

Front Porch

Central Park, Park Hill, Lowry, Montclair, Mayfair, East Colfax, NW Aurora

DENVER, COLORADO

NORTHEAST DENVER

OCTOBER 2020



Back to School... Sort Of

Some McAuliffe students, like Janiyah Wilson (foreground), opted to engage in remote learning within one of three grade-level tents the school purchased. Each tent is 4,000 sq. ft., and Principal Kurt Dennis says McAuliffe will continue using the tents once the building reopens to students in late October.

Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch

Seven months after secondary students last stepped into classrooms, DPS will welcome them back starting the third week of October. Parents and guardians had until September 23 to elect remote or hybrid learning for the fall's remainder. Those who did not select an option were placed in the virtual learning track. At last count, over 50% of families district-wide opted for the hybrid model.

Story on page 5 by Martina Will, PhD.

New City Park Golf Course & Clubhouse

City Park Golf Course, with its stunning views of the downtown skyline and mountains, reopened Sept. 1 after a major redesign of the course, construction of a new clubhouse, and engineering improvements that reduce the potential for flooding in neighborhoods to the north. Story by Martina Will, PhD on page 14.



Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch

2020 Ballot Issues Explained

(all 23 of them)

By Todd Engdahl on page 7.

Introduction of gray wolves is a question on the ballot.



Photo from iStockphoto

Former Colorado Senators Lead Effort to Stop Threats to Election

Former U.S. Senators Tim Wirth and Gary Hart believe President Trump's talk about voter fraud is making Americans lose faith in the democratic process. And they fear he may use some little-known presidential powers to attempt to remain in office. Story on page 11 by Martina Will, PhD.



New York City street artists Menace and Resa (@menaceresa), in Denver for the annual Crush Walls Festival, painted over one of their prior murals on a garage at 2150 Market St. as a tribute to Ruth Bader Ginsberg. The Crush Walls festival from Sept. 14 – 20 invites artists to fill all available spaces in the RiNo Art District with murals.

Visit FrontPorchNE.com

- Upload and view events in our online calendar
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Events & Announcements

VIRTUAL BEER TASTINGS

These events will be held via Zoom. The Zoom link will be sent out to all registered participants the day prior to each event. Sign-up to participate via our website, www.mca80238.com. You must be 21+ to participate in these events.

Dos Lucus Brewery

Friday, October 2, 6–8pm, Zoom Webinar
Join the MCA and Dos Lucus Brewing owner, Judd Belstock, for the first in our series of virtual beer tastings! Beers included in the tasting can be purchased from the Dos Lucus Taproom at 1236 S Broadway, Denver, CO 80210.

Beers included: Chicha Inti, Pulque Metzli, Pineapple Tepache, Muluc Agua Fresca Dura

Goldspot Brewing Company

Friday, October 9, 6–8pm, Zoom Webinar
Join the MCA and Goldspot Brewing Company’s head brewer/owner, Kelissa Hieber, for our second virtual beer tasting! Beers included in the tasting can be purchased from the Goldspot Brewing Taproom at 4970 Lowell Blvd., Denver, CO 80221. **Beers included:** Cutter IPA, Italian Pilsner, Plum Saison in Pinot Noir Barrels, Honey Bourbon Barrel Aged Imperial Stout

Tivoli Brewing Company

Friday, October 16, 6–8pm, Zoom Webinar
Join the MCA and Kyle Turner from Tivoli Brewing Co. for our third virtual beer tasting! Beers included in the tasting can be purchased from the Tivoli Brewing Taproom at 900 Auraria Parkway, Suite 240, Denver, CO 80204. **Beers included:** Tivoli Helles Lager, Mile-Hi Hefeweizen, Mountain Squeeze Juicy IPA, Slam Dunkel

Cheluna Brewing Company

Friday, October 23, 6–8pm, Zoom Webinar
Join the MCA and Cheluna Brewing Company’s brewer, Eric Nichols, for the final virtual beer tasting! Beers included in the tasting can be purchased from the Cheluna Brewing Taproom at 2501 Dallas Street, #148, Aurora, CO 80010. **Beers included:** Chula-Kölsch, Octoberfies-ta-Marzen, Lupita-IPA, Coco Xoco-Chocolate/Coconut Porter

VIRTUAL COOKING CLASS

Thursday, October 15, 6–8pm, Zoom Webinar
Join the MCA and Chef Dane’s Kitchen for our Virtual Cooking Class with the theme of steak! The virtual steak cooking class will be held via Zoom. Participants will be emailed a Zoom link the day prior to the event. Visit our website at www.mca80238.com to sign-up and purchase your cooking kit. The first hour of the class will be focused on creating the dish together with

step by step instruction. Professional instructors will also walk the class through assembly, cooking & plating. Each kit includes ingredients to feed 2 people and have pre-portioned New York steak/potatoes/broccolini and fresh herbs for garnishing. All recipes are included in each kit. For any additional questions please reach out to Chef Dane’s Kitchen event coordinator, masha@chefdaneskitchen.com.

ACTIVE MINDS SEMINAR: MALCOLM X

Thursday, October 8, 1–2pm, Zoom Webinar
It has been a little over 55 years since the death of Malcolm X. Join Active Minds for a review of the life and legacy of this controversial civil rights leader. To his admirers he was a courageous advocate for the rights of Black Americans, but his detractors accused him of preaching racism and violence. Active Minds will examine how Malcolm X’s efforts impacted history and how his ideas continue to influence our society today.

ACTIVE MINDS SEMINAR: WOMEN OF DENVER HISTORY

Thursday, October 22, 6:30–7:30pm, Zoom Webinar
The city of Denver was shaped by the efforts of many great people. Join Active Minds as they focus on the women of Denver and their contributions to the city and the state. They will cover some familiar names as well as some lesser known figures as they trace the impact of these women and their place in history. Join the Active Minds Webinars by visiting https://www.activeminds.com/events_denver.html

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Carry on bravely,
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Master Community Association

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Front Porch

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Front Porch – NE Denver distributes more than 25,000 free papers during the first week of each month. Papers are delivered by mail and/or racks in Central Park, Park Hill, Lowry, Montclair, Mayfair, E. Colfax and NW Aurora.

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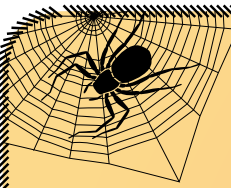
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By Martina Will, PhD

Listening to McAuliffe principal Kurt Dennis lay out the return-to-school challenges is reminiscent of an SAT math question. Each student cohort can include up to 35. Teachers can have up to two in-person cohorts. “Students could have up to four different teachers... That means, it’s basically one class that’s together in a room for the entire day and you would have up to four teachers who could come in and teach those kids a lesson.” But of course, in secondary school, students take six to eight classes, further complicating the math problem. “You’ve got juniors that are taking AP history and some are taking regular history and some are taking IB history and some are taking history for college credit... So how do you create a cohort where the kids who have all these niche courses, and world languages...?” It’s a scheduling nightmare.

