

A photograph of a stone sign for Congress Park. The sign is rectangular with a decorative arch at the top and is mounted on two stone pillars. The text 'Congress Park' is carved into the stone in a serif font.

# Congress Park

[www.CongressParkNeighbors.org](http://www.CongressParkNeighbors.org)

# News

Winter 2019

## Inside

<b>New Year Thank You</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>CPN Green Team Meet N Greets, CPN GT Environmental Trivia Quiz</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Denver Botanic Gardens Neighborhood Advisory Update, Hard Times, Soft Hearts</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Teller Gets Greener, Serves More Students, Is Hiring</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Historic Designation vs. 6-7 Conservation Overlay</b>	<b>6-7</b>
<b>CPN Safe Streets Committee Update, CPN GE Quiz Answers</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Small Cell Towers Must 9 Follow City Guidelines</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>CPN Crime and Map</b>	<b>10-11</b>
<b>Neighborhood Planning 12 Initiative East Central Area Plan Steering Committee Update</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Denver Public Works Update</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Green Team Action Tips for Winter 2018-19</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>Biz Directory</b>	<b>15</b>

## Denver Surveying CPN Buildings and History

By Eleni Sarris

The Congress Park neighborhood has been selected to be surveyed for its historic values as part of a partnership with Historic Denver and Denver Department of Community Planning and Development. This survey will entail identifying the buildings and history of our neighborhood that contribute to the unique fabric of our City. Some of our structures are well-known and are associated with famous individuals and/or events; however, many more such stories that undoubtedly represent significant contributions to our City's history are yet to be documented and shared. Here is your chance to contribute by sharing any information you have using the interactive map found here: <https://www.discoverdenver.co/>. You can upload information, pictures, and documents within Discover Denver's map.

In addition, please consider sharing your information with Congress Park Neighbors' (CPN) Historic Preservation Committee. CPN's Historic Preservation Committee is also documenting information about our neighborhood's unique character and history, making our neighborhood such a great place

to live. Please email us this information at [preservation@congressparkneighbors.org](mailto:preservation@congressparkneighbors.org). We are creating an online library of resources for our neighbors to use as well.

On a related note, Denver's Landmark Preservation Commission is considering changing the ordinance with respect to landmark/historic structure and district designation. To find out about the proposed changes, visit the City's website: [https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/community-planning-and-development/landmark-preservation/Landmark\\_Ordinance\\_Update.html](https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/community-planning-and-development/landmark-preservation/Landmark_Ordinance_Update.html)

Meetings are open to the public and are held the second Tuesday of every month from 3:00 to 5:30 p.m. in the Webb Municipal Building, located at 201 W. Colfax Avenue in Room 4.F.6. Representatives from CPN are monitoring the meetings, but your input is critical so that any proposed ordinance change represents your values. If you would like more information, please contact us by email at [preservation@congressparkneighbors.org](mailto:preservation@congressparkneighbors.org).

### *Congress Park's Vision (1995 Neighborhood Plan)*

*Congress Park is a traditional city neighborhood with a small-town atmosphere. Here, people of diverse cultures, ages, colors and economic backgrounds share a sense of community, value older homes and mature trees, and enjoy the convenience of city living amid the stability of a thriving neighborhood.*

**Congress Park News** is a quarterly publication of Congress Park Neighbors, Inc. A network of volunteers produces and distributes it to a circulation of more than 4,500 residents and businesses within the area bounded by Colfax Avenue, Sixth Avenue, York Street and Colorado Boulevard.

[www.CongressParkNeighbors.org](http://www.CongressParkNeighbors.org)

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Distribution:  
Volunteers Needed

Your articles, letters  
and advertisements are  
always welcome.

Neighborhood meetings  
are held every other month  
(February, April, June,  
August, October, De-  
cember), on the third  
Wednesday, at 7 p.m. at  
REACH Charter School  
940 Fillmore. Watch for the  
newsletter and the email  
blasts for featured speakers.

Don't get the email blasts?  
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## New Year Thank You

By Wendy Moraskie

The New Year is just ahead and I wanted to take this opportunity to thank our volunteer CPN Board members for all they do. President Tom, Treasurer Myles, Web Page Diva Maggie and At-Large members Rodney and Vicki seem to be everywhere and on top of all the issues affecting our neighborhood.

They're at INC and CHUN meetings, hearings at the City, in contact with our City Council representatives, and have their thumbs on the pulse of business concerns on Colfax, 12th avenue, and Colorado, and details in City Park and Denver Botanic Gardens issues.

They are in touch with our neighborhood volunteers on Neighborhood Planning, Traffic Safety and Historic Preservation and help keep us all informed about hot topics in each area.

How about you? What do you want to hear more about? What can you do to help keep the neighborhood represented and informed? Email the whole Board or any member to let us know your interests and how you want to get involved in keeping Congress Park Neighborhood a great place to live.

---

## Your Congress Park Neighbors 2019 Volunteer Board of Directors

Tom Conis—President  
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Wendy Moraskie—Newsletter  
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[wendyrich@msn.com](mailto:wendyrich@msn.com)

Lots of other neighbors help with communications, membership, and more, and generally make Congress Park a great place to live—you know who you are and how much we depend on you—Thanks!

And we thank these committed neighbors:

Joan Gregerson, Liz Goehring and Becky Coughlin  
—Congress Park Green Team coordinators

Steve Eppler—Crime Action  
[crime@congressparkneighbors.org](mailto:crime@congressparkneighbors.org)

Rodney Allen and Eleni Sarris  
—Congress Park Historic Preservation

Your Name here—Hospital District Redevelopment

Liz Chester—Traffic Safety committee

Bill DeMaio, Liz Goehring and Myles Tangalin  
—Denver Botanic Gardens Liaisons

Vicki Eppler, Mayor's Appointee  
—DBG Board of Trustees

**Do you have a suggestion for your Board?**  
Send hints and help to  
[CPNBoard@congressparkneighbors.org](mailto:CPNBoard@congressparkneighbors.org)

**Visit CPN businesses, make new friends and support your neighborhood newsletter. Volunteer CPNews advertising accounts rep needed now! Call Wendy, 303-355-3735, for info.**

Your elected, all-volunteer Congress Park Board invites you to attend the open meetings at REACH Charter School at 940 Fillmore on the third Wednesday every other month (Feb., Apr., June, Aug., Oct., Dec.) at 7 p.m.

