the point of saturation. Any proposal which would effectively serve to further increase the concentration of homeless people in this area is ill-thought-out and fails to recognize the issues already caused by the concentration of homeless services we already have. Criminal behavior, persistent begging, loitering, etc. already combine to give the Neighborhood a feeling of being unsafe and an undesirable place to live or frequent. To believe that this wouldn't worsen as a result of the current proposal is shortsighted and wrong.

As a business owner in the Ballpark Neighborhood, I have a vested interest in ensuring the area is safe and clean for my customers. I also would like to see the city take a much more active interest in ensuring the same. 22nd Street runs directly through the neighborhood, and that street is *the* main artery into Downtown from the freeway. When out-of-town guests and customers travel into town to visit my theater and many other businesses in the area, they pass directly through the Ballpark Neighborhood, and for many guests who are having their first Denver experience, the lasting impression they get is of a dirty, crime-riddled, unsafe neighborhood, to which they will be very reluctant to return.

In short, I fully understand the need to provide Denver's homeless community with necessary services, and your own place in the chain of facilitating the expansion of these services. However, I cannot support either the location of these proposed services for the reasons already set out, or, the use of so much public money in providing this particular facility ahead of alternative homeless services which would serve as a more effective use of public funds. I do not have all the answers to solve these problems, but I am certain that the Lawrence Street Community Center expansion is not an appropriate answer either.

Please help us save our neighborhood through your leadership.

--

Stephen Wilder, Owner & Artistic Director
Voodoo Comedy Playhouse
Phone: 303-900-2123 - Fax: 720-442-8203
VoodooComedy.com - [Facebook](#) - [Twitter](#)

303-704-6400 c

www.merchantsofficefurniture.com

From: [dencc - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafoya, Ean T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: Comment on the Denver Rescue Mission proposed expansion
Date: Friday, April 25, 2014 9:58:15 AM

From: Brian Dunn [mailto:Brian.Dunn@greatdivide.com]
Sent: Friday, April 25, 2014 9:52 AM
To: dencc - City Council
Subject: Comment on the Denver Rescue Mission proposed expansion

Please forward this email to all of City Council.

Dear Members of City Council,

As a member and director of the Ballpark Neighborhood Association, as a property owner, as a business owner in the neighborhood for 20 years, and as an employer of 48 people, I would like to express my deep opposition to the expansion of the Denver Rescue Mission.

Denver Road Home and Colorado Coalition for the Homeless have both stated that the best way to prevent homelessness and correct homelessness is through mental health treatment, job training and most important...transitional housing. The expansion of the Denver Rescue Mission will not provide any of these services. It is appalling that the City is willing to spend \$8.6 million to build a courtyard facility that will not provide the services that are most needed by the homeless. I believe that the proposed expansion is simply a Band-Aid fix and is not dealing with the root causes of homelessness. Funds can be much better spent if housing and mental health services would be provided.

I would like to know why City Council and the City is not allowing public dialogue about this issue. The expanded facility will have a huge impact on the neighborhood, a neighborhood that already has 90% of the human services for the entire city. Why is City Council and the Mayor's office pushing this through at breakneck pace? Perhaps because you know that the people in the neighborhood are against it? Please slow the process down so other facilities can be studied that will actually provide the services that the homeless need. Does Council actually believe that adding more human services to a neighborhood already very heavily burdened by human service providers is good for our neighborhood? We already have the highest crime rate in the City and it will get worse if additional services are added.

I believe that City is manipulating the truth to call this a "community center". It is an expansion of the Rescue Mission. If the proposed project goes through, the Rescue Mission will fund part of it, the Rescue Mission will manage it, and the Rescue Mission will feed its overnight clients there. Call it what it is. This will not be a community center that typical city residents will go to.

Please let me know if you have time to meet about this issue. The safety and security of our employees and customers is at risk, and the needs of the homeless are not being met. It is not the right solution to the problem. Please slow the process down to allow public dialogue and I am sure that with more time, we can come up with a solution that is better for the homeless and better for the neighborhood.

Thank you,

Brian

Brian Dunn
Founder/President
Great Divide Brewing Co.

Phone 303.296.9460 ext. 22

www.greatdivide.com

From: [dence - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafoya, Ean T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: Day Center for the Rescue Mission
Date: Monday, April 28, 2014 10:11:09 AM

From: Lexi Sanders [mailto:lexi@merchantsofficefurniture.com]
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2014 10:10 AM
To: dence - City Council
Subject: Day Center for the Rescue Mission

Dear Councilman Brooks,

I urge you to listen to your constituents within the Ballpark Neighborhood and Arapahoe Square areas. We stand united in our opposition to the proposed Day Center for the Denver Rescue Mission.

