

IN LIKE A LION



WDCA
 Winston Downs
 Community Association
www.winstondowns.org

March 2019

The Winston Downs Community Association (WDCA) is a Registered Neighborhood Organization (RNO) formed by residents of the Winston Downs and Lee Downs subdivisions. We serve all single-family homes in the neighborhood bounded by Monaco, Alameda, Quebec and Leetsdale.

CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT 5 CANDIDATE FORUM

Election day is May 7! WDCA is teaming up with the Crestmoor, Montclair, Mayfair, and South Hilltop RNOs to cohost a forum with the candidates for City Council for District 5:

Tuesday March 12 6:30 PM

George Washington High School Library (2nd floor)
Please park in lot north of GW (accessible from East Virginia)

Moderator: Pete Casillas, Vice President/Local Markets, Denver Business Journal

All four candidates running for City Council in District 5 will attend: Michele Fry, Stephen Replin, Amanda Sawyer and Mary Beth Susman

There can never be too many opportunities to connect with candidates. Lowry United Neighborhoods (LUN) is hosting another City Council candidate forum on April 3 – See inside for details.

Seven Reasons to Join WDCA

- 1. Good neighbors make great neighborhoods.** When you gather a group of people interested in bettering their neighborhood, good things will come your way. While most neighbors are interested in preventing crime, others are interested in safety, or protecting the neighborhood perimeters from noise and other disturbances. All these agendas make for a diverse to-do list. When it becomes personal, the vested interests grow stronger within the group. This is your home. It's worth it.
- 2. Become a decision-maker.** When you join a neighborhood association, you also have the opportunity to take a place on the Board. By taking a leadership role, you gain the power to discuss issues and create improvements. WDCA is a direct line to city council members and other elected officials.
- 3. Get to know your neighbors.** Gathering people from different backgrounds with a wide range of experience brings so much to the table. There is no social or economic exclusivity. You might not even be sitting in a group with your friends or colleagues — though they may become that over time
- 4. Have fun.** Don't really want to attend a meeting? Well, there is something else for you as well: a good time! Show up to neighborhood events. Meet new people, eat a few tasty treats and go home. All with minimal planning required.
- 5. You'll feel a stronger sense of community and security.** Community members look out for each other and help keep us all safer and feeling more secure.

6. Your interests can be protected on a local level. This past summer the WDCA Board joined with community groups to make sure your concerns about cabaret and liquor licenses for Fairmount Cemetery were heard. Because of the collective opposition by residents and neighborhood groups, no licenses were granted.

7. Community association members are Happy. Really! According to the Foundation for Community Association Research, a whopping 92% of community members rate their experience with their community association as positive (70%) or neutral (22%). 88% say that their elected boards work to serve the best interests of their communities. It's tough to get that many people to agree on anything these days!

HOW TO JOIN: Our membership form is included in this newsletter. You can join on-line. Click the membership link at our website: <http://www.winstondowns.org>

CITY ENGINEER TO HELP WDCA IDENTIFY TRAFFIC MEASURES - YOUR INPUT NEEDED ON MARCH 19

Dana Hoffman, Denver Transportation Project Engineer, will be attending our next Board meeting to brainstorm ideas for addressing traffic and congestion issues in Winston Downs. **7PM March 19 at BMH BJ library.**

Have a traffic-related question? Email info@winstondowns.org

WDCA Benefits Our Community - You Can Help

Engaging neighbors on substantive issues is challenging – we all have competing demands on our time and energy. We are fortunate enough in Winston Downs to have a core group of Board members and residents to help tackle many of the issues that we confront, ranging from confronting the impacts of growth to promoting neighborliness and community.

However, the core group that we have just isn't big enough to do everything that we want to accomplish. Plus, relying on the same voices doesn't translate into the best solutions to problems we encounter. Our community is changing rapidly, with new faces and families joining us every month. Whether this is the first time you've heard of WDCA, or you have lived in Winston Downs for years, we encourage you to get involved. Join one of our existing committees (e.g., traffic, social events or beautification), attend one of the many social or neighborhood meetings that we plan throughout the year or volunteer to spear head a new initiative to tackle an issue that is near and dear to your heart.

The following are just some of the ways that WDCA Board has worked with and for residents in the past year.

Managing Development

WDCA engaged with residents to collect feedback on a proposed liquor license application by Fairmount Cemetery and attempted to negotiate acceptable terms to protect our community. When those efforts were not fruitful, we sought legal representation and successfully fought the license application. We spent dozens of hours on this effort, which was only successful with the commitment of many more hours of Winston Downs residents.

WDCA monitors proposed zoning changes and engages with the City under public comment processes to represent our interests. We also helped review the Denverright plan and disseminated information on opportunities to provide input into long-range planning efforts for Denver.

Beautify our Neighborhood

WDCA Board members got their hands dirty along with residents during several litter and weed cleanup projects in the past year in the perimeter areas of Winston Downs. We will continue these efforts in the coming year. We've had some great suggestions for new projects, such as illuminating the Winston Downs benches on Alameda at Olive Way. We're looking into how to implement this idea, and we want more ideas like this to sink our teeth into!

Promoting Community

WDCA continues to have great success with Fridays Out Front. We're actively pursuing other events such as the candidate forum that will give us year-round opportunities for residents to get engaged with each other and with city leaders. We could use more help with efforts to connect homeowners with volunteers to help out residents who have difficulty performing home maintenance tasks such as snow shoveling.

Safety

Long-term resident Jerry Shustrin's help compiling crime data and serving as a liaison with DPD District 3 is indispensable. He helps relay our concerns and communicates safety news and updates to the Board, which we then pass along to you.