## Meet (and Join!) Your CPN Green Team

By Congress Park Neighbors Green Team

With all the grim news about water issues and wildfires and plastics pollution, don't you ever just want to hear some GOOD NEWS about the environment? We certainly do! At the Green Team's recent Meet N Greet\*\* on Sept 6th at The Goods Restaurant, to kick off the meeting neighbors played a "Good News Environmental Trivia" game and learned what people around the world are doing to solve some of our biggest problems. It's actually pretty inspiring. While environmental problems persist, at least we're making a start.

We thought CPN News readers might enjoy a few of these trivia questions. Check out these trivia questions on plastics (answers on page 8) and see if you don't find yourself feeling inspired. Better yet, come to our next Meet N Greet, play a whole game of trivia with new neighbors and find ways to get involved.



## CPN GT Environmental Trivia Quiz

Compiled by Green Team members Julie Lang-Yawger and Katie Driggins  
(answers on page 8)

- Which two U.S. states have banned plastic bags?
  - California and Hawaii
  - Vermont and California
  - New York and Oregon
- Which continent has the most countries that have banned plastic bags?
  - Africa- 23
  - Europe – 14
  - Asia – 10
- True or False: Kenya has enacted the strictest enforcement punishment - anyone found "making, selling, or importing" plastic bags could face fines up to \$7,000 and 2 years in jail.
- Ireland has had a plastic bag tax (now 22 cents euro) since 2002. How much has this reduced plastic bag use?
  - 28%
  - 44%
  - 75%
  - >90%
- What country just passed a law introducing a penalty system that would increase the cost of consumer goods with packaging made with non-recycled plastic by up to 10%?
  - Kenya
  - Canada
  - France
- Which US grocery chain is banning plastic bags by 2025?
  - Vans (Safeway)
  - Kroger (King Soopers)
  - Whole Foods
- Which of the following companies have committed to banning plastic straws?
  - United, Sea World, McDonalds
  - American Airlines, Hyatt, Disney
  - Marriott UK, Olive Garden, Princess Cruise Lines

## CPN Green Team Meet N Greet

CPN GT's has a new quarterly meeting format where neighbors gather to learn about local "green" activities. We'll meet at a neighborhood venue with food, beverages and socializing! The next CPN GT Meet N Greet will be Thursday, Jan. 17, 6-8pm at The Goods Restaurant. Join us! It's fun.

## Leaf Drop 2018

Keep your leaves out of the landfill this fall by bringing them to a LeafDrop site near you! By participating in the LeafDrop program, Denver residents decrease their environmental impact, help to keep our streets clean, and save space in the landfill. Leaves taken to designated LeafDrop locations will be commercially composted, and the final compost product will be sold to Denver residents at Denver Recycles' annual Mulch Giveaway & Compost Sale in early May. All leaves must be in (preferably paper) bags\*

Weekday Drop Sites:  
Monday - Friday

Oct. 1-Dec. 7 | 8 AM to 2 PM

-Cherry Creek Transfer Station | 7301 E. Jewell Ave. (Quebec St. & E. Jewell Ave.)  
-Havana Nursery | 10450 Smith Rd. (Enter on Smith Rd.)  
-South Platte | 678 S. Jason St. (Enter on W. Exposition Ave.)

Weekend Drop Sites:  
Saturdays & Sundays

Nov. 3-18 | 11 AM to 3 PM

-Cherry Creek Transfer Station | 7301 E. Jewell Ave. (Quebec St. & E. Jewell Ave.)  
-Havana Nursery | 10450 Smith Rd. (Enter on Smith Rd.)  
-Veterans Park | S. Vine St. & E. Iowa Ave.

\*Bring your Leaves in Paper Bags! Denver Recycles, Be A Smart Ash, and Ace Hardware stores are teaming up to give away FREE 5-packs of 30-gallon paper leaf bags to help Denver residents keep leaves and plastic out of the landfill. Unlike plastic bags, brown paper bags can be composted along with the leaves, saving time and reducing plastic waste.

## Denver Botanic Gardens Neighborhood Advisory Update

By Myles Tangalin

On Monday, October 1st the DBG Neighborhood Advisory Committee met, a few salient points are below.

The Neighborhood Trustees have created four focus topics of Sustainability: Soil; Water; Plants; and Operations. They will coordinate between the DBG, public outreach and the Congress Park Green Team.

The construction of the Freyer-Newman Center is scheduled to be completed early March 2020 and will include an auditorium, classrooms, galleries, plant conservation & preservation spaces, library and coffee shop. DBG is open to suggestions for possible coffee shop business.

The 11th & York St intersection was also discussed. Problems noted include: pedestrians walking in front of the construction barricades into traffic on York Street. Once, a bride and bridesmaids were seen doing this. The NAC requests all foot traffic to operate and use the new Flashing Pedestrian Beacon for safety that was funded by DBG and installed on 11th & York St. The Gardens will hire security during the Blossoms of Lights to further assist in keeping people on the sidewalks. Public Works is also planning a future Flashing Beacon at another concerning and dangerous intersection, 11th & Josephine in 2020.

DBG has also prepared and submitted a five-year design, installation and maintenance program for the Denver Water hillside on the east side of Josephine Street. The improvements would showcase native low water landscapes in five distinct zones. The Gardens are currently waiting for a response from Denver Water.

