

00:27:44 Shawn Hayes: Can you say which councilmembers?
00:35:12 Debbie Baldwin: always a question = what about parking?
00:35:43 Debbie Baldwin: what input have you gotten for the residents on the north side of the buildings/
00:36:46 Shannon Hoffman: how do you define affordable for those commercial spaces? is the rent price per square foot or is it a rent based on the income of those nonprofits or businesses?
00:37:23 Shawn Hayes: How is the space currently being used?
00:37:38 Candi CdeBaca: Motel for unhoused through the city's voucher program.
00:38:39 Shawn Hayes: Love that idea Councilwoman CdeBaca.
00:39:32 Shannon Hoffman: @ Shawn CW CdeBaca is saying that it is currently a motel for unhoused folks who have vouchers. This proposal is to turn it into a boutique motel.
00:39:43 Eleni Sarris: In stimulating the objectives you state, Jeff Bader, many residents who have vouchers would be displaced. These are our most vulnerable residents. We don't need another restaurant or hotel in my opinion given that many of our properties are rentals for Airbnb and Verbo.
00:39:48 Shawn Hayes: Oh wait, were you answering my question? Sorry! 😊 I do love that idea though.
00:40:09 Debbie Baldwin: any plans for the unused motel just north of the Colfax & Colorado blvd inersection
00:40:44 Shawn Hayes: Got it, thank you both.
00:41:54 Ana Cornelius: I like Candi's idea.
00:42:48 Shawn Hayes: I was going to say there are 2 coffee shops I can think of almost nextdoor to this motel. Tons of restaurants.
00:42:56 Eleni Sarris: the tax collection is a subsidy through a TIF. Why would be subsidize this use. Don't we need housing for low income, seniors, etc.
00:43:17 Eleni Sarris: Yes, there are plenty of restaurants and some are struggling due to COVID19
00:43:48 Eleni Sarris: So why haven't repairs been made?
00:43:51 Candi CdeBaca: @Debbie- Buzz Gellar is joining multiple parcels there on Colfax & Co to develop into market rate.
00:43:52 Ana Cornelius: Agreed Shawn. We don't need more restaurants or coffee shops. We need low income housing and motel rooms for our unhoused.
00:43:57 Eleni Sarris: *repairs*
00:44:09 Candi CdeBaca: @Eleni- yes, that is the question.
00:44:40 Eleni Sarris: From what he said, he has had 5 years or more to affect repairs and improve property and units.
00:44:58 Ana Cornelius: I'm not seeing how this will benefit our community. They are doing a very good job of showing how public money will help developers on this proposed project.
00:46:15 Ana Cornelius: 3.5 million is the budget for THE ENTIRE star program throughout the city.
00:46:52 Judith Cohen: Brian, have you reached out to Annie's restaurant across the street? I understand that their building is for sale and they might be interested in moving into your building.
00:50:03 Eleni Sarris: So why close it now and displace people. Why couldn't it be used for housing and also improved with repairs and other uses. Economic impacts especially on hotels. So why now?