In fact, when you weave together these logistical challenges with social distancing requirements (3 feet minimum per DPS protocols) and seek consistency between first quarter and second quarter instruction, this math problem feels overwhelming. It is difficult to imagine an algorithm that can create cohorts and align students’ schedules to accommodate their individual academic requests and needs. Add to that coordination of siblings’ schedules across different schools to minimize transportation challenges in a school year without district-provided transportation for secondary students, and it’s clear there is no perfect solution.

Hybrid Learning Takes Many Forms

When McAuliffe shared its hybrid learning plan with parents on back-to-school night September 17, the limits of learning during Covid became clear to many who had fantasized about a return to the traditional school day. Students will return to school, but mandates from Denver Health and the district restrict how learning can take place. At McAuliffe, cohorts of 35 will engage in face-to-face learning with a teacher for only one class each day. The rest of the day, students will learn

remotely, in the company of their cohort and an educator to keep them on track.

Though many parents were dismayed at the plan, Stacy Russell, a Central Park mother of sixth-grade twins, is very upbeat after her son Clayton spent the week engaged in remote learning under one of the tents at McAuliffe. “It’s just been the best thing in the world,” she says. “All three of us were trying to work in the house, and it was super-hard.” She called McAuliffe to advocate for one of her sons, who was having a hard time staying focused on his remote learning from home. A few days into his week under the tent, “He says it’s just awesome. He loves it.”

Russell appreciates how McAuliffe educators and administrators are fully present for the students in a way that she couldn’t manage to do with her work schedule. “The reality is, I’m a single mom and I work full time, and

I can’t help them. When things did go a bit awry, I wasn’t available. I hate that for my kids, but it’s also a reality. I just wanted him to have the best experience he could.” Her

other son, Chase, is doing well with remote learning at home, but Russell understands that “they’re all different, how they work.”

Regis Jesuit High School (RJHS), a private Catholic school under Tri-County Health’s guidelines, returned for in-person learning August 17, with students working

remotely two days a week and attending face-to-face classes two compressed days a week. RJHS Director of Communications Charisse Broderick King shared in an email that for the days students are on campus, “The class schedule ends each day at 12:40 pm, but we have removed our academic support period and lunch from the schedule and placed them in the afternoon to remove the times when

Weaving together cohorts of 35 students with social distancing to meet health department requirements while seeking consistency between first quarter (100% remote) and second quarter (approximately 50% in-person) learning, it’s clear there is no easy or perfect solution for school during a pandemic.



Students will get a health check as they arrive on campus.

students are more likely to congregate. The students attend their full complement of classes when they are on campus.”

Biology and forensics teacher Marianne Buehler says RJHS teachers and students rotate classrooms, and she is impressed with how both the administration and students have met the challenges of Covid. She has been able to innovate, too, to maximize the possibilities within Covid’s limitations. “I’ve created sub-groups within our groups. So if a cohort is in class and another cohort is at home, I have sub-groups from the in-class cohort and from the at-home cohort that are technically partnered so they can call each other on Teams and they can work together.”

Buehler sees a lot of promise with the hybrid model, which she thinks

will become a part of school culture in the future, especially for student athletes and students touring colleges; rather than having to play major catch-up upon their return to campus, she thinks they’ll be more able to rely on online learning to keep up to speed with their peers on campus. She admits one concern about remote learning: “I worry about the death of the snow day, because there’s nothing like a good snow day,” she says with a smile in her voice.

In-Person Learning

DPS, which falls under Denver Health’s purview, shared secondary school guidelines with administrators in mid-September. These are nonnegotiable regardless of a school’s governing structure (traditional, charter, or innovation).

At McAuliffe, the move to in-person learning would have required significant schedule and teacher changes had the school attempted to offer more in-person classes. Children with 6 or 7 different remote classroom teachers cannot expect to meet in-person with those same 6 or 7 teachers. Dennis says McAuliffe wants to maintain as much consistency as possible (continued on page 12)

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23 questions on the November ballot for Denver residents span issues that directly impact voters' lives—from taxes and state revenues to voting. Educated decisions will require some homework. Links to the legislative analysis of Denver issues, a PDF of the Blue Book, and the Denver sample ballot can be found with this article at FrontPorchNE.com.

Denver ballots begin mailing Oct. 9. Consider using this overview as a cheatsheet to note how you want to vote. When your ballot arrives, you can be ready to fill it out and submit it early.

What's the difference between an amendment and a proposition?

Constitutional changes are called amendments; changes to state law are called propositions. Constitutional changes require approval by 55 percent of voters, but propositions pass with a simple majority. Once something is in the constitution, it takes another statewide vote to change or remove a provision. But a new law approved by voters can later be amended by the legislature. Amendments and propositions proposed by voters are assigned numbers; legislative ballot measures are assigned letters.

How Measures Get on the Ballot: Initiatives and Referenda

There are only two ways for measures to get on the ballot. Initiatives are proposals made by advocacy groups that have gathered the required number of petition

State Ballot Measures

signatures. A measure placed on the ballot by a two-thirds vote of both houses of the legislature is called a referendum.

This explanation of the 2020 ballot measures was written by Todd Engdahl, whose company, Capitol Editorial Services, is a research business that provides services to lobbying firms and advocacy groups at the Colorado legislature. He's a former executive city editor of *The Denver Post*, launched *DenverPost.com* and was a co-founder of the website *Education News Colorado*.

Property Taxes

Amendment B - What it would do – This legislative measure proposes to repeal the 1982 Gallagher Amendment, which sets the rules for what shares of property taxes statewide are paid by homeowners and by business owners.

Context and history – If you think income tax rates and state-run enterprises are complicated, the Gallagher Amendment will seem really confusing. It originally was intended to control growth in residential property taxes by requiring that tax revenues from homes contribute only 45 percent of total property tax revenues while taxes from businesses contributed 55 percent. To maintain that ratio, assessment rates on homes could go up or down, depending on changes in the overall market value of homes compared to the values of business properties.

When TABOR came along a decade later, it upset Gallagher's balancing act. Specifically, TABOR seemed to dictate that if home assessment rates went down,

they never could go back up. (There are different interpretations of this, but that's too complicated to go into.) So the residential assessment rate has steadily declined, shifting more of the property tax burden to businesses and hurting local revenues for local governments that have little business property within their boundaries. Rural and small fire protection districts have been particularly hard hit. In the case of school districts, other constitutional and legal provisions require the state to cover losses in local revenues, so the Gallagher/TABOR squeeze has affected the state budget as well.

How it would work – If passed, this amendment would discard the 45-55 ratio between homes and businesses and allow the legislature to freeze the residential assessment rate at 7.15 percent and the commercial rate at 29 percent. (The assessment rate is the percentage of a property's actual value that is subject to tax.) This proposal also would allow the legislature to change assessment rates in the future. The plan would ease the tax pressure on businesses and provide some revenue relief for many local governments, like those fire districts. But, over time, taxes on homes probably would rise faster than they would have had Gallagher remained in place. (Even if the residential assessment rate drops, tax bills usually go up because of rising property values and voter-approved increases in local tax rates.)