A recent DBG audit was completed by the city in July 2018 and suggested a formalized large event agreement with the NAC to clarify terms of the current "gentleman's agreement." The Gardens will forward three agreements to the NAC for review and public comments that cover the following topics:

- Extend the new agreement through 2023

- Limit the number of highly amplified events to no more than 17 per year with no more than 14 concerts

- Examples of highly amplified events are concerts, The Fete, and Sabor (acoustical)

- An exception would be a City requested special event, such as a Mayoral Inaugural Party

- Events that use minor sound effects such as Glow and Blossoms of Light do not qualify as highly amplified, and

- Other examples of minor amplification include the exchange of wedding vows and introductory remarks at events.

The Gardens will also limit the daily tickets for the 2018 Blossoms of Light to prevent the large crowds and parking issues that occurred last year.

## Hard Times, Soft Hearts Winner: Montessori School of Wash Park

By Sophie Mann

Ireland's Finest started "Hard Times Soft Hearts" in 2011. The painting, carpentry and repairs contest allows the company and their partners, including Benjamin Moore, to give back to the community. The contest encourages people in the Denver area to nominate worthy candidates through the Ireland's Finest website.

Nominations are shared with the public who vote for the most deserving. Past winners have been people or organizations from a wide variety of backgrounds that have fallen on hard times, or give selflessly back to their community.

This year, Ireland's Finest is honoring the Montessori School of Washington Park with a little extra help. MSWP offers young children an education that fosters independence and a joy for learning, encouraging their natural wonder. With all that they do for the community, IF said it was hard to find an organization more deserving.

Do you know an organization or person whose building could use some TLC? Keep your eyes open for next year's contest at [irelandsfinestinc.com](http://irelandsfinestinc.com).



## Teller Gets Greener, Serves More Students, Is Hiring

By Sabrina Bates, Principal

Welcome to the 2018-2019 school year!

Teller Elementary School is pleased to announce we earned a Green (Meets Expectations) on the School Performance Framework (SPF). The SPF measures many important aspects of what we know makes a great school – such as how satisfied students and parents are, how much students have improved their scores on state tests from year to year, and how well the school serves and challenges all of its students.

The SPF is like a report card for schools, letting us know where a school is making progress and where we need to focus on improving. Our school report card puts special emphasis on student academic growth, or how much progress students have made from one year to the next. In DPS, we believe what is most important is not where kids start, but how much they grow.

Understanding how well schools are serving students and families is a key part of how we will reach our Denver Plan 2020 goal of Great Schools in Every Neighborhood.

In addition to Meeting Expectations on the SPF, Teller exceeded enrollment projections. Last spring, we were projected at 477 (Kindergarten through 5th Grade). At the October count, we had 503 (K-5) students enrolled. With ECE students included, Teller's enrollment is

535 students. It's so rewarding to know our neighborhood families are choosing to attend their home school!

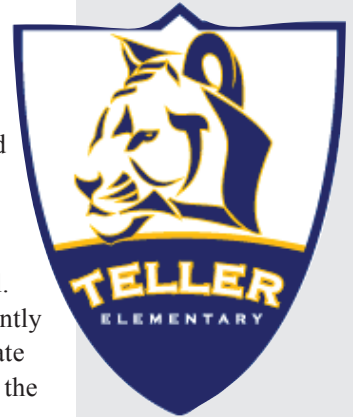
Our wonderful PTA is organizing amazing opportunities to help support our school. Their efforts every year contribute significantly to the annual budget, so we always appreciate your attendance and support. Stay tuned to the website and Facebook for all the ways you can participate in making your neighborhood school successful.

Did you know we are hiring? Teller is looking for qualified candidates for the following positions:

-3-hour per day Health Technician. Five days per week 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Pay starts at \$12/hr.

-7-hour per day General Education paraprofessional. Five days per week 7:45 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. Pay starts at \$12/hr.

If you are interested in either position, please contact Dee Faust at 720-424-3560.



### Here are upcoming school-wide events:

- Nov. 10 – Teller Night Live at the Soiled Dove from 7:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.
- Nov. 12 - 15 – Scholastic Book Fair
- Nov. 15 – Thanksgiving Lunch

For the latest and greatest information about our school, please visit [teller.dpsk12.org](http://teller.dpsk12.org).

## Congress Park Listings



**Lisa Santos**

*Broker/Co-Owner*

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[www.findingyourspace.com](http://www.findingyourspace.com)

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## Historic Designation vs. Conservation Overlay.....What is the Difference?

By Rodney Allen

### Historic Designations and Conservation Overlays

For detailed information you can visit the City and County of Denver, Community Planning and

Development website, or review additional information at:

<https://www.denvergov.org/content/dam/denvergov/Portals/646/documents/landmark/designations/conservation-overlays-vs-historic-districts.pdf>

As redevelopment continues robustly all around us here in Congress Park, I can't help but wonder which building or house might be the next lost to such development. Scraping a structure takes away the original architecture as well as the long history that goes with the property, and can change the look and feel of the block. But all is not lost, or at least it doesn't have to be. At our disposal are tools to help retain the architectural integrity of our neighborhood, as we embrace the benefits of the present and prepare for the future.

Among these tools include the use of either a Historic Designation on a property or properties, or a conservation overlay on larger areas of our neighborhood. All of the tools available to us require that we reach out and speak with our neighbors to find out what their desires and vision are for our community, and what efforts are we able to commit to and follow through on.

### Landmark Historic Districts

In 1967 the Landmark Historic designation was

established as part of the city ordinance (Chapter 30 of the Denver Revised Municipal Code) to help preserve the historic character of Denver. The purpose is to protect and perpetuate the structures and districts that reflect the outstanding elements of the city's cultural, artistic, social, economic, political, architectural, and historic heritage. While the historic character of buildings designated as historic should be preserved, alterations and additions are allowable through the design review process.