As a long term adjacent business owner (53 years here), a dedicated volunteer to the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless (6 years), a member of the Ballpark Neighborhood Association (6 years), and friend and donor of the Denver Rescue Mission - I urge you to more carefully consider the true irresponsibility of spending the tax payer dollars to build a \$8.6M day center to simply hide the queue. Why is this money being spent to build a facility that will offer daytime refuse to the very few that seek it? There is no demand for a facility like this (simply our City's desire to hide the lines); there is overwhelming demand for housing.

Our company has shared an alley with the Denver Rescue Mission since it located to the neighborhood in the late 1970s. We've long since dealt with the queue (as it has a tendency to align our building nightly) as well as all the other consequences that go along with being a neighbor to an emergency shelter. We manage the element to the best of our ability. We've never put pressure on the City to build a facility to deal with the lines. Who is asking for this project? It is not the adjacent neighbors.

I urge you to rethink this project. There are so many other ways to responsibly spend this money. Give the homeless community what they so tremendously need - affordable housing.

I appreciate your consideration.

Lexi Sanders
Merchants Office Furniture
2261 Broadway

Sent from my iPhone

From: [dence - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafoya, Ean T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: Denver Rescue Mission
Date: Thursday, April 24, 2014 11:30:10 AM

From: Jeffrey Hopper [mailto:rmidenver@ecentral.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 24, 2014 11:18 AM
To: dence - City Council
Subject: Denver Rescue Mission

Dear City Council Members (please distribute to all council members):

It would be great if we were able to see how each of us have to experience our day. In The Ballpark Neighborhood it's picking up human feces and human urine that has been peed in zip lock bags. I'm a property manager who manages three mixed use buildings with business and residential tenants. I've been down here since 1988, pretty much doing the same thing in the eighty's as now. I'm amazed that the city has never taken responsibility to house the homeless that the Denver Rescue Mission rejects each night back onto the streets. The city just lets the building owners take that responsibility. I know that building owners in the Highlands, Cherry Creek, South University and other parts of the city don't have the volume nor the daily routine of such task.

I've had to install countless different doors, gates, and locks to keep them out of our buildings for the safety and quality of life of our residents. I've been called to our buildings at all times of the night to remove the homeless from inside our buildings. Why, does our city continue to establish 90% of the homeless services in our neighborhood without sharing with other communities?

The proposed expansion of Denver Rescue Mission means added services that will draw additional homeless and additional rejected night time homeless back to us to manage. Can't we finally move toward a direction where we spread this issue to all of Denver and not our neighborhood?

Jeffrey Hopper
R. Merrill, Inc.
Historic Places to Live & Work Downtown
Desk: 303-778-1100
Cell: 303-884-4140
Fax: 303-293-3161
EMail: rmidenver@ecentral.com
Web: www.rmidenver.com

From: [Velez, Kelly - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafoya, Fan T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: Denver Rescue Mission
Date: Monday, April 28, 2014 8:24:28 AM

From: Kevin Messacar [mailto:kevin.messacar@gmail.com]
Sent: Sunday, April 27, 2014 8:19 PM
To: dencc - City Council
Subject: Denver Rescue Mission

Please distribute to all council members.

Dear Denver Councilmen and Councilwomen,

I urge you to listen to the constituents within the Ballpark Neighborhood and Arapahoe Square areas and oppose the proposed Day Center for the Denver Rescue Mission.

I am a pediatrician at Children's Hospital Colorado and deal daily with the effects of poverty and homelessness on children. The solution to the problem is not easy and there is no quick fix. I support the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless' longterm plan to cut down homelessness at its roots by providing sustainable low-income housing, employment opportunities, and mental health resources. Hiding the homeless population in a new courtyard facility of the Denver Rescue Mission is the wrong option.

My wife is a business owner in the Ballpark neighborhood. For years, she has rallied behind the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless and has been an active advocate for the homeless (not a popular stance in the business community). She has hired workers from St. Francis and helped them get back on their feet. Despite the panhandling, littering, and harassment of potential clients outside of her business doors, she remains dedicated to seeking long-term solutions to the problems facing the destitute of her neighborhood. This proposed project will be to the detriment of local businesses in the area, and a scab, not a solution to the long-term problem of homelessness.

