



City & County Manager's Report

May 23, 2006

TO: Mayor Stuart and the Broomfield City Council
FROM: George Di Ciero, City and County Manager

FYI

Seven sites set for Vote Centers

The Clerk and Recorder has selected seven sites for use as vote centers for the August 8 Primary Election, and the November 7 General Election this year. The vote centers allow any registered Broomfield voter to cast a ballot at his or her choice of location. The locations are:

1. **Broomfield Senior Center**
280 Lamar St.
2. **The Chateaux at Fox Meadows**
13600 Xavier Lane
3. **Church of the Holy Comforter**
1700 W. 10th Ave.
4. **Cross of Christ Lutheran Church**
12099 Lowell Blvd.
5. **Flatiron Crossing** - Community Room
1 West Flatiron Circle, Suite 1083
6. **Front Range Mobile Home Community**
Club House
2885 E. Midway Blvd.
7. **Risen Savior Lutheran Church**
3031 W. 144th Ave.

Originally, six sites were proposed, but after additional site visits, staff decided that original plans were overly optimistic concerning space available. By redeploying staff and equipment, a seventh site can be added for very little additional cost, approximately \$500 for telecommunications hook-up and ballot tabulator rental.

The seventh site will add more convenience for Broomfield voters by providing an additional choice of polling locations.

Notifications listing vote center locations will be mailed by the end of June to Broomfield voters. The notifications will include an application for an absentee ballot if the voter chooses to vote by mail. Public service announcements will also be shown on Channel 8 beginning in early June alerting voters to the new locations.

Voting equipment required by the Help America Vote Act is due to arrive before the end of May. Staff has received training in the operation of the new equipment and software.



It's Midway all the way to Zuni!

Broomfield has officially changed the name of 128th Avenue to East Midway Boulevard, effective May 4 with the unveiling of the new street signs.

Crews from the city's Street Operations Division replaced 12 aluminum signs at a cost of \$292, and eight luminary panels at a cost of \$1,097.

The name change now makes the Midway moniker complete as an existing east-west street through Broomfield, unifying the neighborhoods along its path from Zuni on the east all the way to Duette Way on the west.

Senior Center Art Cart opens

The Art Cart at the Senior Center is open for business and loaded with beautiful, hand-crafted items for sale.

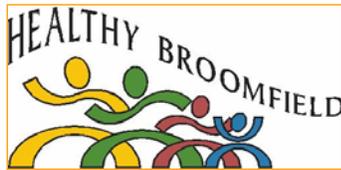
For those looking for a special, one-of-a-kind gift, a visit to the Senior Center may solve gift shopping needs.

The cart is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and special hours by appointment. Call 303-464-5526 for more information.

Looking ahead

Saturday, June 3: 2006 Broomfield Trail Adventure

The 2006 Broomfield Trail Adventure is scheduled Saturday, June 3, in conjunction with National Trails Day. The event is part of the "Healthy Broomfield" effort.



The Trail Adventure has become an annual community event. Local citizens and trail enthusiasts come

out and celebrate the local trails by hiking, jogging, or biking a section of the Broomfield trail system. This year the event will take place will be hosted at Broomfield County Commons to showcase the new trails in this large open space tract.

In 2005, approximately three miles of soft surface trails were constructed throughout the Broomfield County Commons open space, and a variety of improvements and amenities were made to the surrounding open space.

The Broomfield Trail Adventure is organized and coordinated by community volunteers and Broomfield's Open Space and Trails Department, and is sponsored and endorsed by The City and County of Broomfield. The event is also sponsored by numerous local businesses who donate awards and services for the event and its participants.

At the event, the Broomfield Health and Human Services Department will promote health and recreation through the *Thriving Communities* and *America on the Move* programs. Recreation Services will be staging several outdoor recreational programs at the event.

Other groups involved in the Broomfield Trail Adventure are the Broomfield Nature Program, the CSU Cooperative Extension, local bicycle groups, and wildlife advocacy groups. Approximately 250 participants are expected to attend this year's event.

Broomstock offers end-of-school fun

Thursday, June 8, is the day for the annual Broomstock drug- and alcohol-free outdoor event featuring Broomfield teen bands.

Sponsored by the City and County of Broomfield, Broomfield Flatirons Rotary, the Broomfield Council on the Arts and Humanities, Broomfield Community Foundation and Cindy Trautwein, RE/MAX Realtor, Broomstock is being spearheaded by Broomfield and Legacy High School students.

From 11 a.m. to 10 p.m., 29 bands will be performing in the area west of Community Park Pond. All surrounding high schools, including Horizon, Standley Lake, and Northglenn, have been invited to participate.

Broomfield High School adjourns for the summer on the morning of June 8, and Broomstock has been designed as a positive program planned for Broomfield teens to enjoy the end of their school year in a safe and healthy environment.