To be eligible for designation, a district (one or more properties) must maintain its historic and physical integrity, meet two of the following three designations criteria – history, architecture or geography, and relate to a historic context or theme. The process may be initiated by the property owner(s), Denver Planning and Development, Denver City Council, or 3 or more residents, property owners or have a place of business in Denver. The formal process can take up to a year of historical research and writing, as well as neighborhood outreach, before the public

designation process begins. Properties are designated "as-is" and there are no requirements to improve or restore a structure.

Once designated, properties are subject to review following the Design Guidelines for Denver Landmark Structures and Districts. Design review is only required for exterior changes tied to permits and does not include work on interiors, exterior

continued on page 7



Photo: Vantage Architectural Imagery



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DENVER'S DESIGN/BUILD REMODELER SINCE 1985

## Historic Designation vs. Conservation Overlay.....What is the Difference?

continued from page 6

paint colors, or general maintenance. Within historic districts, demolition of contributing buildings is highly discouraged.

### Conservation Overlay Districts

A conservation overlay district is a way to conserve or revitalize specific areas that have distinctive features, identity, or character worthy of retention and enhancement. A conservation overlay district takes effect through adoption of area-specific zoning standards that facilitate maintenance and protection of the area's character, and are also applicable to the development of vacant or underused lots. Buildings with a conservation overlay must meet the overlay's zoning standards as part of any exterior remodel, addition or new-build. The overlay may also be used to establish design guidelines that are more detailed than the standards of the Denver Zoning Code.

Typically a Denver City Council initiates a request to establish a conservation overlay; a city agency or department may also request one. A private individual or group cannot initiate a conservation overlay. A conservation overlay district is a way to conserve or revitalize specific areas that have distinctive features, identity, or character worthy of retention and enhancement. A conservation overlay district takes effect through adoption of area-specific zoning standards that facilitate maintenance and protection of the area's character, and are also applicable to the development of vacant or underused lots. Buildings with a conservation overlay must meet the overlay's zoning standards as part of any exterior remodel, addition or new-build. The overlay may also be used to establish design guidelines that are more detailed than the standards of the Denver Zoning Code.

A conservation overlay must meet one or both of the following criteria:

1. The district contains distinctive building features; and/or
2. The district contains distinctive site planning and natural features. It also must (a) be consistent with the City's adopted plans or provide for a community need that was not

anticipated at the time of the adoption of city plans; (b) further the public health, safety, and general welfare; and (c) result in regulations and restrictions that are uniform for each kind of building throughout the district.

A conservation overlay district may allow for the modification of zoning standards to enhance the area's identity and character; Limitations on permitted uses may be modified; Building form standards may be modified; New restrictions on building form and building or site design, including restrictions on building materials and architectural style, may be added. A conservation overlay does not change the permitted use in the underlying zone district or add new review procedures or review bodies. A conservation overlay does not prevent demolition.

Currently, approximately 6,600 buildings in Denver are designated as historic – approximately 4% of all structures in the city. A good example of this is the Lower Downtown Historic District, established in 1988.

About 2,400 properties in Denver are located in a conservation overlay district. Potter Highlands has a conservation overlay that maintains and protects side setbacks, shorter bulk planes with allowances for taller dormers, shorter heights for flat-roofed buildings, and the absence of rooftop decks.

### Historic Designations and Conservation Overlays

For detailed information you can visit the City and County of Denver, Community Planning and

Development website, or review additional information at:

<https://www.denvergov.org/content/dam/denvergov/Portals/646/documents/landmark/designations/conservation-overlays-vs-historic-districts.pdf>



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### Stop for Pedestrians at Crosswalks

Councilman Wayne New

Pedestrians should be able to cross roadways without unreasonable delay. Marked crosswalks and crossings with rapid rectangular flashing beacons (RRFBs) are ways to facilitate these pedestrian crossings. Unfortunately, drivers and bicyclists may be confused about the protocol of these crosswalks.

Be alert: In the absence of a traffic control device such as a stop light, oncoming traffic shall yield the right-of-way to allow pedestrians to cross the roadway within the crosswalk, slowing down or stopping if needed. When a RRFB is available, the pedestrian can push the button to activate flashing lights to help increase visibility and awareness as they cross the street.

It is important to note, however, that pedestrians are not required to activate the beacon to cross the roadway in a marked crosswalk. Next time you are driving or cycling, remember to respect the crosswalk and yield to pedestrians. Doing so is vital to safety and walkability of our neighborhoods.

## Congress Park Safe Streets Committee Update

By Elizabeth DiLorenzo Chester

The mission of the Congress Park Safe Streets Committee is to preserve the pedestrian village we live in and keep all streets safe through lower traffic speeds, promoting a culture of traffic safety and street design that prioritizes people over cars.

As it relates to street safety in Congress Park, major concerns from the committee are lowering speeds across the neighborhood, requiring safer street design, and creating more convenient and safe multi-modal options throughout our neighborhood.

The survey results are in! Thank you to everyone who participated! We received 372 responses from throughout the neighborhood (6th to Colfax, York to Colorado). The results showed that the residents and business owners are very concerned about traffic safety, and walking and biking safely in the neighborhood is a high priority.

Many concerns were listed but traffic speeds, pedestrian crossing safety and the failure of drivers to observe stop signs were among the top concerns. The neighbors overwhelmingly supported (85%) a safety pilot on 8th Ave., and many would like to see more pilots implemented throughout the neighborhood.

The CPN Safe Streets Committee is working on a neighborhood-wide study and would love your feedback. If you are interested in getting involved please email [safestreets@congressparkneighbors.org](mailto:safestreets@congressparkneighbors.org) or attend any of our meetings.