While the proposed project will create positive media attention and may look good politically, it is not the right solution for the homeless or the business owners of Denver. I urge you to make the right decision and oppose this project.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kevin Messacar, MD
Children's Hospital Colorado

From: [dence - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafoya, Fan T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: Homelessness and the ballpark neighborhood
Date: Thursday, April 24, 2014 10:18:08 AM

From: John Wilker [mailto:john.wilker@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, April 24, 2014 10:10 AM
To: dence - City Council
Cc: Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9
Subject: Homelessness and the ballpark neighborhood

Please distribute to all council members.

Council members,

I'm a homeowner in the ballpark neighborhood. I bought right as the economy collapsed, I've watched building projects stall and fail, I've lived next to a dirt lot that was supposed to be the next phase of my town home complex.

Through all this, I've watched our homeless mill around the neighborhood, take up residence in nooks and crannies and in general be ignored by all but homeowners. Now, after years of stagnation, Ballpark and RiNo are beginning to bloom again. Please don't let this proposal turn my neighborhood into the city's homeless dumping ground.

I'm very much in favor of finding a solution to the homeless issue. I don't think a facility to hide them during the day is the solution. To that end, if that's the desired goal, it seems like renovating the existing rescue mission would accomplish the goal at a much reduced cost, and no cost to the city.

Making one area a "project" never works, look at Chicago and New York. Making one more place to hide what we don't want to see, does nothing but ruin the chosen neighborhood, and reinforce to those being hidden that they've been written off.

I think public discourse is important and that any solution should be able to stand up to public scrutiny. The proposed solution by the Rescue Mission seems to fail in both areas, there was no discussion that I'm aware of until now that it's almost too late.

As a voter and very vocal supporter of the process of involving the public and making solutions that work for all, I implore you to not move forward with the proposal before you. Appoint a committee, urge the Mission to look at options in other areas that are more than holding pens, etc.

John Wilker
Founder, 360|Conferences
CEO, Denwhere?
(720) 381-2370
twitter: [jwilker](#)
[johnwilker.com](#) | [360|intersect](#) | [360|Stack](#) | [360|iDev](#)

Remember that bad times, are just times that are bad.

From: [dencc - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafoya, Ean T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: Lawrence St. Comm Ctr.
Date: Monday, April 28, 2014 9:01:41 AM

From: Rick Borman [mailto:rmbor90@hotmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2014 8:57 AM
To: kniechatlarge; dencc - City Council; Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8; Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9; Dreyer, Evan F. - Mayor's Office
Subject: FW: Lawrence St. Comm Ctr.

Please circulate this mail (including the others below) to the entire council please.

To Whom It May Concern: I never heard back from Councilwoman Kneich regarding the increase in kitchen facilities at the proposed addition. My position is more people, more of the same problems. The shelters don 't look after their existing population now once they are back on the street, with the increased ability to feed people it will only get worse. That seems pretty logical, so again, we are against this project.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Rick M. Borman

R. Merrill, Inc.

Tel: Office: 303-778-1100

Cell: 303-898-7225

Fax: 303-293-3161

Email: rmbor90@hotmail.com

From: rmbor90@hotmail.com
To: kniechatlarge@denvergov.org
Subject: RE: Lawrence St. Comm Ctr.
Date: Wed, 23 Apr 2014 17:42:45 +0000

Councilwoman Kneich:

Thanks for your reply.

In my understanding of this project, the restaurant at the shelter after this improvement will be able to serve 3 times more food. That will obviously bring more people into the area which is my big concern. IF that is not the case, please let me know but that is what I have heard and seen written.

True the shelter has been there longer than a lot of us, but they need to do more to keep the neighborhood clean because of their guests. We have been picking up garbage and human waste off the sidewalks since 1988, it gets tiring as you can imagine. The City and the shelters need to do a lot more in this regard to get the confidence of the neighbors.

Finally I think you need to come down and visit the neighborhood to see what it is like, not just once in the morning, it gets a lot busier later in the day.

Rick M. Borman

R. Merrill, Inc.

Tel: Office: 303-778-1100

Cell: 303-898-7225

Fax: 303-293-3161

Email: rmbor90@hotmail.com

From: kniechatlarge@denvergov.org

To: rmbor90@hotmail.com

Subject: RE: Lawrence St. Comm Ctr.