During the day, food and soft drinks will be available. Games and activities are also planned, along with the music, for the area's youth.

Mini Haha set for June 11

The Mini Haha Triathlon is scheduled June 11, and registration is under way.

Other recreation departments in the area hold triathlons, but the Mini Haha has a niche in that it is small – *mini* – making it more do-able for a wider population. Additionally, planning for this event focuses on participants having fun – the *haha* part.

Participants swim 300 yards, bike 11 miles, and run or walk two miles. Registration continues through May 24 or until the maximum is met. Cost is \$30 for an individual or \$80 for a team of three.

Volunteers are also needed. Anyone with questions or who may be interested in helping with

the Mini-Haha can call Dawn at 303-460-6918 or Kim at 303-464-5540.

Award winning educational program for seniors begins June 6

The award-winning "Freedom To Ride" transportation education class will begin Tuesday, June 6 from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. for the classroom session and concludes Tuesday, June 13, from 9 a.m. to noon for the field trip session. Adults tired of fighting traffic who would like to learn how easy it is to ride RTD can call 303-464-5526 to register. Fee is \$10 for residents and \$12 for non-residents.

Freedom To Ride was recognized by the Colorado Association of Senior Centers as the top program in the state.

Transportation update ...

Wadsworth Parkway and 120th Avenue intersection improvement

CDOT has awarded to New Design Construction the reconstruction contract for the intersection of Wadsworth Parkway (Colorado 121) and 120th Avenue (Colorado 128). The intersection will be reconstructed to provide for two left-turn lanes from northbound Wadsworth, a right-turn lane from eastbound 120th Avenue, and realignment of eastbound and westbound left turn lanes. This project is significant as it aligns the existing roadway for the 120th Avenue Connection over U.S. 36. The project will take approximately 12 months. Total cost of the project is \$5.4 million which includes design, construction, construction management and contingency. All funding is federal.

Northwest Corridor Environmental Impact Study (EIS)

The committee of elected officials, technical staff and other stakeholders of Northwest Corridor EIS met on May 1 for the first time since October, 2005. A modified alignment received positive feedback and an aggressive schedule for completion by February 2007 was presented.

This proposal received qualified support from representatives of Golden, Arvada, Jefferson County, Wheat Ridge, Louisville, Westminster and Broomfield. Representatives from Boulder and the

environmental community raised questions but not fatal flaws at this time.

Following the meeting, Golden wrote a very strong letter to CDOT expressing serious concerns about the process, the information provided at the meeting, and the alternative as it would be designed through Golden.

CDOT unveiled a "Modified Combined Alternative Alignment" at the meeting. The alternative proposes that roadway segments in the vicinity of U.S. 36 and through Golden will become regional arterials, with a toll way connecting the two segments.

- Most significant for Broomfield is the northern-most portion serving Interlocken and the Flatiron retail area. From the termination of the Northwest Parkway south to Colorado 128, Interlocken Loop will function as a major regional arterial (similar to Santa Fe Drive in Denver) and would have a total of six lanes:
 - One lane in each direction would be added at-grade.
 - Existing local roadway connections would remain. There are six existing intersections from the terminus of the Northwest Parkway south to Interlocken Boulevard. It will not be a high speed road as a result.
 - This portion of the roadway would not be tolled at this time, but that could be revisited. The Northwest Parkway has

jurisdiction over this segment. The proposal supports Broomfield's request to maintain at-grade access through Interlocken.

- South from Colorado 128, the road is proposed as a toll way to just before Golden. From 128, a new road would travel southwest north of Great Western Reservoir to the Rocky Flats buffer along Indiana. The buffer area allows Indiana to remain as a local road alongside the toll way. A new road would be built on a diagonal from Indiana, connecting to Colorado 93 north of 64th Avenue at a new interchange.
- Colorado 93, south of 64th Avenue is proposed as a major regional arterial with a mix of signalized intersections and grade separated interchanges.
- In addition, from south of Colorado 72 to the existing intersection with Colorado 58, Indiana and McIntyre streets will become four-lane principal arterials. The roads are anticipated to have two lanes in each direction with sidewalks and retaining walls to contain the road and protect adjacent parks and recreation areas.
- The funding and phasing of the corridor segments have not yet been determined.

CDOT Region 6 Director Pam Hutton outlined an ambitious schedule that would result in a phased Record of Decision (ROD) for the project (this means funding is identified for some phases but not necessarily all) by February 2007. A Final Environmental Impact State recommending a proposed alternative would be released to the public for comment 60 days in advance of a ROD.

In order to realize this schedule, intensive, detailed work must be completed during the remainder of 2006. Next steps are completion of an evaluation of the newly proposed alternative along with the previous alternatives (for toll way, freeway and regional arterial alignment alternatives) that includes criteria for performance, financial feasibility, environmental concerns and public acceptance.