If you would like to get involved in CPN Safe Streets Committee please email [safestreets@congressparkneighbors.org](mailto:safestreets@congressparkneighbors.org)

Here is the link to Blueprint Denver and DenverRight: <https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/denverright/land-use-transportation.html>

## CPN GT Environmental Trivia Quiz Answers

From page 3

1. a. California and Hawaii  
<http://www.ncsl.org/research/environment-and-natural-resources/plastic-bag-legislation.aspx>
2. a. Africa – 23  
<https://www.worldatlas.com/articles/which-countries-have-banned-plastic-bags.html>
3. False: It's actually \$19,000 fine or 4 years in jail!  
<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/08/28/world/africa/kenya-plastic-bags-ban.html>
4. d. >90% (Go Ireland!!)  
<https://www.nytimes.com/2008/01/31/world/europe/31iht-bags.4.9650382.html>  
<https://www.irishtimes.com/opinion/ireland-can-lead-charge-in-war-against-plastic-1.3374066>
5. c. France (part of its pledge to use only recycled plastic nationwide by 2025)  
<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/08/12/france-set-penalties-goods-packaged-non-recycled-plastic-2019/>
6. b. Kroger (King Soopers)  
“Let’s Choose to Reuse” Campaign  
<https://www.chicagotribune.com/news/opinion/editorials/ct-edit-kroger-plastic-bag-ban-20180823-story.html>
7. b. American Airlines, Hyatt, Disney  
<http://fortune.com/2018/07/11/ditching-plastic-straws-replacements/>  
But also Sea World and Marriott!



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## Small Cell Towers Must Follow City Guidelines

By Alison Sheesley

**H**i neighbors! If you are concerned about a proposed 5G cell tower near you, our personal experience with Verizon may be helpful.

Verizon proposed a mini cell tower at the corner of our home. We live in a duplex, and Verizon sent a letter only to our duplex neighbor. Their policy is that they only notify the directly adjacent property owners (unless the proposed tower is within 5 ft. of a property line).

The proposed tower was within 15 ft. of a tree, in violation of the City's guidelines (link below) for these towers. The tree was planted by the City, so we contacted Public Works (email Denver.PWERA@denvergov.org and they will refer you to the right person).

Public Works gave us this link to all associated 5G mini cell tower project documents on their E-Review website: [https://www.denvergov.org/](https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/right-of-way-services/engineering-regulatory-analytics/engineering-plan-review/electronic-review.html)

[content/denvergov/en/right-of-way-services/engineering-regulatory-analytics/engineering-plan-review/electronic-review.html](https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/right-of-way-services/engineering-regulatory-analytics/engineering-plan-review/electronic-review.html).

To find the folder of project documents for the specific tower application near you, contact Public Works and give them the address of the proposed cell tower, and they can tell you which folder to check. Review the project documents for errors or conflicts with the City's Guidelines. The project documents include referral comments from applicable City Departments and construction plans and drawings.

We notified the City Forester who reviewed the application, and informed them that a tree is within 15 ft. of the proposed tower. The plans/photos of homes that Verizon and Public Works are using for permitting may not be current or show all impediments.

There are two reviews--an initial review and then a final review. The City Forester has indicated that the site needs to be moved and this is being taken into account in the final review.

The take-away:

-Trees make a difference.

-It is important to follow-up with Public Works if you notice any violation of the City's Guidelines.

-Be in communication with the neighbors who are directly adjacent to the proposed tower, because they may be the only ones receiving companies' notifications.

Please let me know ([alison.philli@gmail.com](mailto:alison.philli@gmail.com)) if you have any questions about this process.

### City Guidelines for Freestanding Small Cell Infrastructure

*(These were ineptly abbreviated by your volunteer editor, and are not comprehensive. See <https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/right-of-way-services/permits/small-cell.html> for full guidelines)*

In Denver, small cell units:

-may not impede vehicles, pedestrians or public right of way, affect public safety or violate any applicable laws or design standards.

-must comply with Denver Small Cell Infrastructure **Design** Guidelines

-must be closest to an intersection corner

-must not be within 250' of another small cell structure

-must not be in front of an Historic Landmark or parklands

-must not obstruct a valuable sightline

-must align with other utilities in curb lawn, at least 15' from a tree or gas line



*"The Congress Park Crime Action Committee is committed to coordinate efforts to rid our neighborhood of crime, thus helping to ensure personal safety for all."*

*CPN Crime Action Committee Mission Statement*

## CPN Sees Increased Violent Crime in 2018; Property Crime Rates Stable

*Reduce these numbers: Be Aware, Lock doors*

By Stephen Eppler, Crime Action Chair

Denver Police Crime Statistics show a 144% increase in Aggravated Assault since January 2018 (22 reports compared to 9 during the same period of 2017). This is higher than 16.6% increase reported by the City of Denver. Assaults occur throughout the year but are most common between March and July and this trend will likely persist to the end of the year.

Most assaults occurred in proximity to Colfax Ave and Colorado Blvd. There were five along Colfax, four on Josephine north of 13th Ave and five within two blocks of Colorado Blvd north of 12th

Ave. Two occurred at 7th and Colorado. Only four incidents of aggravated assault were reported in the interior of Congress Park and three of these were associated with complaints of Domestic Violence. The number of robberies decreased from 10 to seven with all but two occurring in the areas described above. The Cheesman Park neighborhood shows a similar geographic clustering of crime along Colfax Ave. This trend is less apparent east of Colorado Blvd (Hale and South Park Hill neighborhoods).

Property Crime in Congress Park has remained generally stable (2.8% increase). Theft is unchanged. Bicycles remain the most commonly reported item stolen. The geographic distribution of bicycle theft is higher near Colfax Ave. and Colorado Blvd. Burglaries dropped by 35% (35 vs 54 in 2017). Only about 1/3 involved forced entry. Most of the time, doors were left open and the thieves simply walked in. Garages continue to be a major entry point. Auto theft dropped by 21.7%. However, Theft from Auto increased by 48.6% (#110 so far this year compared to 74 in 2017). Both types of auto related crime increase north of 10th Ave. and are most frequent north of 13th Ave.

