

From: [Gilmore, Stacie M. - CC XA1404 Member Denver City Council](#)
To: [Wallace, Anne - CC YA2457 Legislative Policy Analyst](#); [Teresa.StPeter](#)
Cc: [Stevens, Elle H. - CC YA2389 City Council Legislative Assistant](#)
Subject: Fwd: [EXTERNAL] Support for the Denver College Affordability Fund ordinance change
Date: Wednesday, May 10, 2023 7:16:39 AM

Hello,

Thanks for sharing this Teresa. Anne and Elle wanted to get it over to you both to upload into the system.

Stacie

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From: St Peter, Teresa A. - CC YA2246 City Council Aide Senior <Teresa.St.Peter@denvergov.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 10, 2023 9:05:13 AM
To: Gilmore, Stacie M. - CC XA1404 Member Denver City Council <Stacie.Gilmore@denvergov.org>
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL] Support for the Denver College Affordability Fund ordinance change

From: Daniela Meltzer <daniela.meltzer@coloradoacademy.org>
Sent: Monday, May 8, 2023 7:29 AM
To: Nicla, Andrew - CC YA2246 City Council Aide Senior <Andrew.Nicla@denvergov.org>; St Peter, Teresa A. - CC YA2246 City Council Aide Senior <Teresa.St.Peter@denvergov.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for the Denver College Affordability Fund ordinance change

Dear Council Member Robin Kriech,

On behalf of Horizons Colorado, I am writing to express my support for the amendments to the Denver College Affordability Fund. As a supported organization of this fund, Horizons Colorado has witnessed the significant problems experienced by the young people we serve due to housing affordability and displacement. The overly restrictive residency requirement is limiting our ability to serve students from low-income households, who have been the most negatively impacted by the pandemic and economic fallout. The other proposed changes will ensure we can expand the range of vital resources and options for our young people to help them along their pathway to postsecondary success, which leads to economic mobility and strengthens our local workforce. These amendments honor voter intent by maximizing the distribution of funds and are critically important during this time of insecurity in our community.

Many thanks for your time and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,
Daniela Meltzer

--

Daniela Meltzer, Executive Director
[Horizons Colorado](#)
she/her/hers/ella
O: 303.914.2537 | C: 213.309.7667
E: daniela.meltzer@horizonscolorado.org



From: [Gilmore, Stacie M. - CC XA1404 Member Denver City Council](#)
To: [Jennifer Falkoski](#); [Wallace, Anne - CC YA2457 Legislative Policy Analyst](#); [Stevens, Elle H. - CC YA2389 City Council Legislative Assistant](#)
Cc: [Teresa.StPeter](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Denver College Affordability Fund
Date: Monday, May 15, 2023 11:05:39 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)

Hello,

Thank you for your email. We will make sure that this letter of support gets added to our legislative system and into the public record.

Kindly,

Stacie



Stacie Gilmore
Councilwoman, Denver City Council

she, her, hers
District 11 | 303.720.9139
Arie P. Taylor Building
4685 Peoria Street, Suite 215
Denver, CO 80239
Stacie.gilmore@denvergov.org |
[Dial 3-1-1 for City Services](#)



From: Jennifer Falkoski <jfalkoski@forwardsteps.org>
Date: Friday, May 12, 2023 at 5:47 PM
To: Gilmore, Stacie M. - CC XA1404 Member Denver City Council
<Stacie.Gilmore@denvergov.org>
Cc: Sanders, Chiquita M. - CC YA2246 City Council Aide Senior
<Chiquita.Sanders@denvergov.org>, Rangel, Ricardo - OCA CA2841 Marketing and
Communications Associate <Ricardo.Rangel@denvergov.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Denver College Affordability Fund

On behalf of Forward Steps, I am writing to express my support for the amendments to the Denver College Affordability Fund.

As a supported organization of this fund, Forward Steps has witnessed the significant problems

experienced by the young people we serve due to housing affordability and displacement. The overly restrictive residency requirement is limiting our ability to serve students from low-income households, who have been the most negatively impacted by the pandemic and economic fallout.

The other proposed changes will ensure we can expand the range of vital resources and options for our young people to help them along their pathway to postsecondary success, which leads to economic mobility and strengthens our local workforce. These amendments honor voter intent by maximizing the distribution of funds and are critically important during this time of insecurity in our community.

Jennifer Falkoski, PsyD
Executive Director
Pronouns: she/her/hers
P 303-404-9966



Please [give](#) to help youth and young adults reach their full potential.

From: [Gilmore, Stacie M. - CC XA1404 Member Denver City Council](#)
To: [JESSICA SOLIS](#); [Teresa.StPeter](#); [Wallace, Anne - CC YA2457 Legislative Policy Analyst](#); [Stevens, Elle H. - CC YA2389 City Council Legislative Assistant](#)
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Support Amendments to Denver College Affordability Fund
Date: Thursday, May 11, 2023 12:42:49 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)

Thank you, Jessica for your support letter. We will make sure and share this with all of City Council prior to the required public hearing on 5/15.

Kindly,

Stacie



Stacie Gilmore
Councilwoman, Denver City Council

she, her, hers
District 11 | 303.720.9139
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4685 Peoria Street, Suite 215
Denver, CO 80239
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[Dial 3-1-1 for City Services](#)



SIGN UP FOR OUR
E-NEWSLETTER

From: JESSICA SOLIS <jessica_solis@dpsk12.net>
Date: Thursday, May 11, 2023 at 11:50 AM
To:
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support Amendments to Denver College Affordability Fund

On behalf of the Northside High School Alumni Scholarship Foundation (NSHSASF),

I am writing to express my support for the amendments to the Denver College Affordability Fund. As a supported organization of this fund, NSHSASF has witnessed the significant problems experienced by the young people we serve due to housing affordability and displacement. The overly restrictive residency requirement is limiting our ability to serve students from low-income households, who have been the most negatively impacted by the pandemic and economic fallout. The other proposed changes will ensure we can expand the range of vital resources and options for our young people to help them along their pathway to postsecondary success, which leads to economic mobility and strengthens our local workforce. These amendments honor voter intent by maximizing

the distribution of funds and are critically important during this time of insecurity in our community.