North I-25 Environmental Impact Study

The North I-25 EIS is continuing to refine alternative packages. Broomfield is advocating for three issues:

1. The Colorado 7/I-25 Interchange – We believe the volume of traffic calls for a partial cloverleaf. The study is evaluating that

configuration compared with making improvements to the existing diamond interchange.

2. Bus Rapid Transit Station locations – Two station alternatives are being evaluated, one north of I-25 and one south, consistent with Broomfield's I-25 Sub-Area Plan. The northern location is suggested by the study out of concern for highway design issues.
3. Sheridan Interchange – The plans to date do not include a new interchange at Sheridan, although it is included in DRCOG's Metro Vision Plan. We believe that an interchange at Sheridan will be needed as the area builds out and will facilitate better operation of the highway.

This study is continuing to analyze potential packages of transit and highway improvements.

U.S. 36 Environmental Impact Study

The U.S. 36 Environmental Impact Study (EIS) was started in August 2003, prior to the passage of FasTracks. After reaching agreement on four initial alternative packages and a "no action" package, the study has been stalled. Local government representatives have desired that we determine a "preferred alternative," necessary to secure federal funding for the project.

Recently, there has been motivation on the part of both CDOT and RTD to come to closure on the identification of a preferred alternative.

- Governor Owens' administration is coming to a close, and this project was part of his agenda to improve statewide transportation. CDOT Executive Director Tom Norton directed the study's lead consultant to work diligently to ensure that a preferred alternative is reached by November 1, 2006.
- RTD's passage of FasTracks fully funds commuter rail for the U.S. 36 Corridor. Without federal funding, there is no financial need for the rail component to be included in the U.S. 36 EIS, and RTD believes it can move the project more quickly if it is independent from highway and bus rapid transit decision making.

FasTracks elements may be considered "givens" because of voter approval. Federal agencies have approved "independent utility" for the rail.

The Executive Oversight Committee for the US 36 EIS includes the local highest level representatives of the Federal Highway

Administration and Federal Transit Administration, and the executive directors of CDOT and RTD. They have directed two key actions:

1. Incorporate identification of a preferred alternative in the Draft EIS. A preferred alternative would include the elements of each mode included in recommended package, for example a combination of general purpose lanes or toll lanes and high occupancy vehicle lanes.
2. Circulate a Draft EIS to the public for comment by the end of 2006.

Key issues still to be resolved include the role tolling may have in financing highway improvements and how bus travel is facilitated.

North I-25 - U.S. 36 HOT lanes open June 2

The conversion of the existing High Occupancy Vehicle Lanes to High Occupancy Toll (HOT) Lanes is now complete, with the lanes scheduled to open to single occupant drivers on June 2. The same transponders used to travel on the Northwest Parkway and E-470 can be used to pay tolls, which will only be collected electronically.

Carpoolers, buses and motorcycles will not pay a fee or be required to have a transponder. CDOT's goal is to break even, but move more vehicles quickly on existing roadway lanes.

The Express Lanes are different than other Colorado toll roads in that there are no toll booths. Single occupant drivers must have an Express Toll transponder to use the lanes. Prices will vary by time of day. Toll rates will be higher in peak periods to maintain current travel times. The peak hour fee will be \$3.25, decreasing to 50 cents in the off peaks. The purpose of the higher tolls is to ensure the lanes never become congested.

All vehicles will use the same entrances and exits to the lanes. Near 58th Avenue, the lane will split and signs will designate the appropriate lanes for HOVs and for toll-paying vehicles. Solo drivers will choose the lane designated "Toll." Those who pass through the toll collection zone in the lanes marked HOV with only a driver will be ticketed. Those who are carpooling and choose the HOV lane will not be charged a toll.

The new Express Lanes are operated and maintained by Colorado Tolling Enterprise, a division of the Colorado Department of Transportation.

Debra Bassett

Departmental updates ...

CLERK AND RECORDER

The City Clerk's staff observed Municipal Clerks Week April 20 through May 6. This national observance was highlighted locally with a proclamation signed by Mayor Stuart, along with flowers, food, treats and gifts for the staff from City Clerk Vicki Marcy.

The office of the municipal clerk is the oldest among public servants, and serves as a professional link between citizens, city councils, government administration and agencies of government.

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES (HHS)

Health and Human Services staff participated in the 9 Health Fair on Saturday, April 22. At the fair, HHS staff distributed over 300 Family Checklists for pandemic flu and 200 radon testing kits. They

ran out of travel brochures and Quit Smoking kits, and brought home very few of the other brochures!

Senior Services: Nearly 200 seniors received assistance from AARP tax assistance volunteers who were at the Senior Center from January until April 15. Taxes for 183 taxpayers were completed, of which 81 percent were electronically filed. There were also 13 people who came in just to ask questions.

