

City & County Manager's Report

March 28, 2006

TO: Mayor Stuart and the Broomfield City Council

FROM: George Di Ciero, City and County Manager

In Review

DRCOG to recognize Metzger project

The Denver Regional Council of Governments has announced that the Metzger Farm Open Space acquisition project was selected as the first place winner in the 2006 Metro Vision Awards.

The project is a joint effort between Broomfield and Westminster. The cities will be recognized for the achievement at the annual DRCOG Awards Dinner on Wednesday, April 26.

266 seek summer jobs at annual fair

On Saturday, March 18, the annual Summer Job Fair at the Broomfield Community Center brought 266 attendees and 113 job applications in just three hours.

Human Resources, Recreation Services and Parks combined to provide information and job opportunities for youth ages 14 and older who are seeking seasonal employment with the city.

This year, there are approximately 272 positions to be filled by new and returning staff. Recruitment will continue through May and most employees will be working by June 12.

Wellness Fair brings out 630

The first annual Broomfield Wellness Fair, on March 11, was attended by over 630 community

members. Co-hosted by the City and County of Broomfield's Health and Human Services Department and the Broomfield area Chamber, the event gathered over 50 businesses to foster an environment that promoted health, wellness and fun activities for attendees.

Experts were available to talk about pandemic influenza, indoor air quality, fire safety, nutrition, massage therapy, acupuncture, chiropractic care and much more. Public Health staff gave radon tests to 60 residents at the Public Health and Environment booth.

Exempla Good Samaritan, the presenting sponsor brought therapy dogs and promoted the new Kids Trek Program by taking photos of children dressed up as a doctor with a real pediatric doc at their side. Western Ambulance highlighted its involvement with Hurricane Katrina, and personal trainers were available to give free body-fat analysis. In addition, 35 area businesses donated door prizes which were raffled off every 15 minutes during the four-hour event.



FYI

Heating assistance update

At the end of February, Health and Human Services had received 598 applications for heating assistance. Of those, 127 applications have been denied. At the end of the 2005 LEAP season, HHS assisted 554 households. After receiving \$17 million in state funding, LEAP raised its benefits by 58 percent beginning with the February 28 payroll, increasing the maximum benefit from \$700 to \$800.

HHS has also seen an increase in shut off notices. Last year HHS had approximately 85 shut offs. This year there have been approximately 80 thus far. LEAP applications are being processed by two part time workers, a TANF intern and a WIA worker.

CACs begin accepting passport applications on April 3



Broomfield's
Community Assistance
Center was recently
designated as a
Passport Acceptance
Facility by the U.S.
Department of State
and will begin
accepting applications
on April 3.

The citizen assistants, Carla Schumacher, Claudia Korn, and Jane Dunlavy, recently took intensive training to provide this service for Broomfield residents as another way to offer centralized services.

Anyone can apply for a new passport or update or renew an existing passport Monday through Friday, between 8 and 11 a.m. or by appointment.

Call the Community Assistance Center at 303-438-6390 or visit Broomfield's Web site at www.broomfield.org for further information.

Markel Property update

On Saturday, Feb. 18, a stakeholder meeting brought together Aspen Creek residents, their Homeowners' Association president, Noble Energy and their excavating and environmental contractors, Assistant City and County Manager Kevin Standbridge, Ward 4 Councilmembers Walt Spader and Randy Ahrens, and staff from the HHS Public Health and Environment Division.

An oil and gas well, located on the Markel property at 136th Avenue and Aspen Street, has been found to be responsible for petroleum hydrocarbon contamination of soil and ground water.

Excavation to remediate the contamination will occur on the property and may include adjoining private property in Aspen Creek.

The meeting provided an opportunity to educate the nearby citizens about the nature of the excavation and the process of removal of contamination on their properties. It gave the Aspen Creek residents a chance to ask questions and have their concerns heard before the excavation starts.