City Councilwoman Mary Beth Susman thought of us when their office had leftover funds in their arts budget. They used some of those funds to help brighten up the staircase leading from S. Oneida St. to Leetsdale Drive. WDCA can take partial credit for the makeover. We have been bringing up the condition of this staircase regularly with Councilwoman Susman's office. WDCA provides a valuable communications channel to our city leadership that can help get things done.

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Safety Update

The Denver Police Department (DPD) compiles comparative crime statistics for different neighborhoods in Denver. In the month prior to our last Board meeting, Winston Downs only had two reported crimes, one of which was an auto theft, and another was a theft from a motor vehicle.

We can take comfort in the fact that Winston Downs is currently experiencing only a small fraction of the number of crimes that are happening in the larger Washington Virginia Vale neighborhood, of which Winston Downs is a part. In the larger Washington Virginia Vale neighborhood, there were sixty reported crimes during the same period when Winston Downs had two.

Still, WDCA tries to do our part to provide you with tips and resources that you can use to reduce your chances of becoming a crime victim.

If you're interested, the Denver Police District 3 Commander holds a Community Advisory Board Meeting at 6pm generally on the first Tuesday every month at District 3 1625 S. University Blvd. For more information call the station at 720-913-1300.

REPORT CRIMES AND SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY

Report all crimes and suspicious activity to the Denver Police Department. It helps to keep our neighborhood safe. Keep these important contact numbers on hand:

Emergencies: call 911

Non-Emergency Help: 720-913-2000

Graffiti: 311 or 720-913-1311

Crime Stoppers Tip Line: 720-913-7867

City Council Update

City Councilwoman Mary Beth Susman's office lists several events that might be of interest to Winston Downs:

- Denver Parks & Recreation seeking input on capital improvements on what kinds of improvements you might want to see. Playgrounds, trails, bike lanes and bridges? Attend a town hall to discuss. Two upcoming dates:
March 13 6:45pm – 8:45pm Cook Park Rec Center
March 16: 9:00am – 11:00am Carla Madison Rec Center
- Summer job fairs are scheduled for March and April to connect young adults aged 16 – 24 with jobs. Two nearby events:
March 16 11am - 1pm Green Valley Ranch Rec Center
April 27 11am – 1pm Center Park Rec Center

For more information:

District 5: Contact Councilwoman Mary Beth Susman
 Phone 720.337.5555 or email: marybeth.susman@denvergov.org
<https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/denver-council-district-5.html>

District 6 (Lee Downs subdivision): Councilman Paul Kashmann.
 Phone: 720 337-6666 or email: paul.kashmann@denvergov.org
<https://www.denvergov.org/content/denvergov/en/denver-council-district-6.html>

LUN Candidate Forum

Given the importance of the many policy issues we're facing in Denver, from education to traffic, we really can't have too many opportunities to engage with candidates for local office. If you're not able to attend the forum being cohosted by Winston Downs on March 12 or if you need more details on a candidate's positions on an issue, there's no need to worry. Lowry United Neighborhoods (LUN) is hosting a candidate forum that will provide another opportunity. Here's the details:

Wednesday, April 3, 2019

6:30-8:00 pm

Eisenhower Chapel

239 Roslyn St, Denver 80230

Join us for a fast-paced evening to hear from Denver City Council candidates!

6:30 -- Candidates for Council District 5:

Michele Fry, Amanda Sawyer, & Mary Beth Susman

7:15 -- Candidates for City Council-at-Large:

Robyn Kniech, Debbie Ortega, & Tony Pigford

Sponsored by: LOWRY UNITED NEIGHBORHOODS

lowryunitedneighborhoods@gmail.com

Facebook: LUN - Lowry United Neighborhoods

Thank you to the LOWRY FOUNDATION for providing the use of Eisenhower Chapel for the event.



Logo by Ben Evans



✓ Top Sales in 80224 3 Years Running

✓ Proud Winston Downs Residents

✓ 98% Referral Based



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Amy Girsch



Denver Happenings

Crestmoor/Winston Downs/Montclair/Mayfair/South Hilltop City Council District 5. March 12 from 6:30pm to 8pm. George Washington High School Library (2nd Floor). Parking in lot on north side of school. Candidates for District 5 seats will discuss their positions on key issues.

Colorado Book and Arts Festival. March 16 from 12pm to 4pm. Arvada Center for the Arts. One-day festival celebrating the literary arts and music. Adult tickets from \$5 to \$15. Children 3-12 \$1 and infants/toddlers are free. For more information, <https://cobookandartsfest.com/>

Denver Mayoral Candidate Forum. March 21 from 6pm to 7:30 pm. Doors open at 5:30pm. The Alliance Center 1536 Wynkoop St. Candidates: Hancock, Calderón, Giavanni, Giellis, Tate will discuss issues of environmental, economic and social sustainability. Tickets are \$15 available at <https://www.eventbrite.com/>

Denver Home Show. March 22 – March 24. National Western Complex. Get ready to move ahead with your home projects with over 400 experts under one roof. Adult tickets \$13. Children 12 and younger free. For more information <https://homeshowdenver.com/>

Lowry United Neighborhoods City Council Candidate Form. April 3 from 6:30pm – 8pm. Eisenhower Chapel 239 Roslyn St. (Lowry). See candidates for District 5 and At Large seats.

Five Points Jazz Festival. May 18 from 11am to 8pm. Five Points. Celebrate Five Points long tradition of jazz musicianship. Free. Fore more info: <http://www.artsandvenuesdenver.com/events-programs/five-points-jazz-festival/>

South Gaylord Memorial Weekend Festival. May 26-27. 10am – 6pm. Historic South Gaylord Street. 40th Annual Memorial Weekend Festival. Kick-off Summer with great family-friendly entertainment, delicious food, local vendors, and much more. For more information: <http://www.oldsouthgaylord.com/>

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