



Eiberhood News

This newsletter is written by the Eiber Neighborhood Association.

Volume 4, Issue 2

Summer 2007

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THREE IMPORTANT MEETINGS FOR EIBER NEIGHBORHOOD

Mark your calendar!

- *If you live along or near the light rail corridor, will you be without electricity, phone, or water when those utilities get moved? Will your street be closed?*
- *Can you envision what RTD's proposed 7.5' noise wall would look like?*
- *Who are the candidates for City Council? for Mayor of Lakewood? What is their background? What do they want to accomplish?*

You are invited to participate actively in the following informative meetings and get your questions answered.

• UTILITY MEETING – September 13

Who? Experts from RTD, Xcel Energy, Qwest, Comcast, Consolidated Mutual, and the City

What? They will tell us about the plans to relocate utilities along and near the 13th Avenue Corridor, in preparation for building light rail. Some of the work has already started; it will continue through spring 2008. Will your home be affected? Will the streets you use be closed?

When and Where? 7 p.m., Thursday, September 13
Lakewood United Methodist Church, 14th & Brentwood Street

Ask Your Questions. We'll have an hour for your individual questions.

• WHAT NOISE WALLS WILL LOOK LIKE – September 20

RTD has proposed 6' high noise walls, on top of 18" ballast walls for most residential areas in the Eiber Neighborhood. Groups of affected owners can opt out. If you would like help visualizing what the noise walls would look like in our neighborhood, come see a DVD presentation prepared by a research team for the City, and for our use.

When and Where: Eiberhood Board Meeting
7 p.m., Thursday, September 20
Lakewood United Methodist Church, 14th & Brentwood Street

• CANDIDATES MEETING – September 27

All the candidates for mayor and for City Council Wards 1 & 2 are invited to present their qualifications, their views and their goals for Lakewood's governance for the next four years. There will be time for questions and answers.

When and Where: 7 p.m., Thursday, September 27
Lakewood United Methodist Church, 14th & Brentwood Street

The following people had indicated their interest in running for office before our newsletter deadline:

MAYOR

Rita Bertolli
Bob Murphy
Jack O'Dell
Linda Delay

CITY COUNCIL WARD 1

Fred Clifford
Karen Kellen

CITY COUNCIL WARD 2

Cynthia Baroway
John Harris

COMING SOON...Eiber on the Web! A priority the Eiber Board is pursuing is a website to share information in a timely manner with the neighborhood--Board minutes, RTD updates, real estate statistics, crime & safety information, adopt neighbor facilitation, and other important details. We hope to provide a venue to better communicate and facilitate discussion between the board and our neighbors! Watch for more information coming to you soon on this important new communication tool!

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PRESIDENT'S CORNER.....

Greetings Eiber Neighbors! Summer is coming to an end, school is back in session, and the neighborhood is in the middle of many changes. The Lakewood High School renovation is largely completed and the neighborhood can take great pride in the school. The building now matches the performance of its students, and will be a great help to them in achieving their life goals.

The RTD light rail project is at its 65% design milestone...for the second time. This project continues to be a concern to us and recent events and disclosures— such as the RTD sound wall policy, bike path development, etc. — threaten to divide the neighborhood; not just physically, but socially as well—something RTD promised would not happen. Eiberhood continues to be involved and desires an outcome that residents of the neighborhood can feel comfortable with. We recognize there are conflicting issues and are sincerely concerned about preserving the features of this neighborhood that we enjoy. We're looking for solutions that are win-win for everyone, to no one's exclusion — a tall order, but nonetheless our objective.

With light rail come related changes to the neighborhood. The city has approved rezoning of areas around the Wadsworth and Oak stations to accommodate a renewed growth. Some of this will impact established properties. It is our hope that city planners and the community will work together to preserve what is valuable and still foster responsible redevelopment.

As noted elsewhere in this newsletter, Wadsworth improvements are being considered by CDOT. This provides

opportunity as well and will hopefully mesh with the development of the light rail station at Wadsworth. If you haven't seen it yet, there is an impressive model of the Wadsworth station developed by the city of a gateway feature into North Lakewood—a real improvement over the Spartan, utilitarian RTD design. City planners have also developed a 3-D simulation of sound walls along 13th Ave with the light rail. It is eye-opening. We will try to have it available at a future meeting and have asked the city to provide a kiosk at city hall, which they are considering. Please contact an Eiberhood board member for more details about how to view these models.