The amount of property crime in Congress Park continues to compare well to other Denver neighborhoods. Of the 78 Denver neighborhoods, Congress Park ranks 77th for property crime overall, 73rd for residential burglary, 51st for forced entry, and 67th for unforced entry and auto theft. Congress Park ranks 60th of 78 neighborhoods for violent crime.

Congress Park has a relatively low crime rate compared to other neighborhoods located near city center. Within Congress Park, the northern and eastern boundaries adjacent to Colfax Ave. and Colorado Blvd have a higher rates of violent and property crime. However, most of Congress Park is relatively crime-free. Let's help improve Congress Park's safety; lock doors and garages and keep valuables out of cars or out of sight.



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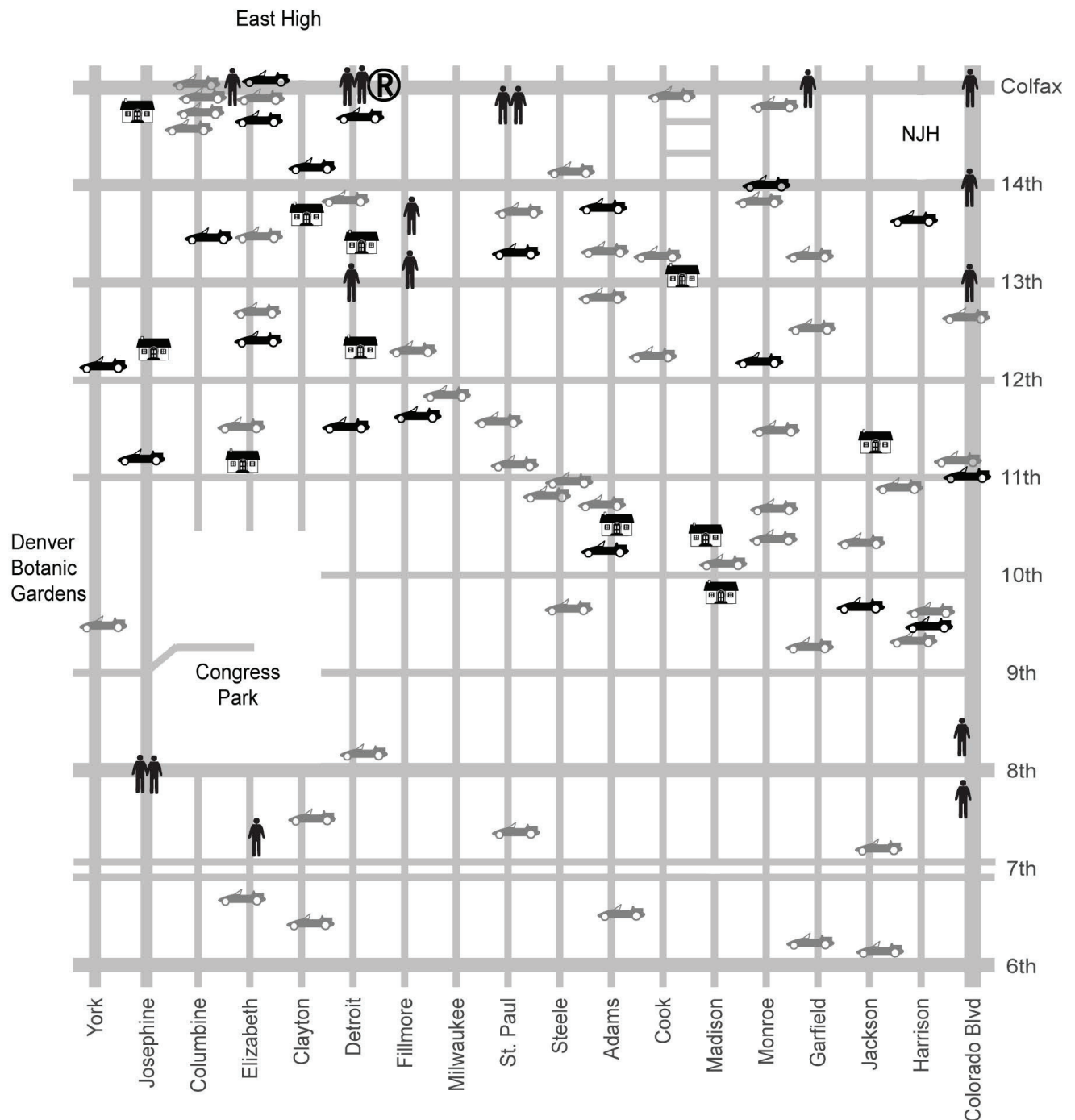
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# CONGRESS PARK NEIGHBORHOOD CRIMES JULY - SEPTEMBER 2018



- ® Sexual Assault
- 👤 Assault/robbery
- 🏠 Burglary
- 🚗 Auto Theft
- 🚗/ Theft from auto

**This map shows a compilation of all serious crimes reported to police within Congress Park in the third quarter of 2018. Crime mapping is provided by the Congress Park Crime Action Committee using City and Police Department statistics.**