Bingo Rules

Amendment C - What it would do – The initiative would make it easier for charitable organizations to get bingo and raffle licenses and to hire paid workers to run games.

Context and history – After working through the long list of emotional or complicated ballot measures, you may well wonder why you're being asked to vote on bingo rules. The answer is that in past eras, gambling of any kind was a tough issue, so gaming procedures were encased in the state constitution, not the regular law books. So changes require constitutional amendments, which need your vote.

How it would work – The amendment is being promoted as a way to help non-profits support themselves in tough times by lowering current barriers to running bingo and raffles. The legislature put this on the ballot. If passed, new charities would have to wait only three years instead of five to get a bingo license. And they could hire people to run and manage games, as long as those people weren't paid more than minimum wage. Currently only volunteer organization members can run games.

Voting Eligibility

Amendment 76 - What it would do – This proposal would change the state constitution to say "only a citizen" can vote.

Context and history – The amendment is being pushed by Citizen Voters, the Colorado arm of a (continued on page 8)

This ballot guide is posted at FrontPorchNE.com with links to the legislative analysis of Denver issues, a PDF of the Blue Book, and a link to a sample ballot for Denver voters.



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(continued from page 7) Florida-based conservative group that is trying to promote such changes in some other states. Some observers see this mostly as a ploy to draw additional conservative voters to the polls.

How it would work – On one level this seems to be merely a semantic change. The state constitution currently reads that “every citizen” can vote. But passage of the amendment also would roll back a recent law change that allows 17-year-olds to register and vote in primary elections if they will turn 18 before that year’s general election.

Betting Limits

Amendment 77 – What it would do – Passage of this amendment would allow voters in the three historic towns of Black Hawk, Central City and Cripple Creek to set betting limits and expand the types of games offered in the towns’ casinos.

Context and history – Colorado voters have faced a long series of gambling ballot measures since they first approved casino gambling in 1990. That initial constitutional amendment set strict limits on casino hours of operation, the types of games offered and the amounts that could be bet—the initial bet ceiling was only \$5. Those restrictions meant Colorado gambling had somewhat limited appeal, and the three towns and casino owners have long pushed

for changes. In 2008 voters approved an amendment that allowed voters in the three towns to decide if they wanted to approve 24/7 casino operation, addition of roulette and craps and a \$100 betting limit. As an effort to make that change more attractive to voters statewide, the plan directed some of the new revenue to community colleges. Town officials and casino owners are backing the 2020 proposal and by mid-September had raised nearly \$4 million for the campaign.

How it would work – The 2008 amendment didn’t generate as much additional revenue for community colleges, the three towns and their surrounding counties as backers had hoped, so Amendment 77 would basically allow town voters to set whatever bet limit they like and add new games without restriction. Because of the requirement for local elections, May 1, 2021, is the earliest changes could go into effect.

Tobacco Taxes

Proposition EE - What it would do – Passage of this proposal would increase state taxes on tobacco products and for the first time tax nicotine products such as electronic cigarettes.

Context and history – In 2004 voters passed an amendment that brought cigarette taxes to 84 cents a pack. (That’s pretty much

the only statewide tax increase approved by voters since TABOR was passed.) Most of that revenue is used by various health-related programs. In recent years lawmakers have been looking for ways to both squeeze more revenue out of tobacco taxes and to perhaps reduce teens’ use of new products like e-cigarettes. Colorado has one of the highest rates of teen vaping in the nation. Debate about the plan has been relatively low-key, although there’s been criticism of a last-minute legislative change in the proposal that sets a minimum price for a pack of cigarettes. That’s seen by some as discriminatory against discount cigarette sellers.

How it would work – If passed, the plan would raise cigarette taxes to \$2.64 a pack by 2027. Taxes on cigars, pipe and chewing tobacco would be raised to 62 percent of manufacturer’s list price from 40 percent. And levies on e-cigarettes, currently not taxed, would hit 62 percent of manufacturer’s price by 2027. The new taxes are estimated to raise \$177.1 million in 2021-22, with the revenues going to rural schools, preschools and tobacco education programs.

National Popular Vote

Proposition 113 - What it would do – This measure proposes to repeal a law passed by the 2019 legislature that affiliated Colorado with the National Popular Vote movement.

Context and history – National Popular Vote is a compact or agreement among about a dozen states that would require member states to award their Electoral College votes to the presidential candidate who wins the popular vote nationwide, regardless of the popular vote in an individual state. The movement is an effort to change the nation’s presidential voting system without amending the Constitution and to avoid the problem of the Electoral College result being different from the popular vote, as happened in 2016. While the issue isn’t strictly partisan, National Popular Vote tends to be supported by many Democratic officials and opposed by Republican ones. (States do have some flexibility in this. Maine and Nebraska award their electoral votes based on the popular vote winner in individual congressional districts.) Democrats won both houses of the Colorado legislature and the governor’s office in 2018, and in 2019 they passed a law joining National

State Ball

Popular Vote. Opponents of the proposal were way ahead in fund-raising as of mid-September.

How it would work – If this measure passes, nothing would change about Colorado’s presidential voting. Colorado’s electoral votes would go to the winner of the state’s popular vote, regardless of who won the national popular vote. Things are a little more complicated if the measure loses, because National Popular vote isn’t in effect. That won’t happen until states with a total of 270 electoral votes—the number needed to elect a president—ratify the compact. The group’s current members have a total of 187 electoral votes.

Wolf Introduction

Proposition 114 - What it would do – This change to state law would direct state wildlife officials to develop a plan for introducing and managing gray wolves on designated public lands west of the Continental Divide by the end of 2023.

Context and history – This is the latest episode in the decades-long debate over whether wildlife officials should actively expand wolf range in the West and whether gray wolves should have protection as an endangered or threatened species. Federal officials reintroduced wolves to Idaho, Montana and Yellowstone National Park in the 1990s. The issue divides environmental groups, who believe healthy ecosystems need a top predator like wolves, and livestock and ranching interests concerned about stock losses. Supporters of reintroduction were early leaders in fundraising. The issue has been complicated by the wolves themselves. Animals believed to have moved from Wyoming have been spotted in northwestern Colorado, raising the question of whether the state needs to reintroduce wolves, or whether they reintroduce themselves.


How it would work – If the measure passes, Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission would have to develop a reintroduction plan after holding public hearings and reintroduce wolves on designated public lands by Dec. 31, 2023. The state would have to compensate ranchers who lose livestock to wolves, and the measure would require the legislature to set aside funds for such compensation.

Abortion

Proposition 115 - What it would do – Under this plan, state law would prohibit abortion of fetuses after 22 weeks of gestational age.

Context and history – Coloradans have been faced with eight abortion ballot measures over the years, starting with a successful 1984 ban on use of public funding for most abortions. Voters also approved a 1998 measure to require parental notification when minor children seek abortions. But citizens have rejected proposed bans on partial-birth abortions, requiring notifications for women seeking abortions and multiple “personhood” proposals.