Date: Tue, 22 Apr 2014 23:07:26 +0000

Dear Rick,

Thank you for contacting my office regarding the proposed Lawrence Street Center in partnership with the Denver Rescue Mission. I have been an advocate for improved homeless services throughout my tenure on Council, as well as transitional and permanent affordable housing. I believe the location of the proposed Lawrence Street Center provides a critical service for the health, safety, and life of the individuals seeking other resources in the Ballpark neighborhood. While I understand your concerns about the magnitude and concentration of services in this area, institutions like the Denver Rescue Mission existed

long before the stadium itself or the associated commercial and residential development that took off along with the stadium in this area, and it is neither just public policy nor financially practical to expect these long-standing service providers who also own their property to simply relocate.

I do support the Mayor's recent commitment to increasing resources for neighborhood improvements. And I also agree with the concerns that many opponents have raised about simply moving the problem of homelessness out of sight without taking action to solve it. While the courtyard is a more humane and safer environment for men and women to wait for services than the busy streets and sidewalks currently used by the homeless community, and therefore a step in the right direction I strongly support for both the community and the homeless community, the one and only step the city can take to truly end homelessness for an individual or a community is to provide safe housing. That needs to be the next priority, it needs to be funded and advanced more quickly and far more robustly than it has been to date, including with Denver's own dollars. And it will require leadership from all segments of our community. I have and will continue to champion the creation of homes, both transitional with intense services and permanent with on-going services, and I hope that your neighborhood will continue to champion these outcomes as well, even if our reasons for doing so may differ.

Sincerely,

Councilwoman Robin Kniech

From: Rick B [<mailto:rmbor90@hotmail.com>]
Sent: Thursday, April 17, 2014 2:01 PM
To: dence - City Council
Subject: Lawrence St. Comm Ctr.

To Whom It May Concern:

We have been in the neighborhood for the past 23 years, renovating buildings, participating in City improvement projects and living in the area. Our office is there as well. As you surely know this area is burdened with 90% of the city's homeless shelters, etc. Enough is enough already. Drive the area to see what is going on instead of reading about it only. Please listen to the neighbors and what they are saying about this new project. Most everyone is AGAINST it. More of this population will inundate us. The existing shelters don't do enough to clean the streets, alleys and sidewalks for their existing clientele now.

Please listen to the community's testimony before letting this project move forward.

Thanks

Rick Borman

From: [dence - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafoya, Ean T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: Lawrence Street Community Center
Date: Friday, April 25, 2014 3:23:41 PM

From: Bryan McCutcheon [mailto:bryan.mccutcheon@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, April 25, 2014 3:22 PM
To: dence - City Council
Cc: Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8; Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9; Dreyer, Evan F. - Mayor's Office
Subject: Lawrence Street Community Center

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO ALL CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Dear Honorable Members of the City Council,

I'm writing to express my concern regarding the proposed Lawrence Street Community Center.

I'm a resident/homeowner of the Ballpark neighborhood, so I see every day the effect of the hugely disproportionate concentration of homeless shelters in my neighborhood (and the effect of the drug dealers and crooks that prey on the homeless). I've cleaned feces and vomit from my doorstep. I've called ambulances for passed out and desperate people sleeping on my sidewalk. I've seen the drug use and can point out the dealers. I've witnessed the crimes against property and people. I deal every day with the fact that, for some reason, the city has decided that the vast majority of homeless resources should be concentrated in one neighborhood.

On Monday, Mayor Hancock wrote a letter to the City Council indicating that he would attempt to allocate an undisclosed amount of funding to increase police patrols and cleanups in the neighborhood. I fully support that effort, but the timing is deeply disturbing to me. It is unacceptable to me that in order to induce residents like me to accept the proposed Lawrence Street Community Center, the City must promise us the increase in police patrols and clean up efforts we've desperately needed for years. Promising to provide the basic level of city services to residents is not how you sweeten the bitter pill of increasing the burden already placed on the Ballpark neighborhood. It is an acknowledgement that something is deeply wrong and has been for years.

It's also deeply disturbing to me that the decision to spend \$8.6 million dollars to expand a homeless shelter in a neighborhood with a growing residential population is about to occur with almost no efforts to engage those residents in a dialogue. When a ban on alcohol in Washington Park was proposed, there was a town hall meeting attended by members of the City Council. Where is our town hall meeting? How can you possibly feel comfortable spending so much money on a project without soliciting substantial input from people it

would actually effect? (And, for the record, I don't believe that behind-closed-door conversations with neighborhood association representatives counts.)

Building a wall to hide the homeless and promising one or two more officers on patrol does nothing for a neighborhood that's trying to raise itself out of a long history of urban blight.