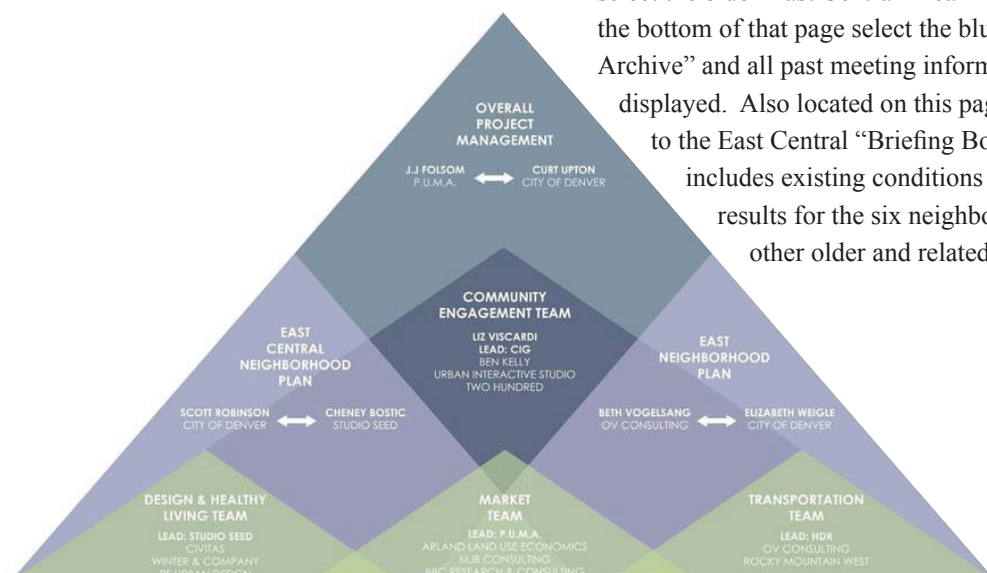
## Neighborhood Planning Initiative East Central Area Plan Steering Committee Update

By Myles Tangalin

The Denver Neighborhood Planning Initiative is new city program where all neighborhoods will be assisted in creating a new small area plan over the next 10-14 years. Similar neighborhoods will be grouped together, and each will have a Chapter within that group. The City is currently working on three Area Plans: Far Northeast, East and East Central. Congress Park is part of the East Central Plan which will also include five other neighborhoods: Cheeseman Park, Capitol Hill, North Capitol Hill, City Park West and City Park.

The East Central Steering Committee has been meeting monthly for over the last year to review and comment on various topics presented by the City. Items of discussion during the last six months include Vision Statements, Guiding Principles, Focus Topics, Performance Measures and Best Practice Examples. This information will be presented to the neighborhoods for review and comments in upcoming public meetings. The City has recently hired consultants to plan and manage the community engagement and rollout of the East Central and East Area Plans. See below.

### Consultant Matrix



The City also presented five focus groups to complete a “deep dive in 2-3 intensive work-sessions (along) with a mix of professionals and interested residents.” “The Conversation will be more technical than a typical community meeting.” They have requested our Committee and interested residents to pass their name forward to participate.

#### Preliminary Focus Groups

Design Quality and Character Preservation

Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety

Affordable Housing, Social Services, and Financial Stability

Small Business, Healthy Food, and Transit Oriented Development (TOD)

Green Infrastructure, Recreation, Open Space, Trees and Landscaping

All meeting agendas, presentations and summaries can be found by searching on your browser “Neighborhood Planning Initiative Strategic Plan -Denver” and clicking the “denvergov.org link.” On the Community Planning & Development page on the right side of the screen under “In Progress,” select the blue “East Central Area Plan.” Near the bottom of that page select the blue “Meeting Archive” and all past meeting information will be displayed. Also located on this page is a link to the East Central “Briefing Book” which includes existing conditions and survey results for the six neighborhoods and other older and related studies.

## Denver Public Works Update

By City Councilman Wayne New

Denver Public Works is implementing process improvements either immediately or in January 2019.

### -Parking Management and Enforcement -

License plate readers have now been added for greater enforcement efficiency in identifying parking violations.

-Pedestrian Sidewalk Canopies - The present regulations on sidewalk canopies for pedestrian safety have not been implemented and enforced. The regulations will be enhanced and enforced, beginning in January.

-Construction Communications - Public Works will hold routine monthly construction progress review meetings to improve communication. Construction plans, such as street closures and canopies, that may affect retail business, neighborhood traffic flow and pedestrian safety will be regular issues for discussion.

-Traffic Management Plans for Street and Sidewalk Closures - Current policies and procedures on street and sidewalk closures will be evaluated as to (a) the length of time a closure is allowed; (b) the dimensions of closures that increase the construction site; and (c) the effects on pedestrian and traffic flow.

-Intersection and Alley Parking Signage - Cars and trucks parked too close to alley and intersection entrances do not provide sufficient visibility for safe car exits. Residents can now request an evaluation of the need for intersection and alley signage to provide greater visibility of and for street traffic approaching an exit or intersection. The present regulations require 5' of clearance from an alley entrance and 20' from an intersection. Contact 311 to request additional signage and report infractions.

-Damage to Infrastructure and Streetscape - Each current construction project must post a construction bond to repair damaged adjacent infrastructure and streetscape.

-Construction Signage in Right of Way - Street and sidewalk closure and other types of construction signs have not been promptly removed when no longer needed for a construction project. Public Works will now notify sign companies to promptly remove unneeded signage. Residents should contact 311 for signage removal at a specific address.

Neighborhoods and businesses are appreciative of these improvements made by Denver Public Works, but a few issues will need to be addressed in the near future.

Construction Hours - The present City construction hours are 7 AM to 9 PM on weekdays and 8 AM to 5 PM on weekends. Many construction projects have ignored these hours, especially in early starting hours and on weekends. Weekday hour changes and greater enforcement are being recommended to minimize noise and disruption.

Inconvenience Fees - Many cities have instituted inconvenience fees on projects that have extended street and sidewalk closures beyond allowed closure time periods. These fees have successfully encouraged greater compliance by contractors, and street and sidewalk closure extensions have been minimized due to these fees.

Parking District - Many cities have also decentralized their parking enforcement responsibilities to organized business organizations. Parking and traffic management has proven to be more effective with greater local control. A consultant study on the requirements to form a parking district is being considered.

The assistance and leadership of the Public Works Department and all neighborhood and business leaders is greatly appreciated. These implemented improvements should make the management of construction less intrusive to neighborhood quality of life and to customers for our businesses. If you have any comments, please send them to Wayne. New@denvergov.org.