How it would work – Colorado is one




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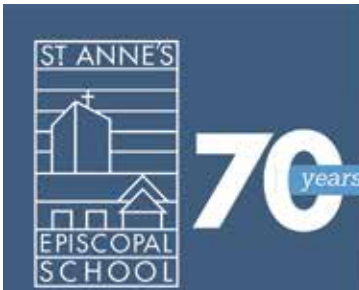
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ot Measures

of only a few states with no abortion time limit in law. The grass-roots supporters of the measure argue that 22 weeks is a reasonable limit. Local and national reproductive rights groups have rallied against the initiative and raised significant funding to campaign against it. If the proposal passes doctors who violate the law could be fined up to \$5,000 and have their medical licenses suspended. A woman who had a later abortion could not be charged with a crime. An abortion after 22 weeks would be allowed if a doctor determined the mother's life was in danger.

Tax Rates

Proposition 116 - What it would do – This proposal would set the state's flat income tax rate for individuals and businesses at 4.55 percent, down from the current 4.63 percent.

Context and history – Taxes are another issue that Colorado voters have seen on their November ballots many times since the Taxpayer's Bill of Rights (TABOR) was passed in 1992. That amendment required voter approval of all tax rate increases, set limits on annual growth of government spending and enacted several other complicated provisions that prompted a long list of other ballot measures, legislative actions and court rulings in the years that followed.

Despite TABOR's limits, state government spending has grown steadily in recent years, to the consternation of most Republicans and small government advocates. But Democrats and many advocacy groups believe Colorado doesn't raise enough revenue, pointing to statistics like low per-pupil school funding compared to most other states and to perennially tight funding for transportation.

This measure was sparked by GOP state

Sen. Jerry Sonnenberg of Sterling and the libertarian Independence Institute. It originally was proposed as a counter-measure to a tax rate increase being pushed by liberal and good-government groups. Those groups shelved their plan because of the difficulty of gathering sufficient signatures during the pandemic. To the consternation of most Democrats, Gov. Jared Polis has expressed some interest in the proposal, but not made a full endorsement. Opponents were ahead in early fundraising.

How it would work – Implementation of this measure would be simple; the Colorado Department of Revenue simply would collect taxes at a lower rate. By one estimate the change would reduce state revenues by \$158 million in the first year, with that amount rising in following years. That may not sound like a lot, but the pandemic hit state revenues hard, and the legislature had to cut about \$3 billion from state spending to balance the 2020-21 budget, and the decline in state revenues is expected to continue.

State Fees

Proposition 117 - What it would do – If passed this would require voter approval of state "enterprises" expected to produce \$100 million more in fees in their first five years of operation.

Context and history – To evaluate this measure, you have to dive back into the details of TABOR and its annual limits on increases in state spending. If tax revenues exceed an annual limit, the difference has to be refunded to taxpayers. But a lot of state revenue generated by fees or cash – think entrance fees to state parks and college tuition, among others – doesn't count against that TABOR limit if those fees support 90 percent or more of an agency's operations.

In recent years fiscal conservatives and Republicans have been skeptical of new fees pushed by Democrats, including transportation and hospital levies, and they argue those charges somehow violate the spirit of TABOR. Conservative groups such as Colorado Rising and Americans for Prosperity are

pushing this one.

How it would work – The mechanics of how this plan would be implemented if passed probably will have to be worked out by lawmakers and the courts. But the basic idea is that if a proposed new enterprise is projected to raise more than \$100 million in fee revenue in its first five years, creation of the enterprise would have to be approved by voters at a statewide general election. Fiscal implications are hard to gauge at this point.

Family Leave

Proposition 118 - What it would do – The initiative proposes creation of a state-run family and medical leave benefit that would provide up to \$1,100 a week for 12 weeks (or 16 weeks in some cases).

Context and history – In recent years legislative Democrats have made middle-class economic security a major policy priority. The centerpiece of that effort has been creation of a statewide family and medical leave that would pay benefits to people who have to take time off from work for health reasons, to care for other family members or to deal with other family challenges.

That idea hasn't gotten off the ground at the Capitol because of disagreements over structure and funding. And the pandemic-related hits to the economy and state revenues made legislative action a no-go this year. So, the liberal and family-advocacy groups behind the idea decided to take it to the ballot. Conservative advocacy groups generally oppose the idea. Significant amounts of out-of-state money have been raised in support of the measure.

How it would work – The state Department of Labor and Employment would administer the leave program, which would be funded by a payroll tax. That tax would be shared equally by employers and employees, and for 2023 and 2024 the total tax would be .45 percent of a worker's salary. That could rise in subsequent years under a formula based on total contributions, claims and administrative costs. Employers with 10 or fewer workers would be exempt from paying. Payments would be made on a sliding scale of from 50 to 90 percent of a worker's wages, up to \$1,100 per week. Benefits would extend to 16 weeks for pregnancy or childbirth complications.

Denver Ballot Measures

The Denver voters this fall will have to decide if they want to raise both sales and property taxes during a time of economic uncertainty and where they stand in a showdown over the balance of mayoral and city council powers.

On taxes, the Denver City Council has proposed two sales tax increases to fund efforts to respond to climate change and to reduce homelessness. If both measures pass you'll pay a nickel more in sales taxes on a \$10 purchase, on top of the 83 cents you already pay. Initial revenue from the increases is estimated at more than \$75 million a year.

The Denver Board of Education is asking voters to approve two property tax measures that are projected to raise total revenues of \$827 million. The cost would be about \$50 more a year in property taxes for the owner of a median-priced home.

On the political front, the city council, which has become both more progressive and assertive over the last couple of election cycles, has teed up five ballot measures designed to give it more power.

Also this election, voters will decide whether to repeal the city's decades-old ban on owning pit bulls.

Citizens and interest groups had no direct hand in placing this year's 12 measures on Denver ballots; it was all the work of the council and school board.

Climate Change Funding

Referred Measure 2A - What it would do – Passage of this measure would increase city sales and use taxes by .25 percent, with the revenue going into a Climate Protection Fund. It's estimated to raise \$36 million a year. Advocates say at least \$200 million a year is needed.

Context and history – This proposal is in line with the council's (continued on p. 10)

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(continued from page 9)

progressive tilt and the City’s overall efforts to reduce automobile usage and promote other environmental protection measures. The current total sales taxes paid on purchases within the city is 8.31 percent, of which 4.31 percent is levied by Denver and the rest by the state, RTD and the Scientific and Cultural Facilities District. This and the homeless tax would raise the grand total Denver rate to 8.81 percent, 5 cents more on every \$10 of spending.

How it would work – The measure lists a long but somewhat vague set of allowed uses for the money, including workforce training in renewable energy fields, increased investments in renewable energy technology, neighborhood-based “environmental and climate justice programs,” programs intended to help communities adapt to climate change, providing alternative transportation opportunities and upgrading home and office energy efficiency. The proposal also specifies the funding should “maximize investments in communities of color, under resourced communities, and communities most vulnerable to climate change.”

Homeless Tax

Referred Measure 2B - What it would do – If passed this measure would increase city sales taxes by .25 percent and use the revenue for housing and services for people experiencing or having exited homelessness. It would raise an estimated \$40 million a year.