00:51:27 Victoria Eppler: raise your hand and I will do my best
00:51:52 Ana Cornelius: Thank you Candi
00:52:25 Kimberly Morse: Agreed Candi.
00:52:34 Shawn Hayes: Agreed. 100%
00:53:32 Eleni Sarris: I agree with CW CdeBaca!
00:54:38 Eleni Sarris: How. Where are they being relocated to? Provide some more information and details.
00:54:40 wendy moraskie: Are you (Brian) considering allowing neighboring businesses to use some of the parking spots when available?
00:55:03 Candi CdeBaca: Moving people is by definition displacement.
00:55:27 Ana Cornelius: It's not about displacement. You're removing a needed resource from our neighborhood. Do you live here? I do. I don't agree with this project as outlined. I agree with Councilwoman CDeBaca.
00:56:14 Eleni Sarris: What hotels accept vouchers in our neighborhood. We have unhoused neighbors who are disabled living on the street right now.
00:56:41 Ana Cornelius: Your "view" is not what our community needs. You're not listening.
00:57:33 Ana Cornelius: I keep hearing what you think rather than what our community needs.
00:58:01 Ana Cornelius: Displacing people to Lakewood is terrible!!!
00:58:06 Eleni Sarris: What does affordable commercial space really mean? IN East Central Area Plan provides no details as to what is a defined community benefit. Will you be giving free space to BIPOC businesses or issuing reparations. Hotel space in Lakewood is far away from many needed services that vulnerable people need.
00:58:23 Judith Cohen: I appreciate the renovation as opposed to tearing the building down. Also, like the four rather than a five story building.
00:58:35 Candi CdeBaca: DURA needs to review it's investment priorities and support community cooperatives who WANT microunits. The idea that these would not be desirable because of size is not factual. There are people who would love a micro unit at the right price. It's about not being able to charge exorbitant amounts for micro-units and instead wanting the perpetual long-term profits of a boutique.
00:59:43 Eleni Sarris: great comments Shawn!
00:59:57 Ana Cornelius: Thank you Shawn!
01:00:07 Candi CdeBaca: Very true Maggie.
01:00:14 Shannon Hoffman: Totally agree Maggie
01:00:36 Ana Cornelius: Thank you Maggie
01:00:37 Shawn Hayes: That's a beautiful idea Maggie. Thank you for this information.
01:00:54 Ana Cornelius: Our schools desperately need housing for our teachers.
01:01:19 Eleni Sarris: Thank you Maggie!
01:03:13 Emilie Helms: Thank you Christopher, I am also on Milwaukee and want to see this property moving forward.
01:03:25 wendy moraskie: No one else, including the city, has been Interested in doing *anything* with this property for the 30 years I've lived here. I'm glad Brian is trying to do something to enhance our Main Street
01:03:49 Ana Cornelius: We have a choice to be part of the problem or part of the solution. This project as it stands will not be part of the solution.
01:03:50 Candi CdeBaca: People cannot do anything with a property they don't

own.

01:03:56 Debbie Baldwin: thanks Christopher, I've lived close by for 45+ years = this sounds like a good idea

01:04:12 Stephen Eppler: I am in agreement with Christopher. I think this type of redevelopment would be a boon to that part of Colfax

01:04:30 Shawn Hayes: Feels like those arguments are not going to actually revitalize anything. There's plenty of beautiful businesses in the area. The building could be more visually beautiful as well, and help.

01:04:33 Ana Cornelius: I stand firmly against this project.

01:05:14 Ana Cornelius: I am however open to actual community benefit if that's ever considered.

01:05:38 Shawn Hayes: As do I Ana and agree about actual benefit to this community. We can be better. We just have to choose to be.

01:05:38 Eleni Sarris: I will not support this project as I have heard several presentations on this proposal and each time I heard from the get go it was to be a boutique hotel. Mr. Toerber could not get financing due to the nature of risk -- prior to the pandemic. The TIF has taxpayers pay the risk not the owner.

01:06:52 Candi CdeBaca: More commercial space for low wage hotel service workers and low wage restaurant workers is not going to jump start our economy. Look no further than downtown. The new world and economy will require ownership opportunities for individuals' labor, housing stability for service workers, and government investment in THOSE things, not private development.

01:07:21 Candi CdeBaca: People do not want to be exploited anymore and that is why every sector is struggling to fill vacancies and homelessness has more than doubled.

01:08:14 wendy moraskie: Are vacant city owned buildings being used for the benefit of our unhoused neighbors?

01:09:31 Candi CdeBaca: I wish they all were! But I guarantee you every chance I get I am advocating for that very thing. Which is how we got the D9 SOS at the DHS building on Steele St and warming centers at Glenarm, St. Charles, and Carla Madison.

01:09:54 Shannon Hoffman: @Wendy, that is a great idea, and for the most part my understanding is no. But, that is not the question on the table here. The question is, should we be providing finance support for a project that does not meet our greatest community need which is what Maggie said, workforce housing.

01:10:02 Candi CdeBaca: Commercial space will never be needed again at the same rate as pre-pandemic.

01:10:14 Eleni Sarris: Thanks CW CdeBaca.