Broomfield's Public Health and Environment Division will attend the daily onsite pre-work briefings to closely monitor the project. The cleanup began on March 20. A notice of this start date was sent on March 3, 2006 to Dr. William Markel, owner of the property, as well as Aspen Creek residents adjoining the property, and the Aspen Creek Homeowners' Association.

Earth Day activities celebrate balance to raise awareness

On April 22, Broomfield will join cities all over the world in celebrating Earth Day. The reason for the celebration is twofold. First, it recognizes Earth's systems of balance, between the presence of animals on land, the fish in the sea, birds in the air, mankind, water, air and land. Second, it aims to raise people's awareness of how their actions can disturb or preserve this precious balance. Through voluntary action, people can join together in building a productive land in harmony with nature. The theme for Earth Day 2006 comes from

a quote by Mahatma Gandhi: "We must be the change we wish to see in the world."

The mayor has signed an Earth Day 2006 proclamation provided by the National Earth Day 2006 committee. It pledges Broomfield's commitment to undertake programs and projects that enhance the community's natural environment and encourages its residents to join in.

Many local activities have been scheduled to fulfill that commitment and to commemorate this occasion. Some of the activities include the annual three Spring Clean Up days, Arbor Day tree plantings, a Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day, a series of xeriscape landscape lectures, and a West Nile Virus/mosquito control seminar.

Earth Day calendars were delivered to all Broomfield residents in their February utility bills. As the event dates draw near, additional advertising for these events will be provided in the Enterprise, on the local cable channel, and on the city's web page. All of the city sponsored events are free to Broomfield residents. The events calendar can be found at

http://www.ci.broomfield.co.us/environment/Events Calendar Spring06.shtml



Looking ahead

Library program appeals to teens who might 'Wanna D.J.'

Music can release you from the pressures of life. It has the power to heal. Nobody knows this better than professional disk jocky Chris Crockroft.

In the newest Teen Zone program, Crockroft will demonstrate the artful technique of spinning records in *The Audi on* Sunday, May 14, from 2 - 5 p.m. Registration is required. Teen programs are for students in grades 6 - 12. Register at the Teen Zone desk or call 720-887-2360.

Workforce Center hosts free seminars

The Broomfield Workforce Center will host two upcoming seminars.

The first, entitled "New Strategies for a New Job Market," will be Wednesday, March 29, at the Mamie Doud Eisenhower Library from 6 to 8 p.m. Participants will learn Five Winning New

Strategies for getting hired, effective job search strategy and much more.

The second seminar on Wednesday, May 3, from 5 to 8 p.m. is titled "Get Hired!" Designed to help job seekers succeed in today's ultra-competitive job market, it will include resume writing, interviewing, effective job search methods and tips in the modern job market.

The free seminars are made possible by a \$1,000 donation from Sun Microsystems. To register, residents should contact the Broomfield Workforce Center at 303-464-5894.

Water system maintenance begins

Public Works personnel will begin flushing the city's water distribution system on April 2. This procedure is necessary to help maintain the water quality in the system and is performed by systematically opening fire hydrants throughout the city.

Flushing requires a large amount of water to create a "scouring" effect on the inside of the pipes to

remove sediment in which bacteria may form. The process improves the taste and odor qualities of the water and helps maintain chlorine residual in the system.

This scouring effect may result in some discoloration in the water. If this happens, residents are advised that, although unpleasant to look at, the water is safe to drink. The water should clear up once the system settles down, usually within 24 hours.

Concurrent with this year's program, Public Works staff will perform pressure tests at each of the hydrant locations. These tests are required by the Insurance Service Office, Inc. (ISO) in order to rate the city's fire suppression system. The ISO rating, ranging from 1 to 10 with 1 being the best, has a direct effect on residential and commercial insurance rates within the Fire District.

Broomfield's present rating is 4, which is considered to be good. Residential development is not affected due to an improved rating once the rating is below 7. Commercial development does benefit as the rating is lowered.

Flushing operations are expected to take four to five weeks and will require the use of approximately 15 million gallons of water. Business, commercial, industrial and other high traffic areas will be flushed at night between 11 p.m. and 6 a.m. Residential and lower traffic areas will be flushed during regular working hours. The schedule showing the areas to be flushed is shown in the following table.