The City needs to acknowledge that it has utterly failed to truly address the issues in this neighborhood for years, all while feeding off the growing property tax base paid by the residents here and the sales taxes generated by our business owners.

This proposed "community center" is a glorified waiting room--a place to hide the homeless behind a wall--and it's another in a long line of poorly conceived efforts to clean up the neighborhood. Sure, you fenced off Triangle/Maestas Park, but what has that done? Forced the most drug-addicted and mentally unstable homeless and the dealers who prey on them into the adjacent streets. Sure, you implemented a camping ban, but what has that done?

Caused the homeless to squeeze into our alleyways and doorways to sleep, urinate, and defecate out of sight. Putting up a wall is not going to get these people the help they need. Please, please reconsider.

If the city can demonstrate a commitment to addressing homelessness and its affect on the Ballpark neighborhood (and, in doing so, a commitment to actually understanding them, rather than making decisions behind closed doors), then you'll have my full support (including for the use of public funds to improve shelter resources). But at the moment I'm afraid you haven't earned my trust or the trust of my neighbors. I truly hope you decide to increase the police presence here and commit to cleaning up the filth that has accumulated over so many years. I hope you don't feel the need to condition the provision of those services on the neighborhood's support for the expansion of the Lawrence Street Shelter. If the city wants to play ball, I'm game, and I'll be on your team. But until I see a commitment from the city to support the neighborhood and not just the shelters, I can't say I'm convinced that your proposal of greater city involvement is anything but a false promise to keep people like me quiet.

Sincerely,

Bryan McCutcheon
2101 Larimer St. #302
Denver, CO 80205

From: [dence - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafoya, Ean T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: Lawrence Street Community Center
Date: Friday, April 25, 2014 4:39:29 PM

From: Matt Walker [mailto:mjw33775@gmail.com]
Sent: Friday, April 25, 2014 4:36 PM
To: dence - City Council
Subject: Lawrence Street Community Center

To Whom It May Concern:

Please distribute to all City Council Members...

Please do not give final approval to the Lawrence Street Community Center. I don't see how spending this much money to build an outdoor area for homeless people is really going to help end homelessness. Wouldn't the money be better spent if it was put toward building a new indoor facility to add more beds and shelter for the homeless, or put it toward other programs that actually help people get out of homelessness and get them off the streets? Based on the article in the Denver Post on 08/31/2103 titled

"Denver wisely cleaning up Triangle & Sonny Lawson parks" it says the city wants to convert the triangle, aka Eddie Maestes Park, into a community garden because it was "a hangout for homeless people, addicts and gang members." If the Lawrence Street Community Center is built, isn't the community just providing a new place for the activities that used to take place on the triangle, but this time behind a wall? How will the Rescue Mission verify if someone is actually homeless or a drug dealer, criminal or prostitute? I live at Lawrence Street & 25th Street, and have noticed a decrease in criminal activity in my neighborhood since the triangle was closed, and I fear that the Lawrence Street Community Center is going to bring a return to the way things used to be.

Best Regards,
Matt Walker

From: [Velez, Kelly - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafoya, Fan T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: Lawrence Street Project
Date: Monday, April 28, 2014 12:00:02 PM

From: Richard Sanders [mailto:richard@merchantsofficefurniture.com]
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2014 11:46 AM
To: denc - City Council
Subject: Lawrence Street Project

Dear Denver City Council,

I have worked in the ballpark neighborhood temporarily from 1961 (date Merchants Office Furniture Co. purchased the 2261 N. Broadway property). This was during middle and high school years for me - things were not too disruptive - some breaking of windows and small outbreaks of vandalism. However, beginning in 1970 until today in 2014 I have been very full time employed and owned the business.

This newest band aid effort is terribly expensive and will result in only hiding a problem. The economy is on a great rise and the Capra property will sell to developers as can be seen in adjacent areas and all of the longtime property owners will be rewarded for longevity of dealing with the negative effects brought on by the concentration of too many services in too small an area.

There are clearly more outlying areas near some of the newer RTD stations for help with transporting the folks hopefully to new jobs that our area and neighboring areas will be more able to provide. A very nice facility could be set elsewhere for much less land acquisition cost saving the City a great deal of money and thereby letting the natural course of business purchase the Capra properties to further bolster the neighborhood making it much more viable and generating much more tax for the city.