### Wayne New

Councilman District 10  
1437 Bannock Street,  
#493, Denver, 80202  
720-337-7710  
wayne.new@denvergov.org

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## Green Team Action Tips for Winter 2018-19

By Barbara Rivera, Congress Park Green Team

### Water Conservation

1. Turning off the tap when brushing your teeth saves up to 200 gallons of water per month. Teach children early to develop this lifelong water-saving habit. In 50 years, a person could save 120,000 gallons!
2. Install a Tankless or On-Demand Hot Water Heater that sends hot water to your fixtures in a matter of seconds, saving you water, energy and money. Traditional hot water heaters store large amounts of hot water and use energy to keep it hot all day, every day.
3. Wash lightly soiled laundry using the "short cycle" and lower temps to save water and energy.

### Home Energy Efficiency

1. Insulate & seal all exterior doors, windows and garages with stripping, caulking, window kits and foam sealant. Check yearly and replace if needed.
2. Select Energy Star efficient models when replacing appliances and electronics. Energy Star rated computer products are expected to save consumers and businesses more than \$1.8 billion in energy costs during the next five years and prevent greenhouse gas emissions equal to the annual emissions of 2.7 million vehicles!
3. Truly turn off all your electronics and computer equipment by plugging them into a UL certified power strip with on/off switch. When appliances are plugged in, they quietly drain electricity all day, every day, even when turned off. "Standby power" accounts for 5-10% of home energy use, costing the average household \$100 per year. Switch off the power strip to prevent phantom electrical draw.

### Transportation Options Reduce Pollution and Congestion

1. Reduce single occupancy/single use car trips. Com-

bine several personal errands into single outings, and carpool with neighbors on your regular trip across town to big box stores.

2. Choose local, seasonal produce to reduce transportation costs. Fruits and veggies travel an average of 1500 miles before reaching your plate!

3. Buying a new car? Choose lighter, smaller cars and consider electric or hybrid to use less gas and reduce pollution. Electric Vehicles (EVs) are a smart, affordable transportation option. Benefits include tax credits, reserved parking, free charging stations and increased battery range.

### Waste Diversion & Reduction

1. Hosting a party? Resist the impulse to use disposable utensils, cups & plates. Invest in washable plastic cups, plates and an extra set of real silverware. Serve chilled beverages in pitchers instead of individual single use water bottles.

2. Reduce the amount of paper in your mailbox. Get off junk mail lists by registering with [dmachoice.org](http://dmachoice.org). Opt-out of catalogs or subscriptions you don't read (or could read electronically), and use paperless e-billing for all your statements and bills.

3. Denver's LEAF DROP (thru 12/7) turns fallen leaves into compost (get 5 free compostable leaf bags at Ace Hardware). TREecycle program turns discarded holiday trees into mulch after Christmas (remove all decorations, lights & stand and place tree 2 feet away from bins on collection day). See details at [www.denvergov.org](http://www.denvergov.org).

Remember- Small choices are powerful. Every Little Bit Helps! Together We Make a Huge Impact.





Service Club Meeting

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Volunteer Opportunities

**Congress Park Neighbors**

Meet new friends, share your expertise at neighborhood meetings and discuss issues that are shaping your neighborhood. Third Wednesdays of even months, 7 p.m., Sewall/REACH, 940 Fillmore. Contact [cpnboard@congressparkneighbors.org](mailto:cpnboard@congressparkneighbors.org) and visit [congressparkneighbors.org](http://congressparkneighbors.org).

## Neighborhood Directory

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**November** is American Indian Heritage Month, World Communication Month, Great American Smokeout Month, Peanut Butter Month

**December** is Safe Toys and Gifts Month, National Stress-Free Holidays Month, and Universal Human Rights Month

**January** is Eye Care Month, Volunteer Blood Donor Month, Hot Tea Month, Oatmeal Month

## Think Outside the Big Box

### Shop at Your

### Congress Park Businesses

[www.congressparkneighbors.org](http://www.congressparkneighbors.org)

lists all merchants in Congress Park

Please visit our site and see how our local businesses support our neighborhood.



## Rebekah O'Neill

Colorist/Stylist  
[Bekahd1@icloud.com](mailto:Bekahd1@icloud.com)

**The Willow Room Hair Studio**  
 1223 S. Pearl St  
 Denver, CO 80210  
 IG @hairgirl.Oneill  
 720-232-5873



Congress Park Neighbors, Inc.  
P.O. Box 18571  
Denver, CO 80218  
[www.CongressParkNeighbors.org](http://www.CongressParkNeighbors.org)

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[www.congressparkneighbors.org/  
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"If everyone is moving forward together, then success  
takes care of itself."

—Henry Ford

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Your neighborhood needs you! Join your neighbors today.

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Address:  
Phone:

The above information will only be used for contacting you about Congress Park  
Neighborhood issues.

\_\_\_ Member Name: \$20  
If household membership, other persons name:  
\_\_\_ Patron (receive 2 passes to the SIE Film Center!): \$30  
\_\_\_ Business or organization: \$40

(Circle amount enclosed)

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P.O. Box 18571  
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Date:

I am interested in learning more about:

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- \_\_\_ Business Support
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- \_\_\_ Historic Preservation
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- \_\_\_ Newsletter production
- \_\_\_ Newsletter distribution
- \_\_\_ Neighborhood Watch
- \_\_\_ Outreach
- \_\_\_ Membership
- \_\_\_ Social events
- \_\_\_ Graffiti abatement
- \_\_\_ Crime prevention
- \_\_\_ Safe Streets/Traffic/Parking
- \_\_\_ Zoning
- \_\_\_ Other

Congress Park Neighbors, Inc. is a non-profit organization with an elected, volunteer Board of Directors.

Your tax-deductible annual dues support the newsletter, website ([www.CongressParkNeighbors.org](http://www.CongressParkNeighbors.org)), mailings and fliers about hot issues, events like the ice cream social and ongoing activities to benefit the neighborhood.