

July 6, 2015

TO: Denver City Council Members

FROM: Vernon L. Hill

RE: National Western Center Rezoning

Honorable Denver City Council Members:

As I am out of town, I appreciate my comments being read into the record. My name is Vernon L. Hill, managing partner of JJJ Properties, 810 to 870 E, 50th Ave. Denver, 80216. The business property, consisting of 150,000 square feet is one of the success stories of Globeville, having been a significant part of the meat packing history from the 1920s to 1950s. It has since been repurposed into 3 successful and thriving meat, seafood and produce small businesses employing over 60 people.

I have worked in Globeville since 1984, owning a commercial and industrial construction company, and have seen the changes in Globeville over the years. Because of my dedication and commitment to this community, I have given extensive time and effort as a member of the Globeville Steering Committee, National Western Citizen Advisory Committee, and Globeville Civic Association.

When I spoke at the Planning Board meeting regarding the National Western Center rezoning, I presented concerns in the form of a draft Memorandum of Understanding for the NDCC while expressing my support for the zoning changes. I was gratified with the Planning Board's condition attached to their approval: "That the City Council acknowledge and address the concerns expressed by the neighborhood stakeholders with regards to neighborhood involvement in governance and community equity." Thus my comments:

2016 NDCC budget In meeting with Kelly Leid, it was encouraging to hear of the projects for Globeville that he is considering to include in the 2016 budget. He also has the list of budget items requested by the Globeville Civic Association and it will be interesting to see how the overall budget will be structured. We look forward to receiving the 2016 budget summary as we move forward in the aggressive implementation of the Globeville plan.

Memorandum of Understanding I was my hope to have this completed prior to today's meeting. Kelly Leid received a copy of the Globeville Civic Association proposed MOU and likewise Kelly presented an MOU draft from the NDCC. I requested that Kelly review and align both drafts to meet the needs of the GCA and NDCC. I am in favor of the suggested change to a Statement of Commitment signed by Mayor Hancock which would be a strong, moral commitment to the community.

The development of the National Western Center has the potential to bring historic, unprecedented transformation beyond the NWC boundaries and hopefully into the surrounding neighborhoods of Globeville, Elyria and Swansea. I request the continued support and input of City Council and I am in favor of moving forward on the National Western Center zoning request.