Water System Flushing Schedule						
Week One	Industrial and commercial areas: Interlocken, Jeffco Airport, Broomfield Industrial Park, FlatIron Retail District, West Midway. Flushing will be done at night.					
Week Two	Main Street to west City limits, north of 10 th Avenue; Main Street to Sheridan Boulevard, north of 10 th Avenue					
Week Three	Highway 287 to Sheridan Boulevard, between 10 th Avenue and south City limits.					
Week Four	Sheridan Boulevard to Zuni Street, north of 120 th Avenue and south of 136 th Avenue.					
Week Five	Sheridan Boulevard to Zuni Street, north of 136 th Avenue. Catch up week.					

Hard to Recycle Roundup Day

Saturday, April 29, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Broomfield residents will be able to recycle computers, cell phones and more at this one-day-only special collection event at the Broomfield Recycling Center, 225 Commerce St. There will be charges for some items. For more information visit www.broomfield.org/recycling or call 303-404-2839.

'Incredibles' Week

This week is "Incredibles" Week at the Paul Derda Recreation Center, 13201 Lowell Blvd. and the Broomfield Community Center, 280 Lamar. Residents are invited to visit any time for fun displays, special offers, free balloons and sneak previews of all the incredible summer fun Recreation Services will announce in its upcoming Summer Brochure!

Earth Day program just for kids!

Saturday, April 22 from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Presented by the Colorado State University Master Gardners and Broomfield Environmental Services. Only 50 slots are available for kids ages six to 12, to be dropped off for an afternoon of fun crafts and activities to promote environmental awareness. Only 50 slots are available. Call 720.887.2286 to reserve a space.

Household Hazardous Waste Day

For those who like to plan ahead, the annual Household Hazardous Waste Day is scheduled this year on May 20. It is by appointment only, so call 303-438-6336 for more information or to schedule an appointment.

MINI Haha registration begins

Registration began Monday, March13, for the Mini Haha Triathlon, and the preparatory clinics and training course.

By mid March, 66 participants were signed up for the triathlon, six for the training course, and four for the clinics. Participants are looking forward to the event, and Recreation Services has received many phone calls and emails from past participants who are planning to return. Work is underway to look for sponsors and volunteers to help make the event fun, safe, and exciting for everyone.

Other recreation departments in the area hold triathlons, but the Mini Haha has a niche in that it

is small (MINI); which makes it more do-able for a wider population. Additionally, planning for this event focuses on participants having fun (Haha)!

The Mini HaHa is June 11 and requires cooperation between City departments; Streets, Parks and Recreation and Police.

Tree limb recycling drop-off

This popular program is open for residential use only. Please note hours of operation are Wednesdays 1 to 5 p.m. and Saturdays 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. 225 Commerce St.

Departmental updates

COMMUNICATIONS

Broomfield's goose dogs were featured on WB2News March 16 at 9 p.m. The dogs, Craig and Wren, were shown herding and hazing resident Canada geese. Handler Rick Sedbrook,

of the Parks Division, explained the program and the reasons behind it.

An in-house video production for Human Resources to assist in employee orientation is nearing completion.

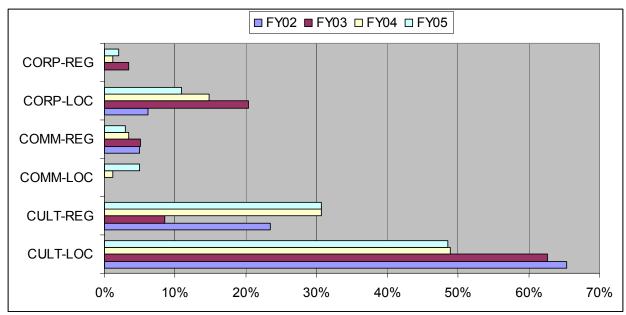
CULTURAL AFFAIRS

The quality and variety (regional/REG* versus local/LOC) of cultural groups paying to use the Audi increased over the first four years (as compared to Community (Comm) and Corporate (Corp) use). Below are data and chart reflecting this trend.