Thank you for your service and support for Denver students,

--

JESSICA J. SOLIS, M.A. // *Hablo Español*

COLLEGE TRANSITIONS COORDINATOR

Denver Public Schools- North High School

Pronouns: [She, Her, Hers, ELLA](#)

Office: B180F | Phone: 720.423.2957

Google Number: 720.445.6259

Email: jessica_solis@dpsk12.net



From: [Gilmore, Stacie M. - CC XA1404 Member Denver City Council](#)
To: [Lorii Rabinowitz](#)
Cc: [Wallace, Anne - CC YA2457 Legislative Policy Analyst](#); [Stevens, Elle H. - CC YA2389 City Council Legislative Assistant](#); [Teresa.StPeter](#)
Subject: Re: Support for Amendments to the Denver College Affordability Fund | May 15
Date: Friday, May 12, 2023 4:10:17 PM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[image003.png](#)
[image004.png](#)
[image005.png](#)
[image006.png](#)
[image007.png](#)

Hello Lorii,

Thanks so much for your email and your support. We will get this loaded into our system so it becomes part of the public record. See you Monday!

Stacie

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From: Lorii Rabinowitz <lrabinowitz@denverscholarship.org>
Sent: Friday, May 12, 2023 3:03 PM
To: Gilmore, Stacie M. - CC XA1404 Member Denver City Council <Stacie.Gilmore@denvergov.org>
Cc: Sanders, Chiquita M. - CC YA2246 City Council Aide Senior <Chiquita.Sanders@denvergov.org>; Rangel, Ricardo - OCA CA2841 Marketing and Communications Associate <Ricardo.Rangel@denvergov.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Support for Amendments to the Denver College Affordability Fund | May 15

Hello Councilwoman Gilmore,

It's such a treat to be reconnected, especially in these circumstances of gratitude for your co-sponsorship of the Denver College Affordability Fund (administered by Prosperity Denver Fund) ordinance amendments in Committee. I really appreciated what you shared during the Housing and Safety Committee meeting as to the reasons you were sponsoring the changes.

As I shared during the Committee meeting and plan to share in public comment on Monday, our board and staff of Denver Scholarship Foundation are in full support of all amendments to the Denver College Affordability Fund and have two in particular about which we feel most strongly. All revisions are designed to allow the ordinance approved by voters in 2018 to reach the most students in need, especially those most negatively impacted by the pandemic, more quickly, meet emerging needs and make the program more efficient.

The displacement from Denver of the students and families we serve is profound. As an example, in 2022, DSF awarded more scholarships than in any other year, totaling 1871,

yet, in the same application cycle, 20% of Denver Scholarship Foundation's incoming new Scholars (125 students) did not qualify for Prosperity Denver Fund reimbursement because of the residency requirement as currently defined in the ordinance, which requires that eligible students must have resided in Denver continuously for more than thirty-six (36) months prior to their first scheduled post-secondary class day. As currently written, students who are unhoused, move frequently, are newcomers to the state, or have been displaced from Denver are all ineligible. Changing the residency requirement to define residency for students under 26 as graduation from a Denver high school or 6 months residency in Denver would mean these 125 students, and many more in the future, would qualify. Of note, among the 125 students who did not meet the three-year residency requirement, the median enrollment in DPS was 12 years, while the average length of enrollment was 10.6 years, further confirming that this group of families and students are committed to Denver and to Denver Public Schools by continuing to enroll their children in the District – a win for our City!

In 2023, we have worked with more than 9000 9-12th grade DPS students on their postsecondary plans through our 15 DSF Future Centers on site at DPS schools throughout the district. Much of the work in the DSF Future Centers is centered on building financial literacy, college going identity, agency, and confidence for what comes next after high school. Of the current cohort of DSF Scholars, 87% are first-generation college students, 91% identify as People of Color, and all have financial need. Beginning a postsecondary journey by working shoulder to shoulder with students in the high schools drives success into and through college completion, creates college affordability, and instills a sense of belief in students knowing college is possible. 80% of the Scholars we serve are persisting or have graduated from college – which includes technical college, community college and university – building economic vitality for Scholars, families, and throughout our community and, of note, because of the financial aid packaging expertise of our Advisors in the DSF Future Centers, most DSF Scholars graduate with little to, in many cases, no debt. The 2022 Colorado Talent Pipeline Report found a “clear indication that postsecondary educational attainment expands career opportunities and bolsters lifetime earnings” and, in fact, on average a college graduate earns \$1.5M more over the course of their lifetime than a student who solely graduates from high school. The report additionally states that 91.4% of top paying jobs in the state, those offering a family living wage, require some sort of credential beyond high school. Allowing reimbursement for high school support services moves our community and the individuals and families we serve forward in truly meaningful ways.

The data goes on and on, but what's most important to all of us, is that every opportunity presented, or restricted, has an impact on individual lives, lives of families, and our community as a whole. We believe that every Denver high school graduate should have the opportunity to enroll in and complete college, and as you noted, based on the passage of the Denver College Affordability Fund in 2018, voters feel the same. Your support for the ordinance amendments helps to do exactly that.

Thank you again for your leadership.

My best,
Lorii

Lorii Rabinowitz

Chief Executive Officer

Pronouns: She, Her, Hers

Denver Scholarship Foundation | a 501(c)(3) Public Charity
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www.denverscholarship.org



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