Context and history – Homelessness has been a top Denver issue for nearly two decades. Growth of homelessness and outdoor camping during the pandemic have highlighted the issue recently. The City estimates there are 4,000 people experiencing homelessness, up 6 percent from 2019. Business groups estimated last year that the city already spends \$50 million on the problem and that charitable and other groups spend an additional \$90 million.

How it would work – The revenue would go into a Homelessness Resolution Fund and would be spent on such services as new or renovated housing, rental assistance, or supportive services and new or existing shelter capacity and services.

Hiring Professional Svcs.

Referred Measure 2C – What it would do – This measure would allow the council to hire consultants, lawyers, investigators and other outside professionals to conduct investigations or do other work.

Context and history – This is the first of the 2020 measures that seeks to expand council powers at the expense of the mayor. Currently the council needs the mayor’s permission to hire such outside expertise. This was partly sparked by a mayor-council dispute over hiring outside experts to investigate renovation work at Denver International Airport.

City government doesn’t have the equal executive, legislative and judicial branches that characterize state and federal government. The city charter, reflecting “good government” philosophies from the early 20th century, sets up a strong mayor system that puts the council in a subordinate position.

How it would work – There are no complicated procedures here; the council could just do it.

Transportation Advisory Bd.

Referred Measure 2D - What it would do – This charter amendment would create an appointed, unpaid 19-member advisory board to review the work and budget of the city’s Department of Transportation and Infrastructure.

Context and history – Some city leaders want to take a broader, more assertive role on transportation issues, which traditionally have been more the responsibility of the state and the Regional Transportation District. Voters approved part of that shift

last year when they approved a measure converting the old Department of Public Works in the transportation and infrastructure agency. This also is part of the council’s bid for more powers, because 13 of the advisory group’s members would be appointed by council.

How it would work – Each council member would nominate a board member from his or her district. The mayor would appoint the other six members. The board would “advise” the council on department operations and review its proposed annual budget.

Mayoral Appointments

Referred Measure 2E - What it would do – This proposal would amend the city charter to give city council the authority to consent to certain mayoral appointments. Includes the managers of transportation and infrastructure, parks and recreation, finance, safety, excise and licenses, general services, human services, aviation, public health and environment, and community planning and development, plus the city attorney, sheriff, police chief and fire chief.

Context and history – Council dissatisfaction with scandals in the sheriff’s office, plus criticism of how the police handled protests last spring, are part of the impetus behind this proposal. But this also is part of council larger effort to gain more power.

How it would work – The council would have 30 days to consider mayoral nominees. If the council rejected a nominee by a majority vote, the mayor would have to nominate someone else.

Council Meetings

Referred Measure 2F - What it would do – This charter amendment would give the council more flexibility in scheduling its meetings.

Context and history – The city charter requires the full council to meet in per-

Denver Ballot

son every Monday. That requirement made meeting difficult during the COVID-19 crisis and when Black Lives Matter protesters disrupted meetings.

How it would work – The council would set its meeting schedule by city ordinance, making the schedule easier to change when circumstances required.

Council Budget Authority

Referred Measure 2G - What it would do – This change would allow the council to make budget changes during the middle of the fiscal year.

Context and history – The council currently considers and approves the City’s annual budget but cannot make changes after that. Management of the budget is up to executive branch departments.

How it would work – The measure basically would allow council to spend new and excess revenue and transfer unspent balances.

Municipal Broadband

Referred Measure 2H - What it would do – Passage of this proposal would allow the city to offer or contract for broadband and other telecommunications services.

Context and history – A law passed by the state legislature in 2005 basically banned local governments from offering broadband and other services, thereby protecting the private businesses like Comcast that hold franchises. But the law allows cities to opt out of that ban by public vote. More than 100 Colorado jurisdictions have opted out, but none have yet taken major steps like creating city broadband.

How it would work – Passage of this would not make any changes in the availability or cost of broadband or cable services. As the council resolution put it, approval would be “an important step forward to position the City and County of Denver to explore

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a variety of possible opportunities ... to partner with public or private organizations to enhance the availability and affordability of high-speed Internet.”

Clerk's Appointees

Referred Measure 21 - What it would do – Passage would give the city clerk and recorder more flexibility in appointing senior deputies.

Context and history – Under a 2018 ballot measure, the clerk can appoint a deputy and two additional top aides.

How it would work – This proposal would allow the clerk to appoint two additional top aides and remove the requirement that a specific director of elections be appointed. Clerk Paul Lopez, a former council member, asked for the change.

Pit Bull Ban

Referred Measure 2J - What it would do – This proposal would modify the city ban on ownership of pit bulls and allow having the dogs with certain conditions.

Context and history – The city passed a pit bull ban in 1989 after some highly publicized attacks on people. Other cities around the state and nation passed similar bans. Since then veterinary and other studies have questioned whether pit bulls are more dangerous than other breeds.

How it would work – Pit bull owners will have to apply for permits for up to two dogs. Dogs that have “clean” records for three years could be registered with the city like any other breed.

DPS Ballot Measures

DPS Operational Funds

Referred Measure 4A – What it would do – Authorize an additional mill levy to raise \$32 million.

What it would pay for – What’s called the “Debt Free Schools” measure would provide \$15 mil-

Two Former Colorado Senators Call for A “Citizens’ Firewall” to Resist Threats to the Election

By Martina Will, PhD

Asked what he sees as the biggest threat to the presidential election, former U.S. Representative and Senator for Colorado Tim Wirth responds: “Trump has an absolute deep fear of the word ‘loser,’ and that drives him to do almost anything to stay in office.”

Wirth grew up near 12th and Leyden, when the Mayfair neighborhood was still surrounded by prairie. Much of his adult life, however, he has represented Coloradans in Washington, D.C. He and former Colorado Sen. Gary Hart have been sounding the alarm bells for months about what they see as the president’s very real threat to our democracy. Their website, KeepOurRepublic.com, shares a selection of the opinion pieces they have published in *Newsweek*, the *Boston Globe* and elsewhere this year.

Threat to Voting

“Colorado has a superb system,” says Wirth. But he is concerned that “the president, by continuing to harp on voter fraud, is only making the American public lose faith in our democratic process. We’ve had success in pulling off elections for 230 years and we can do this one as well. But it’s very hard to do when you’re swimming upstream against a president who clearly doesn’t believe in the norms

lion for employee salaries, \$3 million for counseling services, \$4 million for nursing and \$2 million for special education.

Taxpayer cost – The plan is projected to cost about \$51 annually for owners of a Denver home valued at the median of \$465,000.

DPS Bond Issue

Referred Measure 4B - What it would do – Authorize \$795 million in bond debt.

What it would pay for – A long list of projects would be funded, including \$208 million in updates and maintenance, \$65 million to increase capacity in some schools, \$128.5 million for air conditioning, \$130 million for rebuilding Montbello High School, \$65 million for technology and \$31.7 million in flexible funding for individual schools

Taxpayer cost – The measure authorizes extension of existing debt so will not increase property taxes.

of our democratic society.” Wirth adds, “That’s not the role of a leader, to try to scare people.”