FY02-05 OVERVIEW:

% USES:	FY02	FY03	FY04	FY05
LOCAL	72%	83%	65%	64%
REGIONAL	28%	17%	35%	36%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	100%

Music presentations included pop, jazz, classical – Colorado Chamber Players. Dance presentations were ballet, modern, and ethnic – Dulce Flamenco. Theater shows were musicals, movies, stories - Rocky Mountain Storytellers, and variety offerings included talent shows, and an international flair – Colorado Telegu Assoc/Indian.



HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (HHS)

Cooperative Extension: The March Xeriscape lectures had 35 attendees. The lectures were sponsored by the Public Works Environmental Services Division in cooperation with the Mamie Doud Eisenhower Public Library and the CSU Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners.

The lectures covered the seven basic principles of Xeriscape. Refreshments and door prizes were also offered.

In conjunction with the Adams County 4-H club, members from the **Broomfield 4-H** club performed in a vocal, dance and instrumental competition at the Audi in February. Four members of the Best of Broomfield 4-H Club performed for the audience.

Competing were Cloverbud members (4-H members aged 5-7 years) Emily Braddock and Ali Huppert. Misha Huppert and Michelle Koppl of the junior division (8-10 year olds) competed as well. The two groups also hosted a 4-H Performing Arts Contest on March 18. Members performed skits and plays for the audience.

Xeriscape one-on-one planning workshops wrap up on March 30. Residents meet with CSU Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners, one-on-one, to get questions answered and receive advice specific to their own garden and landscape needs.

To set an appointment for March 30, contact the CSU Cooperative Extension Office at 720-887-2286. The cost is \$20 for a 45 minute consultation.

Families and Children: HHS hosted the first Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program (PREP) Adoptive Parent Retreat on March 11 and 12. This weekend program focuses on building skills in communication, problem solving, and conflict management, teaching specific strategies and skills associated with preserving healthy relationships.

Attending the retreat were 13 Broomfield couples from the United Families Program. The retreat activities were followed by an evening of dining and entertainment. The workshop was provided by the Colorado Coalition of Adoptive Families.

Staff is collaborating with Boulder County Department of Human Services and the Colorado Coalition of Adoptive Families to offer an intensive training to adoptive parents. The event on Saturday, April 8, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., is for adoptive families and will be held at the Broomfield Community Center.

Training will provide participants a better understanding of how adoption affects the normal tasks of adolescence, including separation from parents, identity formation and issues related to sexuality. Mild behavior problems will be addressed as well.

To register, contact Colleen Tarket at 720-937-4497. There is a fee of \$20 per person or \$30 for a couple. The fee is reimbursable to United Families members.

Workforce Center: The Broomfield Workforce Center conducts a Job Club session every week at 9:30 a.m. on Tuesdays. Job Club is a supportive activity for job seekers, and each week facilitators bring information on a scheduled topic to the meetings. Subjects covered are: networking, resumes, cover letters, thank you letters, interviewing, the "hidden" job market, and over 40 barriers to job seekers.

Job Club provides networking opportunities for its members, furthers personal development though informational sessions, offers peer support from others in the job search process, and increases the employment outcomes for the members of the group. Job Club has served over 60 job seekers since its June 2005 inception. More information, is available on the city Events Calendar at www.broomfield.org or by calling the center at 303-464-5895.

- The Workforce Center and the Educational Opportunity Center recently hosted computer classes to increase basic knowledge of clients and interested individuals. The classes are taught at the City and County Building in the computer training room. The first class, attended by nine people, went over the basics of computers. The six people in the second class learned about email and the Internet. The next classes are on using computer applications and a second session on the basics.
- The Workforce Center hosted a hiring event on March 23 for Home Depot.
- A representative from Exempla Good Samaritan Medical Center serves on the Broomfield Workforce Investment Board.