Thank you,

--

Richard Sanders

MERCHANTS Office Furniture

2261 N. Broadway | Denver, CO 80205

303-297-1100 o

303-297-0300 f

303-550-8293 c

www.merchantsofficefurniture.com

From: [dence - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafoya, Fan T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: Oppose the Lawrence Street Community Center proposal
Date: Monday, April 28, 2014 9:52:49 AM

From: Kelley Huemoeller [mailto:klhuem@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2014 9:50 AM
To: dence - City Council
Cc: Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8; Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9
Subject: Oppose the Lawrence Street Community Center proposal

City Council Members-

Denver City Council votes tonight on the Lawrence Street Community Center proposal. As a member of this community and a resident of Douglas Apartments, I adamantly oppose this proposal and project. I am a female and walk to and from work everyday through this neighborhood. I am harassed at least once on my trip to or from work by the crowds of homeless, mental unstable, and drug addicts.

Additionally, the streets are covered at night with these individuals sleeping wherever they can find. There needs to be a better solution to this epidemic problem of homelessness in Denver than building more shelters right in the heart of downtown.

Please vote NO tonight.

Thanks,

Kelley Huemoeller
Resident

From: [dence - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafuya, Ean T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: Opposition to Lawrence Street Community Center
Date: Monday, April 28, 2014 9:39:03 AM

From: dave eckelberger [mailto:dave.eckel@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2014 9:27 AM
To: dence - City Council
Subject: Opposition to Lawrence Street Community Center

For Distribution to All City Council Members:

As a Denver native and downtown office tenant, I resolutely oppose the proposed Lawrence Street Community Center. The growing homeless population and ancillary drug activity downtown present larger issues that the Lawrence St. Center cannot and does not address. I urge you to consider a more thoughtful and targeted approach to confront the cycle of degeneration that is taking root across larger swaths of Downtown. Please do not throw \$9MM into a project that does not actually help to rehabilitate the homeless.

Thank you for your time,

David Eckelberger

From: [dencc - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafoya, Ean T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: Rescue Mission Day Center
Date: Monday, April 28, 2014 12:34:05 PM

From: Zack Sanders [mailto:zack@merchantsofficefurniture.com]
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2014 12:29 PM
To: dencc - City Council
Subject: Rescue Mission Day Center

Dear Council members,

Please carefully consider the opposition within the Ballpark Neighborhood and Arapahoe Square areas to the proposed day center for the Denver Rescue Mission.

This is not a constructive solution. It does nothing to improve the homeless situation in Denver. What does a place to sit during the day do for anyone? It is likely to be as effective as closing Triangle Park was, which is to say, not effective at all and simply a sweep of the issue to other blocks. All the closing of Triangle Park achieved was the creation of "Hamsterdam" (from the tv show The Wire) on 22nd St. If that reference is lost on anyone, 22nd St. is an uncontained, terrible mess with garbage everywhere and a "free zone" of drug dealing. Ostensibly, the closing of Triangle Park was to help the homeless get away from predatory drug dealers. It did nothing for anyone.

Invest in beds, invest in housing, invest in education, etc. Don't invest in another futile attempt to mask a vexing problem. Also, I know other neighborhoods aren't excited about the prospect of taking on the homeless population, but this idea stands right in the line of Denver's potential growth and is completely disagreeable to everyone in the area and certainly to potential investment that might do much more for the prosperity and well being of this city overall. And the neighborhoods' opposition is not necessarily centered on the creation of more homeless services infrastructure hereabouts, but poorly planned out investment.

It is really incumbent upon you all to provide research as to why this is a good, well researched investment. Have you studied other cities that have implemented something like this with a constructive impact on homelessness? Denver's homeless problem is worse than many comparable cities, in part, because of poor planning and investment in infrastructure. Please do not rush to do this and please provide grounded rationale.

Best,
Zack

--

Zack Sanders, CFA
Principal

MERCHANTS Office Furniture

303-297-1100 o | 303-917-3825 c | merchantsofficefurniture.com

From: [dence - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafoya, Ean T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: Stop the Day Center Funding/Expansion of Denver Rescue Mission
Date: Monday, April 28, 2014 10:24:57 AM

From: Brooke (Sanders) Wolf [mailto:brookeasanders@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2014 10:23 AM
To: dence - City Council
Subject: Stop the Day Center Funding/Expansion of Denver Rescue Mission

Dear Councilmen/women,

I am sending this note to urge you to listen to your constituents within the Ballpark Neighborhood and Arapahoe Square areas. We stand solid in our opposition to the proposed expansion of the Day Center for the Denver Rescue Mission.