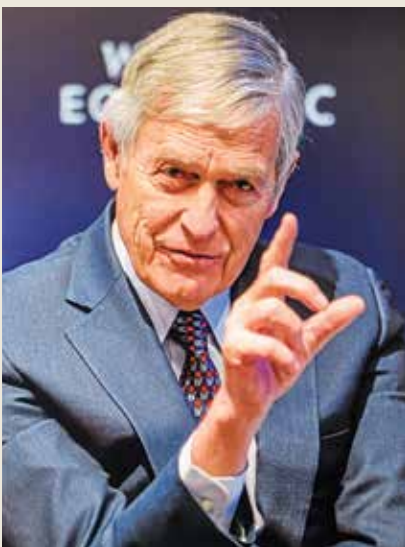
In addition to the president’s troubling rhetoric, Wirth notes that the administration said that it will have 30,000 poll watchers on election day. “I can’t imagine that those poll watchers are being hired to help little old ladies across the street. I’m very worried that there are going to be hundreds if not thousands of people out there trying to suppress the vote.”

Threat of Violence

As numerous commentators have shared in different media outlets, the higher proportion of mail-in ballots expected this election due to Covid means it could take weeks to get election results. Wirth predicts “a stormy election time this fall.” Though he believes things will remain peaceful through Election Day, he seems less sure of the period after Nov. 3, as ballots are counted. “I think there’s every indication that the president’s going to challenge a lot of the results in a number of states and will attempt to disrupt the process of the Electoral College. And a lot of his supporters will be supportive of his illegal position and his wrong position and he’s stimulating them—as we saw in Wisconsin—to move to violence. It’s going to be a dangerous situation.”

Threat of Emergency Powers

Equally concerning for many is the possibility that the president could invoke emergency powers (as he has done several times already), to attempt to remain in office. Elizabeth Goitein, writing for the Brennan Center for Justice, says the National Emergencies Act “authorizes the president to declare a national emergency, which in turn gives him access to special powers set forth in more than 100 other provisions. Some of these powers seem more suited to a dictatorship than a democracy, like the authority to



Sen. Tim Wirth served as a U.S. Representative and Senator for Colorado from 1975 to 1990. He subsequently served as President of the United Nations Foundation. Photo from https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Moderator_Timothy_E._Wirth_-_World_Economic_Forum_Annual_Meeting_2011.jpg

shut down communications systems, freeze Americans’ bank accounts and lend armed forces to other nations.” Surprised? You’re not alone.

“I think it’s still a surprise; most people do not know anything about these emergency powers. The Congress has never had hearings on them.” Wirth says Congress has “abdicated its authority” and “is failing as a coequal branch of government.” He hopes this will change. “It’s one of the things that the Congress has to attend to starting in 2021, to really illuminate these emergency powers and where do they

come from, why do they exist, and which ones are appropriate and which ones are deeply unconstitutional.”

The Citizens’ Firewall

When asked what gives him hope, Wirth says he feels optimistic that people are slowly becoming aware of the looming dangers to our democracy. When he and Sen. Hart began speaking out about the threats to the republic a few months ago, people thought they were exaggerating. Now, however, more and more voices are joining theirs.

Our Founding Fathers knew how fragile and tenuous a republican form of government was, and emphasized the need for

civic virtue and engagement to safeguard it. Vigilance remains essential. “I think it’s going to be a very close election, and that means that we really have to insist on the alertness and advocacy and understanding of millions and millions of Americans— what we would call a ‘citizens’ firewall.’ This has to be citizens at all levels of government, state and local officials, and political people and business people and civic groups have got to be prepared for what may be coming, and be extraordinarily patient during the days and weeks following November 3rd to insist the election be fully counted and to resist all of those who are trying to deny the democratic process.”

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Back to School

(continued from page 5) across the two delivery methods. He communicated to parents that because of McAuliffe’s seamless approach to the two learning systems, students could opt for remote learning one day and in-person learning the next.

DPS high schools are finding it just as challenging to offer live instruction while staying within Denver Health and district guidelines. The return to school will likely feel anticlimactic to teachers and students alike. Northfield High School Principal Amy Bringedahl says “We have not given up on bringing students back but we are simply still working through multiple scenarios. Any return will be a phased-in return.” With 1,250 students and 1,250 complex schedules tailored to students’ different interests and needs, as well as a percentage of teachers who will be teaching 100% remote, the challenges are extensive.


Like McAuliffe, Northfield is focusing on maximizing consistency for teachers and students across first and second quarters. Northfield shared a communication to parents on September 22 noting that “Students who elect in-person learning will have the opportunity to come to Northfield to receive support with their academic learning, but teacher instruction will continue to be conducted virtually, as this provides us with the most consistency and reliability if students do get sick.” Northfield has extended its deadline to change one’s learning delivery option to October 14, and Bringedahl says almost 30% of Northfield students had elected to remain 100% remote.

Staggered school schedules (start and end times will vary by grade level at McAuliffe and Northfield is still weighing its options) temperature checks, closed campuses, and no bright orange school buses are among the many changes all families will need to adjust to as part of pandemic learning.

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I review one show this month, and what a show it is.

Challenger: The Final Flight (Netflix)

There are a few defining moments throughout history that tend to coalesce a generation around a shared experience, serve as a visceral and temporal marker, and whittle away any sense of innocence we may have left about the world. The bombing of Pearl Harbor and the assassinations of JFK and MLK were such formative events. For the following generation, and for this writer, it was the Challenger explosion. A new documentary series detailing the disaster, as well as the events

leading up to and after the explosion, explores the tragedy in personal as well as political terms. Executive Produced by Bad Robot (a J.J. Abrams company) and co-directed by Steve Leckart and Academy Award-winner Daniel Junge (a former Denverite), the show hits all the right notes as we re-live the worst moment of a generation.

As the series tells us, the space shuttle program was conceived in the 70s as a follow-up to the highly successful and energizing Apollo program for NASA. While Russia beat the Americans to space, the U.S. successfully landed men on the moon and raced far ahead. It was a technological as well as a sociological win for the country in the middle of the Cold War. The U.S. won. But then there was Vietnam, Watergate, the Iran hostage crisis, and a terrible recession throughout the 70s. As one of the Challenger astronauts states in the series, “The U.S. needed something to feel good about.” Enter the space shuttle, billed as the greatest technological feat in history and one that would move NASA forward in giant steps and leaps. It would once again send Americans into space, it was reusable, and it would microwave the



burgeoning communication satellite business. It was beautiful to watch.

The program was rife with problems from the start, however, as the show details. One of the reporters on the NASA beat notes that everyone thought NASA was infallible, and while there have been accidents in the past (the Apollo 1 fire that killed three men, for example), most disasters had been narrowly averted (Apollo 13). They knew that every mission still hung by a thread and there was as much we didn’t know as we did. Yet NASA forged ahead, and they also engaged in a diversity campaign that brought women and people of color into the program. On that fatal flight in 1986, they even added a civilian,

New Hampshire teacher Christa McAuliffe, to the crew. The show notes how after six years of missions, the public had lost interest in the program. NASA’s solution: send up a teacher.