Through that connection, Lutheran Medical Center and Exempla will share a sponsorship for the upcoming Rocky Mountain Workforce Development Annual Conference. Those who should attend are economic developers, workforce investment board members, workforce professionals, and educators. The conference, titled "Meeting the Business Demands of the New Economy" is April 11-13, at the Grand Hyatt Hotel in downtown Denver.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Broomfield's volunteer program has three volunteers – sisters – who team up to help in the Human Resources Department. The three all reside in Broomfield. They are Betty Harms, Delores Kingsley, and Caroline Bundy.

Volunteer supervisor Liane Shaffer says they "are a bundle of fun and really know how to 'whistle while you work'!" She says they get a lot of filing, collating, and packet-making done for Human Resources, all while they are socializing together. When the three are on-site volunteering, everyone in the department can tell because there is a special spirit that the retired volunteers bring as they cheerfully go about their volunteer tasks.

LIBRARY SERVICES

Cheryl German, reference librarian at the Mamie Doud Eisenhower Public Library, was recently admitted to the "500 Club" for answering 500 or more reference questions on the state-wide ASK COLORADO 24/7 on-line library reference chat service. Thanks to good promotion by the library's reference staff, Broomfield residents have discovered this service and are among its most frequent users.

RECREATION SERVICES

Fitness: The Spring Fitness Challenge has doubled in participation from last year with 90 participants enrolled. There were 4,487 participations at the Paul Derda Recreation Center in group fitness, up over 3,207 in 2005, and 1,700 participations at the Broomfield Community Center in group fitness, over 1,680 in 2005.

New this year is a Group Challenge. Forty-five participants have enrolled in six groups. The groups are competing against one another to see which can lose the greatest percentage of body fat. The group that wins the challenge will win a free one-hour massage. For 10 weeks each group will workout twice a week for an hour at each session with a personal trainer.

The workouts are determined by the trainer, based on the individual goals of each participant. At the end of each session, the trainer gives the group a challenge to complete prior to their next meeting.

Early Learning: Community and intradepartmental interaction with Early Learning preschool classes continues. Representatives from the Fire Department, Police Department, Italian Greyhound of America Rescue, St. Bernard Rescue and CPR and First Aid certified staff from the Recreation Division visited to share their job duties and responsibilities in the community.

The Director of Sylvan Learning Center in Westminster presented a workshop for the preschool parents on reading. This workshop provided materials about learning phonics, comprehension, and vocabulary so parents can teach at home. Some of the ideas from this presentation will be incorporated into the Early Learning classes as well.

Senior programs: recent senior trips included a culinary lunch and tour, candy tour, sleigh ride and lunch, supper club, and casino trip. Total participants were 119.

In the Silver Sneakers program, 80 participated in the Coffee Hour, and 16 came to the new members meeting. In February, total Silver Sneakers visitors to the Broomfield Community Center were 1,825 and 2,869 visited the Derda Center.

Therapeutic Recreation: The Broomfield Special Olympics Basketball Team took first place in its division on February 19 in Greeley, and Broomfield volunteer Don Weis received the Volunteer of the Year award at a banquet on February 12 through Special Olympics.

Capital projects

Sheridan Boulevard underpass at Highland Park

What's Happening

- The contractor has excavated the east side and is installing the drainage system that lies beneath the underpass structure. The storm sewers have been re-routed and a dewatering system set up for the project.
- Along the west side, the contractor will be grading for the future trail connection to Dover Street and will be installing a small, pedestrian crossing bridge over the existing concrete and rock drainage channel.

What's Next

- The contractor will start to construct the retaining walls along the east side of the underpass.
- The pre-cast concrete box structure that will be the underpass is scheduled to arrive at the beginning of April. The east half of the underpass structure will be set and utilities relocated shortly thereafter.

Sheridan Boulevard widening project from East 9th Avenue to Aspen Creek

What's Happening

The contractor is completing the last block of landscaping. After that, the contractor will have reached "substantial completion" of the project. Final inspections will be scheduled and the remaining work will include repairing items that were identified in the final inspections ("punch list" items).