01:10:20 Eleni Sarris: Agreed 100%

01:10:24 Candi CdeBaca: And we will have to figure out how to convert the excess commercial space we have.

01:10:44 Ana Cornelius: Agreed Candi

01:10:58 Eleni Sarris: Exactly. With a TIF this building could be shuttered and owner is off the hook if hotel fails and then what.

01:11:08 Shawn Hayes: Thank you Councilperson CdeBaca. "People do not want to be exploited anymore..." I appreciate what is being done to help people living there, I think we can do more to impact lives moving in to the future. If this is about tax dollars? That's where I want mine to go. We are only making the "visual" and "safety" impact on Colfax and other areas worse by continuing this destruction of Denver's lives through "revitalization."

01:12:16 Shawn Hayes: *Denver lives

01:14:55 Eleni Sarris: How do residents apply for rebate program? How are their applications reviewed and a determination made that they are eligible. With all the General Fund support that exists today from taxes, what is the proposed use of those funds that are currently collected in addition to fund collected through pay as you throw.

01:15:07 David: Old the trash still be picked up in the alleyway?

01:15:25 David: Is*

01:15:36 Eleni Sarris: Some of the services are all moved to the front of street in Congress Park in many areas

01:15:41 Emilie Helms: Same question as Eleni - how is this going to change our tax rates.

01:15:54 Anna McCaffery: What about people who do not create 35 gals of a trash a month let alone per week and fill a recycling container every 8 weeks? We already pay for this. To pay again is unnecessary. So I would be paying for people create the mess at the landfill. This not equitable.

01:16:55 Eleni Sarris: Myles, the large apartments and condos don't have to recycle or compost. . . most don't have access either even if residents want it.

01:17:01 Emilie Helms: Comparing proposed lower prices to competing vendors is not an accurate comparison, as we are already paying property taxes for tax services.

01:18:05 Thomas Conis: any consideration given to a true "pay as you throw" where you would only be charged if you put your cart out for pickup.

01:18:34 Eleni Sarris: That goes for almost every service in the city. . People and businesses pay and not even one uses it. e.g. libraries, recreation centers. It is a wrong . . . it is call leveling the playing field and created cooperative funding opportunities

01:19:29 Candi CdeBaca: What if someone doesn't pay?
What happens to illegal dumping?
Will this pay for us to have more public trash (parks, corners, bus stops, etc)?
What are the trash solutions for people who cannot afford a house and carts?
Can homeless people pay for carts without an address?
Will the additional income pay for more PLASTIC carts and more GAS to increase pickups?

01:20:25 Anna McCaffery: It is a TAX!

01:20:32 Emilie Helms: It's a fee.... great.... love that argument

01:20:41 Eleni Sarris: We could use more trash receptacles in public spaces and no plan of how extra revenue will be used.

01:20:49 Candi CdeBaca: A "fee" is how we circumvent TABOR in a state that does not allow taxation without a vote.

01:21:48 wendy moraskie: So I'm not paying twice for trash, once with my taxes and again with this fee? Explain, please

01:22:04 Eleni Sarris: Exactly. Fees have gone up considerably and new ones created since TABOR was passed in 1992. Community tells you that we need public restrooms and trash containers in public spaces.

01:23:01 Eleni Sarris: There is plenty of funds in City budget to provide composting and expanded trash services in public spaces

01:23:01 Candi CdeBaca: Residential generates less than 20% of waste in denver while Construction & Demolition generates 40%+. Why not start with the biggest generators of waste? Higher tip fees? Recycle requirements?

01:23:03 Anna McCaffery: Thank you Wendy! I am not paying twice for a service I barely utilize.

01:23:35 Emilie Helms: How much of this increased cost is due to buying new trash trucks that run on the streets instead of the alleys and make twice as many passes through our neighborhood?

01:25:13 Shawn Hayes: Interested in what taxes I pay that subsidize other services across the city I don't use. I think that's what a society does. If it's not harming other human beings, I'll likely be okay with it because I want everyone to have a better quality of life, not just me.

01:25:19 Anna McCaffery: Thank you Candi. Most citizens are not the problem.

01:26:02 Shawn Hayes: Thanks to everyone for their comments and helping me learn more about this.