We all know how the story ends (ice, O-rings, bad decisions), but the beauty of the show is in the presentation. It creates an ethos through its meticulous background research, it gives us the historical timeline of the shuttle program as well as the Challenger events in particular, and the pathos comes from the personal stories of the people involved. And what stories they are. We all remember McAuliffe, but seven brilliant souls were lost that day. As President Reagan famously said at the time, “They slipped the

surly bonds of Earth to touch the face of God.” Leckart and Junge give us a story that protects that legacy and allows us to re-see the events through the protective walls of our personal and collective histories. And yet, even through all that wreckage, the story breaks through.

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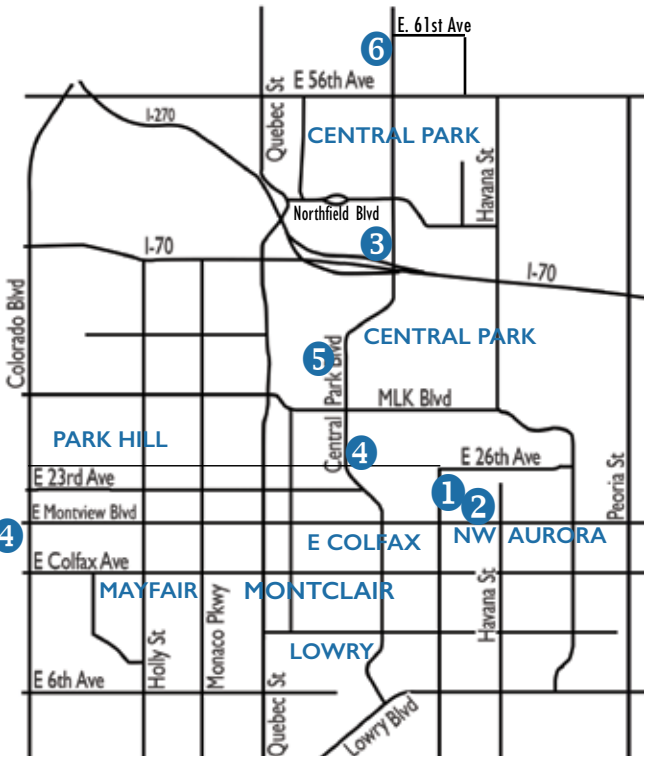






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...NE News Updates



By Carol Roberts and Martina Will, PhD

1 Day of the Dead—Celebrate Nov. 2 at Stanley

Days of the Dead, an annual holiday in Mexico on Nov. 1 and 2, is a celebration of the lives of those who have died. Incorporating Mexico (“Aztec”) and medieval Catholic traditions, (coinciding with All Saints’ Day and All Souls’ Day), festivities include creating altars displaying favorite foods, flowers and photos of the dead. At the free family event at Stanley Marketplace on Nov. 2 from 4:30 to 6:30pm, visitors will find a large altar in the community area by the southeast entrance, along with music, dancing, a pumpkin patch and additional altars throughout the building. The event is sponsored by the Village Exchange Center, in partnership with the City of Aurora Office of International and Immigrant Affairs, Stanley Marketplace, and Amigos de México. <https://www.stanleymarketplace.com/happenings/day-of-the-dead-family-celebration>

2 Beer Garden on Dayton to Open by Late Nov.

After almost three years of planning, the Beer Garden at 2323 Dayton in NW Aurora is expected to open by the end of November. The former VFW Hall turned restaurant/ outdoor entertainment center will fill the large (18,000 sq. ft.) lot adjoining it with an outdoor beer garden, family play area with tetherball, corn hole, connect four and other family-friendly activities. Beyond the family activity area will be three sand volleyball courts and two bocce ball courts. The 2,500 sq. ft. restaurant will serve quality food you like to eat—pizza, tacos, burgers, salads—at a reasonable price, says the owner. Accommodating the flexible schedules of kids on remote learning who need to get outside in a safe setting, two-hour blocks of mid-day time will be reserved for parents to enjoy a meal and let their kids act like kids in the large outdoor fenced area.

3 In-N-Out Burger at CPB and 46th?

Evergreen Devco, which developed the Eastbridge and Beeler Park Town Centers in Central Park, is under contract to purchase undeveloped land at Central Park Blvd. and E. 46th Ave., along with additional surrounding land. Executive Vice President Tyler Carlson confirmed that much information by email, but wrote “due to confidentiality agreements there’s not much more I can share beyond what I shared in the BusinessDen article. Give me a couple more months and we should be able to share more!”

TheBusinessDen article stated that an early stage development proposal had been submitted to the City of Denver with no business name listed. Carlson’s quote in BusinessDen said their plans for this development, to be called Runway 35 North, include “an exciting mix of sit-down and quick-service restaurants, hospitality, entertainment, automotive, medical, and educational and institutional uses.” (<https://businessden.com/2020/09/10/in-n-out-cooks-up-first-location-within-denver-city-limits/>).

4 High-Comfort Bike Lanes in NE

In the summer of 2019 community meetings were held to get feedback from neighbors and cyclists on a proposed high-comfort bike lane from Montview to E. 36th Ave. on Central Park Blvd., to offer safer cycling access to the Central Park Rail Station. In response to our request for an update on when those lanes will be built, Public Information Officer Heather Burke replied by email, “We’re anticipating beginning construction next year on the high comfort bikeway on Central Park Blvd. and aiming for an early 2021 completion, weather permitting. This bike lane will use rubber curbs and bollards for separation.”

A similar project is planned for City Park Esplanade. “Construction is anticipated to begin on the City Park Esplanade high comfort bikeway in Summer 2021. This bike lane will have concrete curbs to separate bikes from vehicles.”

5 Sprouts Opens

Sprouts, one of the fastest growing retailers in the U.S. this year with more than 20 new stores, has opened at Central Park Blvd and 36th Ave. in Central Park (Stapleton). With more people cooking at home these days, there is a greater demand for healthier food—and Sprouts’ focus is on fresh and healthy, says Kalia Pang, spokesperson for Sprouts. Though Sprouts is seeing “less traffic” in their stores, sales volume is up. “People are cutting their number of trips, but



Front Porch photo by Christie Gosch

Neighbors first learned in June 2017 that Sprouts, with its focus on fresh foods and supplements, would be coming to Central Park. After a 3-year wait, the doors finally opened on August 19. Store manager Khadija El Ansari is pictured.

baskets are fuller,” says Pang. The Central Park store hired 110 new team members who are happy to share their personal passion and knowledge about food and health products with shoppers, says Pang. Visit the Sprouts Central Park store’s website at: <https://www.sprouts.com/store/co/stapleton/central-park-blvd/>

6 MLS To Return to Dick’s Sporting Goods Park

Colorado Rapids and Dick’s Sporting Goods Park officials have received approval to have games with 1,165 fans (6% of capacity). Fans will enter in designated entrances and sit in designated sections with restrooms and concessions designated for that group. Masks will be required. The state will study the impact of using this approach to determine future policies. The schedule for these games has not yet been released.