What's Next

- Sod installation has been contracted separately from Broomfield's drought tolerant sod farm. Since the irrigation system needs to be charged and operational to adequately water new sod, the sod will not be installed until later in the spring, tentatively in April.
- The painted roadway striping will be replaced with permanent thermoplastic striping in late spring. This work item requires temperatures to be above 50 degrees over a 24 hour period.

Transportation Update ...

120th Avenue Connection – First Phase of the Wadsworth Interchange Reconstruction

In January of 2006 the environmental documents for the 120th Avenue Connection were approved, clearing the way for construction of a critical connection between Arista and Original Broomfield.

Staff submitted an application for the 2007-2012 Denver Regional Council of Governments Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) to fund the design and construction of the bridge over U.S. 36 and connections to Original Broomfield. The TIP identifies the transportation projects that will be implemented in the next six years. Broomfield was notified that its application

score qualified the 120th Avenue Connection to receive \$24 million. This is 42 percent of the entire DRCOG funds available for new projects in this TIP, and an unprecedented allocation to a single project in any TIP. In order for Broomfield to accept this \$24 million a match of \$6 million, or 20 percent of the project will be required.

A discussion of transportation funding, including the \$6 million match for this TIP funding is scheduled for an upcoming Council Study Session. Staff has developed alternative financing scenarios, all of which include \$6 million for this project.

US 36 Environmental Impact Study

The U.S. 36 Environmental Impact Study (EIS) has been underway since 2003 and seeks to identify multi-modal improvements (including highway, rail, bus and bike investments) between Denver and Boulder along a 22 mile roadway (US 36) and a 30 mile railroad (BNSF) corridor.

The Draft EIS includes four potential packages of improvements and a "no-build" package. Currently, the document is under review by the study's lead agencies, the Federal Highway Administration, Federal Transit Administration, RTD and CDOT. The next step is to receive further public input on the packages and narrow them to a "preferred alternative".

Northwest Corridor Environmental Impact Study

The Northwest Corridor EIS seeks to identify an improved connection between the western terminus of the Northwest Parkway in Broomfield

and the Colorado 58, I-70, C-470 freeway systems to the south in Jefferson County. The project team is currently studying in depth the remaining four "build" alternatives and the "no-action" alternative, applying environmental analysis methodologies to better understand the relative impacts and merits of each alternative. The draft EIS is expected to be completed and available for public review and comment in summer/fall 2006.

North I-25 Environmental Impact Study

The North I-25 EIS is the most recent study of interest to Broomfield to get underway. This corridor is 70 miles long, between Fort Collins-Wellington and Denver. In addition to highway and bus improvements, this study is also looking at the feasibility of rail service either parallel to I-25, or using the rail line in the U.S. 287 corridor. Alternative packages of improvements are currently underdevelopment.

At the Audi ...

- The Westminster Paletteers Spring Color art show will hang through May 5 at the Audi for viewing during events.
- Sunday, April 2, the Broomfield Civic Orchestra presents "Symphonic Pictures" at 3 p.m.
- Ballet Nouveau presents Face2Face on Friday and Saturday, April 7 and 8 at 7 p.m. and Sunday, April 9 at 2 p.m.
- The free CU in Broomfield Chamber Music series continues Wednesday, April 12 at 7 p.m. Pianist Daphne Leong and College of Music colleagues will celebrate Mozart with his

- Quintet for Piano and Winds and the Quartet for Piano and Strings
- Science, Sights and Sounds free presentation is Thursday, April 13 at 7 p.m. This familyoriented program is appropriate for all ages.
- Saturday, April 22, hear "Women's Wisdom, Women's Words" in a concert by the Aster Chamber Choir. The concert begins at 7 p.m.

Information on tickets, directions to the Audi and year-round event information are available at www.broomfieldauditorium.com or by calling the Cultural Affairs Artsline at 303.469.3301, ext. 7999.