01:26:16 Anna McCaffery: Shawn you must be wealthy. I over pay constantly. This needs to stop.

01:26:28 Shawn Hayes: No Anna, I'm not.

01:26:44 Emilie Helms: Since the trash change at the beginning of the year, the trash pickup has not improved, and seems to have gotten worse. It is sporadic, occurs at all times throughout the day, and is often missed.

01:27:05 Anna McCaffery: I cannot afford to pay taxes 2 or 3 times for a service I barely use.

01:27:26 Emilie Helms: THANK you Victoria! The service has devolved since January

01:28:17 Shannon Hoffman: I have been to MANY community meetings on this proposal and there is strong community feedback in opposition - not in opposition to the need for recycling and compost - but in opposition to the cost, opposition to individuals carrying the cost burden vs. construction companies who create the most waste, and concern about low income folks being able to pay, and yet it seems like this proposal keeps being pushed forward without much consideration for the input from community members. It's extremely frustrating.

01:28:19 Candi CdeBaca: Exactly Victoria!

01:28:22 Anna McCaffery: The carts on the street now also interfere with street sweeping.

01:28:32 Eleni Sarris: So true Anna!!

01:28:36 Anna McCaffery: street sweeping

01:28:44 Susie Shanley: Thank you for speaking up Anna about the trash cans moving to the street.

01:28:44 wendy moraskie: And pedestrians

01:29:23 Emilie Helms: Street side trash collection has not worked in Congress Park.

01:29:47 Thomas Conis: residents have to push 2 or 3 bins half a block to the avenues because of stairs in front. This is not good service and we can not opt out of this new program

01:30:51 Shawn Hayes: Anna, I'm not asking that we pay useless taxes. I understand where you're coming from or at least as much as I can. It seems that people are saying there are parts of this that aren't as clear as they are making it seem. I'm saying if it's needed, it helps people, and it isn't hurting citizens, I am okay with my tax dollars going towards it even if it doesn't benefit me personally.

01:31:08 wendy moraskie: Proposed opening date?

01:31:17 Jason Engel: Agree the city can't meet their EPA requirements for

street sweeping because the bins are in direct conflict with street sweeping for 50% of Congress park on Tuesday April through October when street sweeping occurs. Move the bins back to the alley.

01:32:23 Anna McCaffery: Shawn we do not need this additional trash service. This tax will go straight to another wasteful program.

01:32:36 Shawn Hayes: Anna I agree completely.

01:32:48 Shawn Hayes: Think we got mixed up somewhere :)

01:32:58 Anna McCaffery: THX Shawn

01:36:09 Emilie Helms: This trash fee will only be the proposed cost for a short time and raised over time.

I am concerned that the total of all the new fees enacted this year - property taxes, excel energy smart meter rates and trash collection will be a significant impact across the neighborhood.

01:37:25 Anna McCaffery: And all of those increased fees are horrendous for seniors on a fixed income. Where do they get additional money?

01:38:11 Emilie Helms: Anna - Thank you!

01:39:15 Susie Shanley: How is requiring residents to drag their cans to the street more environmentally friendly than using the alley as it was intended? Does the City consider quality of life and livability when creating new programs?

01:39:48 Shawn Hayes: Thank you Anna, so important to consider.

01:40:19 wendy moraskie: At the pavilion

01:42:19 Pickard, Leslie, DPR Director of Recreation: Thank you for having us, much appreciation and we look forward to seeing you all at Congress Park Pool in the near future.

01:42:46 wendy moraskie: Especially if anyone can help gather signatures on the petition (trash bins back to the alley)

01:43:20 Jason Engel: The playground construction should start when school starts in the fall. What a disappointment to have a new pool and no playground to play on this summer. Please consider allowing the playground to remain until the summer is over.

01:43:47 wendy moraskie: Yay, Judith!!!

01:44:04 Pickard, Leslie, DPR Director of Recreation: I unfortunately cannot find the answer for your park permit question. Here is the contract for the permitting office and they will be able to give you an answer and direction:
park.permits@denvergov.org

01:44:31 wendy moraskie: Thanks for a well-run meeting, Vicki!!