As a long term adjacent business owner (53 years here), a volunteer to the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, and friend and donor of the Denver Rescue Mission - I urge you to more carefully consider the true irresponsibility of spending the tax payer dollars to build a \$8.6M day center to simply hide the queue. Why is this money being spent to build a facility that will offer daytime refuse to the very few that seek it? There is no demand for a facility like this (simply our City's desire to hide the lines); there is overwhelming demand for housing.

Our company has shared an alley with the Denver Rescue Mission since it located to the neighborhood in the late 1970s. We've long since dealt with the queue (as it has a tendency to align our building nightly) as well as all the other consequences that go along with being a neighbor to an emergency shelter. We manage the element to the best of our ability. We've never put pressure on the City to build a facility to deal with the lines. Who is asking for this project? It is not the adjacent neighbors.

I urge you to rethink this project. There are so many other ways to responsibly spend this money. Give the homeless community what they so tremendously need - affordable housing.

I appreciate your consideration.

Thank you,
Brooke Sanders Wolf

April 28, 2014

Mayor Michael Hancock
Councilwoman Judy Montero
Councilman Albus Brooks

Dear Mayor Hancock, Councilwoman Montero and Councilman Brooks:

We are writing today to clarify the position of the Ballpark Neighborhood Association regarding facilities serving homeless people, including the Denver Rescue Mission (DRM). You may have seen a letter from John Parvensky of the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless stating that “we cannot state more strongly that we do not support the efforts of the Ballpark neighborhood to relocate the DRM.”

The implication of Mr. Parvensky’s statement is simply incorrect. The Ballpark Neighborhood Association has not proposed relocating the existing DRM facility.

To the contrary, we have embraced the DRM. A DRM staff member sits on our board. We have participated as a board and as an organization countless times over the years in volunteer programs at the DRM – organizing turkey drives over Thanksgiving, volunteering to serve holiday meals, making donations, etc.

We are a diverse community and people in the neighborhood have many viewpoints on this issue. However, the Ballpark Neighborhood Association has never advocated for the relocation of the Denver Rescue Mission and has a long history of working with the Rescue Mission as our neighbor.

This correction is important because this is not a debate over whether or not Denver should help homeless in any one part of the city. Rather, it’s about what’s the best use of the communities’ limited funds. The association is concerned that the \$8.6 million proposal is a Band-Aid that won’t offer the long-term housing, treatment and job training that is needed to help homeless people get off the streets for good.

We support the Denver’s Road Home 10-year plan to end homelessness – not just to hide homeless people in a courtyard behind 10-foot walls – and believe that the goal of ending homelessness should remain the city’s focus.

Interestingly, Mr. Parvensky notes in his letter: “The Coalition was not asked to provide advice or input into the development of this project. Nor was the Homeless Commission, of which I am a member, asked to review or give its input. Thus, what I know about the project is only what I have gleaned from media reports or third hand accounts.”

Despite claims that there was extensive public outreach and engagement, the Ballpark Neighborhood Association also feels that we have largely been left out of planning for this project, first learning the

details just last month. This lack of stakeholder engagement suggests a deeper problem and may be at the root of the public concern over this project, as evidenced by a Denver Post online survey. With 6,787 votes, 57% of respondents to the Post survey said that they opposed the proposed Lawrence Street project. That finding should give the city pause.

Sincerely

Ballpark Neighborhood Association

CC: Denver City Councilmembers
Bennie Milliner, Denver's Road Home
John Parvensky, Colorado Coalition for the Homeless

From: [Velez, Kelly - City Council](#)
To: [Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8](#); [Brown, Charlie - City Council District #6](#); [Faatz, Jeanne R. - City Council Dist #2](#); [Herndon, Christopher J. - City Council District 11](#); [Kniech, Robin L. - City Council](#); [Lehmann, Peggy A. - City Council Dist #4](#); [Lopez, Paul D. - City Council Dist #3](#); [Montero, Judy H. - City Council District #9](#); [Nevitt, Chris - City Council Dist #7](#); [Ortega, Deborah L. - City Council](#); [Robb, Jeanne - City Council Dist. #10](#); [Shepherd, Susan K. - City Council District 1](#); [Susman, Mary Beth - City Council](#)
Cc: [Tafoya, Ean T - CC Legislative Services](#); [Bartleson, Debra - City Council](#); [Smith, Shelley - City Council](#); [Williams, Gretchen - City Council](#)
Subject: FW: Oppose Current Expansion of Denver Rescue Mission - Support Strategy Adjustment
Date: Monday, April 28, 2014 4:44:12 PM

From: Alex Jarboe [mailto:alex@yogapodcommunity.com]
Sent: Monday, April 28, 2014 4:42 PM
To: Dreyer, Evan F. - Mayor's Office; dencc - City Council
Cc: Brooks, Albus - City Council District 8
Subject: Oppose Current Expansion of Denver Rescue Mission - Support Strategy Adjustment

Dear City Council & Mayor's Office,

I know this is the 11th hour and first want to thank you for your service. I have spoken with some of the council members who have been very insightful and helpful but want to send my thoughts to the larger group before it is too late as I mistakenly thought the vote was next week.