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City Park Golf Course Tees Off



The expansive windows of the 11,315 sq. ft. clubhouse offer panoramic westerly views of downtown Denver and the mountains. Within the clubhouse are a host of services, including a restaurant and bar, a full catering kitchen, a pro shop, offices, conference rooms, and programming spaces available for community events and private parties up to 200 people. The 10,840 square foot basement stores 80 golf carts and electrical chargers, wash stations and maintenance services.

Front Porch photos by Christie Gosch



The dining room area, which can seat up to 144 people, features floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking a patio that can accommodate 50. Sustainability elements of the clubhouse include use of solar energy and locally sourced materials.



Denver Mayor Michael B. Hancock and other city officials celebrated the completion of the new City Park Golf Course at a Sneak Peak event on Aug. 20. The view from the clubhouse patio looks out on the 135-acre golf course and a spectacular view of the Denver skyline.

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By Martina Will, PhD

Denver’s historic City Park Golf Course reopened September 1 after years of major work and considerable controversy that spanned petitions, protests and even a lawsuit over the now-completed changes. The new course includes both an 18-hole course and a full-size driving range, along with a new clubhouse and deck, and a dedicated four-hole course for the popular youth program, The First Tee of Denver.

Media accounts and public documents suggest that when the project began in 2016, no one seemed to argue with the proposal to update the course and add modern facilities. The proposed stormwater detention pond, however, raised concerns from many entities. City Park Friends and Neighbors (CPFAN) and Historic Denver are among the groups that voiced their opposition in letters, op-eds, community meetings, and even a lawsuit.

Current CPFAN president Georgia Garnsey says she is happy to see the project’s completion, but still feels the City was disingenuous in their reasons for its undertaking. “We understood from City documents that they initiated the stormwater detention project primarily to satisfy federal requirements of

the I-70 expansion and to provide stormwater flooding protection for the Western Stock Show and the Corridor of Opportunity real estate developments. Protecting the neighborhoods surrounding the course from flooding was secondary, with minimal benefits.”

Nancy Kuhn, Director of Public Information for Denver’s Department of Transportation and Infrastructure (DOTI) refutes this idea, as does Sam Stevens, an engineer with DOTI’s Infrastructure Project Management. “The Montclair Basin is really the largest drainage basin within the city of Denver without a big drainage channel. The majority of our pipes were built over a hundred years ago, so we don’t have really any way to move flood waters from this basin into the South Platte River where they belong. As the community built up, they forgot about the natural channels that were in this basin and just developed on top of them, so we do have significant flooding in the space and historically the streets flood, and the pipes only have capacity for a five-year flood,” Stevens says.

“First and foremost, this was

a stormwater management project. By using this golf course where the water was already naturally collecting we were able to avoid having to try to solve this problem by trying to obtain private property,” says Kuhn. Regrading the golf course, she says, allows it to capture more water and manage the flow.

Though Garnsey appreciates that the golf course looks more interesting now, she worries about the environmental impact of removing mature trees in a City that’s short of green spaces and canopy. “I feel sorrow when I go by,” she says, “a soft sorrow for the fact that I believe it wasn’t done for the right reasons.”

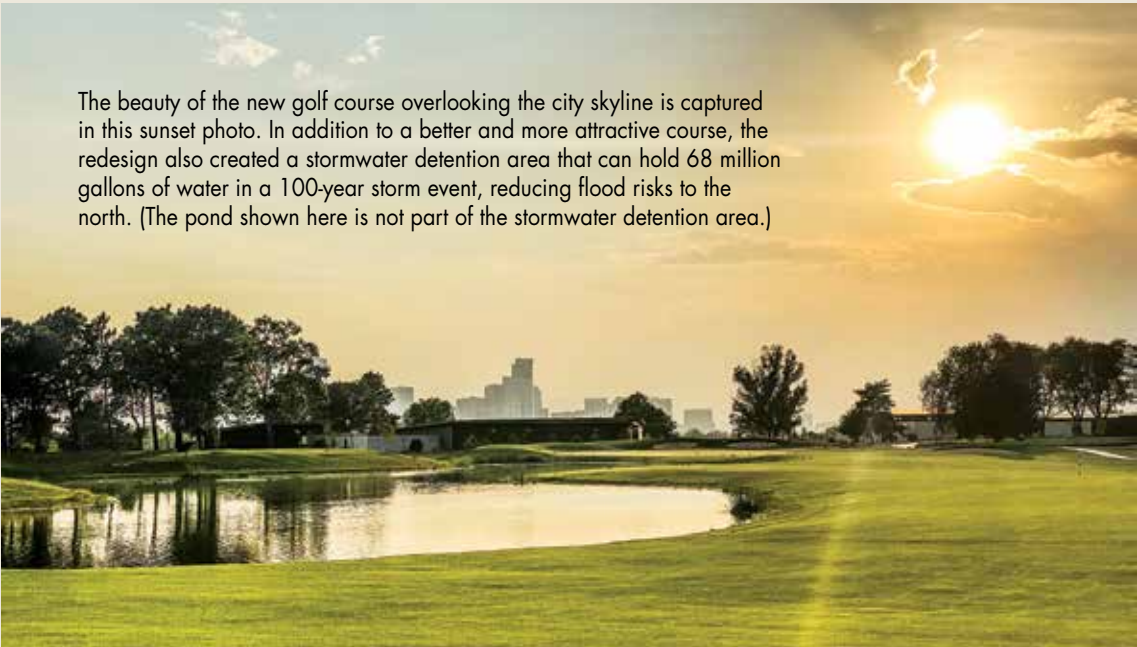
City Golf Director Scott Rethlake says the 256 trees removed for this project dated to the 1960s. “We take about 25-40 trees each year due to their age, or health and safety concerns. This project actually gave us a really good opportunity to do succession planning with the trees.” The City planted about 760 saplings, ensuring that as older trees age out, these saplings will be mature, healthy trees forming an even larger canopy than before. Rethlake says the City will again apply for the golf course’s certification as an Audubon International (AI) sanctuary (the status is not based on

birds, as the Audubon name implies, but on environmental planning, chemical use reduction and other components). He expects AI will renew in 2021.

Scottish immigrant Thomas Bendelow designed the original course, which dated to 1913. Bendelow, “The Johnny Appleseed of American golf,” designed over 600 courses nationwide, and the Denver course is one of only two on the National Register of Historic Places according to The Cultural Landscape Foundation.

Rethlake admits “it is not a Tom Bendelow design anymore,” but says “what was in the historic registry were its park-like feel and the viewsheds, a grove of trees, and things like that. We did protect those things that were in the historic registry.” National and State Register Historian Jason O’Brien with History Colorado affirms this; the Bendelow design was not germane to the golf course’s inclusion on the historic registry, and the course remains part of the Denver Park and Parkway System’s historic designation.

Though open to the public, social distancing and new grass mean limited rounds for now. Once the grass is well-established, the City will remove the perimeter fencing, offer expanded play, and permit golf carts.



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