

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. 11-0680

To Honor West Colfax Business Improvement District for receiving the Governor's Award for Best Sustainable Downtown Project

WHEREAS, the West Colfax Business Improvement District (the "BID") has won the 2011 Governor's Award for Downtown Excellence for Best Sustainable Downtown Project; and

WHEREAS, the BID won the award for creating "Denver's Sustainable Main Street" through infrastructure improvements making West Colfax more walkable and by successfully promoting green technology in businesses; and

WHEREAS, Dan Shah, director of the BID recognizes board president Jim Hannifin and former Councilman Rick Garcia for their leadership in creating the vision and key tools to transform West Colfax to a pedestrian-oriented Main Street; and

WHEREAS, current Councilwoman Susan Shepherd is championing efforts such as "Denver's Sustainable Main Street" as a priority for her agenda to make City Council District One the most sustainable, livable, and accessible district in Denver; and

WHEREAS, the BID has assisted businesses with energy efficiency improvements that result in a savings equivalent to taking 29 cars off the road. These infrastructure improvements include \$1.5 million in on-street parking, medians to slow traffic and buffer pedestrians; as well as artwork and other streetscape improvements powered by fully renewable energy sources; and

WHEREAS, Green technology advances along West Colfax include the addition of a new solar thermal array on the Lake Steam Baths at 3540 W Colfax Ave and \$494,000 of committed funding for solar panels on new building projects; and

WHEREAS, the award committee commended the West Colfax BID for having "accomplished significant improvements to the overall sustainability of the district. Through both forward-planning and proactive/targeted retrofits, the BID has structured a future plan for increased sustainability in building and construction, while also actively educating and supporting existing business owners in 'green' retrofits. The program has already shown significant, measurable progress, and their model for how to work with a BID to establish and implement sustainable goals could be easily adapted by other downtown districts"; and

WHEREAS, the West Colfax Business Improvement District was created in 2006 to revitalize West Colfax Avenue as Denver's Sustainable Main Street by promoting large-scale investment through land assembly and sustainable redevelopment, retail support and recruitment, and sponsoring improvements to the ROW that encourage pedestrian usage and multi-modal transportation; and

**NOW THEREFORE,
BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:**

Section 1. That City Council congratulates West Colfax BID on receiving the Governor's Award for Best Sustainable Downtown Project.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to Dan Shah, Director of West Colfax Business Improvement District.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL September 19, 2011

PRESIDENT