With all this change, it should be kept in mind that change is not localized to just the immediate area. Lakewood High School will attract families which should improve property values for the entire neighborhood, not just the few blocks around the school. Similarly, light rail may benefit some and impact others in the immediate area around the project, but the effects — good and bad — will be felt by the entire neighborhood. If traffic gets snarled around the Wadsworth station, 10th Avenue and Garrison will both see increase in traffic and noise. If noise and other problems along the rail line become too much to bear, good neighbors will be lost and replaced by some who might not be as committed to keeping a decent property. Property values falling anywhere in the neighborhood will affect everyone's value, not just next door. For these reasons, it should be everyone's concern how the RTD project is managed.

There is so much more happening in our neighborhood than can be put in this newsletter. We are working on a web site that will be able to provide much more information. Stay tuned for news of its development. We thank those who have contributed to this newsletter with donations. Also, please express your appreciation to our advertisers. We are gratified that you see value in this newsletter and the efforts of our organization. We are in the process of applying for non-profit status which will help in generating revenue in the form of tax free contributions and will open up other cost saving opportunities for our outreach. Thank you!

Coming Together in Eiber....

This summer has been a busy one, but around 20 neighbors took time on a hot July afternoon to attend the Garrison Street ice cream social (sponsored by Safeway) in Holbrook Park. We shared information about RTD's progress with FasTracks, talked about traffic on Garrison, brainstormed things we would like to see happen in the area, and in general enjoyed meeting some of our neighbors! Look for more events like this on a larger scale coming to Eiber over the next year!

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U.S. 6 & Wadsworth – New Intersection Planning

The Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) has started collecting baseline data for future improvements to the interchange of US 6 and Wadsworth Blvd and Wadsworth Blvd from 3rd to 13th Avenues. The first public meeting, on August 21, was designed to hear the public's vision for the interchange and views on the issues to be included in the study. This Environmental Assessment is scheduled for completion in late 2008 or early 2009 and will include more public meetings. To receive invitations to the meetings, or receive updates by e-mail, or schedule an informational meeting for a local organization, call Colleen Kirby Roberts at CH2MHill, 303.573.5385, ext. 205, or visit www.US6Wadsworth.com.

Neighborhood Wish List

Ever wondered if a speed bump or an 'active' speed limit sign could be added to your street, how about sidewalks or a park enhancement? Your Eiberhood Board has a long wish list of improvement projects gathered over the years and we hope to fund a few! The City is offering up to \$100,000 in grants to through the Neighborhood Participation Program. Eiber will submit applications for a variety of projects before the September deadline. The projects must be on public property and must benefit the neighborhood. The applications are evaluated based on health and safety, neighborhood support, maintenance requirements, and compliance with the Lakewood Comprehensive Plan. This is the first time in five years this program has been offered due to constraints in the past City budget. Email Beth Wicht at swisneski0163@msn.com with your ideas or questions. We will report on the specific submissions and the outcome of our efforts in a future Eiberhood newsletter!



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www.conservationconstruction.com
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Does Your Best Friend have a License Yet?

Eiberhood is filled with homes with large yards –perfect for dogs and there are hundreds of them happily living in Eiber today. Though Jefferson County has had a dog licensing program since 1994, it has recently been expanded. Starting July 1, 2007 a mandatory dog licensing program is in place county wide INCLUDING Lakewood. The process is easy – simply go on line and download the form at <http://animalcontrol.jeffco.us>, fill it out and send in the required fee (altered dogs are \$15 while unaltered are \$30). The form must be verified by a veterinarian to vouch for the rabies vaccination records and the alteration status. Mail in the completed form and you will receive the dog license in the mail in a week or so. Alternatively, you may take the completed form to Jefferson County Sheriff's office (Animal Control Division) and Table Mountain Animal Center. The program is designed to reduce the number of unwanted dogs by encouraging spaying/neutering, ensure dogs have their rabies shots, help return lost dogs and track dangerous or aggressive dogs. Part of the proceeds from the licensing fee will support Table Mountain Animal Center! Studies have shown that communities with dog licensing program minimize their impound rate at local shelters by up to 20% a year! Help us continue to showcase Eiber as a safe and happy place to raise dogs and get your favorite pup licensed today! Questions – 303.987.7000. *Thanks to the City of Lakewood website for the detailed information for this article.*