My name is Alex Jarboe and I am a co-owner of a new business in the Ballpark Neighborhood at 20th & Lawrence. My fiancé and I are opening a yoga studio together and very excited to be a greater part of the Denver community and provide yoga to the area. This has been a dream of ours for a very long time.

I am writing because I am concerned and opposed to the current proposal and strategy regarding the Denver Rescue Mission because of the following;

- We are concerned for the safety of our clients and employees when this facility closes at night.
 - We believe this new adjustment to the mission will attract a greater number of homeless from the Denver area to LoDo. Our business will be open till 10:30pm throughout the week and want to ensure the safety of our customers and employees when the proposed facility closes for the evening. Am I wrong that the facility will close for the evening and the people at the facility will need to leave for the night to find other space? What and where will all those folks go at this time if this is the case? We have already had minor thefts from our construction site and want to ensure the utmost safety for our employees and clientele during the night time hours when the proposed facility will be closed for the evening. More street lights, police presence and funds spent to remove graffiti/trash is positive, however, this seems more of a symptom assistance than root solutions. But have faith you are there to help us.
 - We want to create safety protocols to assist our employees within our organization to assist with potential problems and hope that we can work closely with the city to help, first the root causes, but also the symptoms that arise on the

surface of the streets.

Do you have any thoughts or contacts in whom we can include in our safety and security protocols for our employees and teachers at our studio? Any thoughts on how we can help create a strong organizational protocol?

- We believe the local economic vitality will be affected adversely and diminish this newly sought after area regarding commercial businesses and residential facilities.
- We believe importantly that the homeless population is not being served in the most effective and efficient way with city dollars.

We strongly support the goal of Denver's Road Home to end homelessness. However, we believe that quick fixes like this one will not provide the best long-term solutions for our city or our citizens. By moving this facility to less expensive real estate, city funds could be better allocated to root problem solutions.

We support directing our community's limited resources to address the root causes of homelessness through comprehensive strategies like:

1. Long Term Housing
2. Treatment & Revocery programs
3. Job Training

Examples of local communities that have been able to provide better services to homeless by moving and expanding shelters outside of downtown areas are places like Ft Collins and Boulder.

Please join the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, The Ballpark Neighborhood Association, myself, and other residents and businesses to re-strategize and create a more effective plan to help support the homeless population and protect the economic vitality of the expanding area.

We understand the mayor's office is doing its very best to address this issue and has made promises to make strides forward, but do not want this expensive option to be the only option in a rushed attempt to say a promise has been fulfilled.

Thank you again and truly appreciate your assistance and service. Any help and feedback is always welcome.

Thank you for your time,

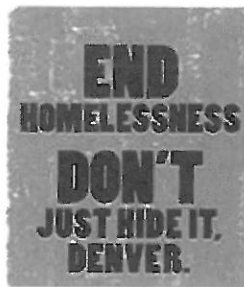
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It's not enough to just hide homelessness in Denver. Let's end it for good.

We energetically support the goal of Denver's Road Home to end homelessness. Nine years into the 10-year plan, there's still much work for all of us to do. Yet quick fixes will not provide the best long-term solutions for our city, or our citizens. Therefore:

- We oppose the proposal to spend \$8.6 million on the so-called Lawrence Street Community Center, a largely outdoor facility that would temporarily hide homeless people in a courtyard behind 10-foot walls adjacent to the Denver Rescue Mission's Lawrence Street Shelter without providing additional services to help end homelessness.
- We support directing our community's limited resources to address the root causes of homelessness through comprehensive strategies like long-term housing, treatment and job training.

Denver can't afford to treat homeless people as a problem to be swept under the rug, warehoused, or pushed to one neighborhood or another. An open, transparent, and measured public dialogue on this issue will help our community identify long-term solutions to help all Denver residents prosper, no matter what challenges they may face. Instead of settling for Band-Aids and a rushed public review process, let's join together to focus Denver's limited resources on ending homelessness for the good of the entire community.

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