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Lakewood Graffiti Task Force

Many residents have noticed a recent increase in graffiti within the neighborhood. This reflects a trend that our sister neighborhood to the east – Two Creeks – has been struggling with for years. It is evident that the rise in graffiti is moving west and is an indication of the increasing presence of gangs and petty vandals in the Eiber neighborhood. Simply erasing graffiti doesn't resolve the underlying problem, but it does send a message that gangs and vandals are not welcome and that the community is keeping watch. It signifies care about our environment and our want to keep it tidy. Studies have shown that graffiti removal within 24 to 48 hours reduces the recurrence rate, so rapid response is in the community's best interest.

At our disposal is the city's Graffiti Task Force. LPD takes reports of graffiti seriously and is committed to investigating even the slightest incident. LPD has officers who can read the cryptic messages, and can often tell what gang activity it is portraying—perhaps the time and location of a rumble.

LPD asks the citizens of Lakewood to report graffiti, however minor, as soon as it is discovered, so that it may be quickly investigated. To assist citizens in reporting graffiti incidents, Lakewood has a hot line – 303.987.7187. You can also go to the city's website www.lakewood.org and click on "For Residents" menu, then select "Police". You will find information and a link to the graffiti form there, as well as helpful tips on graffiti removal and deterrence. If you have a camera, a photo attached to your report is very helpful. If you see graffiti in progress, call 911.

The city is responsible for graffiti cleanup on public property only. Private property owners are required by ordinance to remove graffiti within 5 days of the city's notification to the property owner. Eiberhood also has a volunteer team prepared to remove minor tagging on public property. Please contact Ward 1 Councilor Vicki Stack at 303 233 2574 for assistance. We may also be able to arrange assistance to property owners who may have difficulty in removing graffiti themselves. Graffiti is everyone's problem. Let's take the action to keep our neighborhood clean and a pleasant place to live.

14th Avenue Cleanup

The Eiber Neighborhood Association has adopted 14th Ave from Garrison to Wadsworth as a part of our commitment to keeping Eiber sparkling clean! A group met early on a Saturday in August to walk the reach picking up numerous large bags of trash. Thanks to the hard working volunteers who work so hard to keep Eiber beautiful!

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Lakewood High School – A Top U.S. School

Lakewood High School was named by Newsweek Magazine as one of the top U.S. schools and had the highest ranking of the Colorado High Schools.

Dedication of New Lakewood High School Building

The dedication of the new Lakewood High School building will take place on October 2. If you have not seen the new building yet, be sure to do so. It looks great and is a wonderful asset in our neighborhood.

CAPITAL JEWELERS supports this newsletter.

8550 West Colfax Avenue 303-235-0856

Calendar - Regularly scheduled meetings:

Eiberhood Board, 7:00 pm 3rd Thurs of month, Lakewood United Methodist Church, 1390 Brentwood

West Colfax Community Assn, 7:30 am, 3rd Wed of month, Rocky Mtn College of Art & Design, 1600 Pierce

City Council Ward 1, 7:00 am, each Mon, Cheryl Wise, Cafe del Sol, 608 Garrison

City Council Ward 1, 9:30 am Sat, Sept 22 & Oct 20; 4th Sat thereafter, Vicki Stack, Lakewood Library, 20th & Miller

City Council Ward 2, 7:30 am, 1st Mon of month, Bob Murphy & Debbie Koop, Village Inn, 7381 Alameda

1st Saturday Forum, 9:30 am, our elected representatives of state, city, RTD, and school board, Lakewood Library

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Delivery Volunteers: To keep our costs down we hand deliver newsletters. We could use help with the deliveries and it's a great opportunity to meet your neighbors and get some exercise. If you would like to deliver newsletters in your area, please call Trish Flood, 303.238.0994.