Nine low income people whose taxes were completed, filed the Colorado tax credit for rent, heat and property. According to the volunteer tax preparers, staff at the Senior Center did a great job taking appointments and their follow-ups were outstanding.

The sixth annual Basket Auction to benefit Broomfield Meals-on-Wheels brought over 100 to the event, and raised over \$4,000 with the help of auctioneer Paul Derda. Dorothy Ransom provided

the piano music during the reception as guests dined on appetizers and punch.

Highlight of the evening was a hand-crafted cedar chest made by the woodshop senior volunteers. It sold for \$280. Mayor Stuart again offered a Christmas Tea at her home and it was auctioned for \$145. City Council donated a garden fountain that sold for \$130.

Cooperative Extension: Holli Bowman, Colorado State University Cooperative Extension Director for Broomfield, has received the *Air Force Recruiting Salute Award* from the Colorado Association of Extension 4-H Agents (CAE4-HA).

According to the award handbook, the award "recognizes the individual who has created a positive Extension image through his/her leadership and citizenship as it relates to the development of the 4-H Program." The award was voted upon by 4-H Agents across the state, and Bowman could be recognized at the national level.

Under Bowman's guidance, the Best of Broomfield 4-H Club has grown from 35 members at the charter meeting in October to 59 members in March. Members have chosen projects ranging from horses to creative sewing and rocketry to veterinary science and beyond.

Recently, Broomfield's CSU Cooperative Extension Master Gardeners were at Home Depot answering shoppers' questions about home gardening. Doing what they do best, the Master Gardeners provided research-based answers and information about a variety of topics.

More "Ask a Master Gardener" sessions are planned June 3, 17, July 1, 15 and August 5 and 19. The sessions are from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Anyone with a question for a Master Gardener, but who cannot make it to Home Depot, during one of these sessions, may call the help line at 303.464.5554. Leave a message, and a Master Gardener will return the call.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Human Resources is prompting employees to participate in the annual Tri City Shuffle, a competitive challenge between the employees of the City and County of Broomfield, the City of Lafayette, and the City of Louisville. This year marks the third year of the challenge.

Each city tracks the number of minutes of exercise its employees do. The exercises included are

walking, running, biking and swimming. There are bonus point opportunities offered throughout the challenge – participating in local races, exercising on Mother's Day and Memorial Day, and doing all three sports in one week. Broomfield has 69 employees who are participating this year.

At the end of the first week, Broomfield employees had racked up 11,971 minutes of exercise. That included 9,502 minutes of walking or running, 1,589 minutes of bicycling, and 880 minutes of swimming. Lafayette had 12,154 minutes, and Louisville had 14,670 minutes during the same time.

RECREATION SERVICES

Athletics: Summer adult softball registration in April filled every league offered, totaling 110 teams. This is an increase of five teams over last year's registration.

Also in April, youth volleyball started with 150 kids registered in 15 teams. Last year there were not sufficient registrations for any adult volleyball leagues. This year, people have come out so there are eight six-person contests on Tuesday, and five four-person games on Thursday.

Youth inline hockey started and 30 kids registered for three teams to play against youth teams from outside of Broomfield. Lacrosse also started in April, with 60 kids registered for three teams.

The main focus in Athletics is preparing for the many summer sports programs that are about to begin. Additionally, preparations are well underway for a full Fireworks Tournament.

Childsitting: Childsitting staff have been working extra hours to provide childcare for the Spring Fitness Challenge participants and those training for the Mini Haha Triathlon.

Early learning: Registrations for the 2006-2007 Preschool year on April 22, enrolled 97 children.

Fitness: At the one-year anniversary of BODYPUMP® at the Paul Derda Recreation Center April 8, 38 participants were on hand for the launch of "Release 57," and 20 for the first Challenge Class. In the challenge, individuals challenge themselves to increase the equipment weights they work out with. Participants successfully doubled the weight of the equipment they use.



Adding weights in the BODYPUMP® fitness program at the Derda Center.

The first training class for the Mini Haha was completed with the help of the Aquatics Division.

Fitness staff also successfully completed its first year working with the Legacy High School Swim Team. Staff helped boys and girls teams with dry land training by providing two BODYPUMP® classes per week for 10 weeks.

April Fitness Class Participation

Paul Derda Recreation Center	4,000
Broomfield Community Center	1,699

Gymnastics: During March and April, there were 4,448 participations (a participation is one child per one class period) in Gymnastics programs.

The gymnastics program offers classes for individuals ranging in age from 18 months, with some even younger in the Parent-Tot classes, to 18 years.

Senior programs: Participation was high in April, with 368 individuals enjoying the various programs offered. Additionally, a volunteer luncheon recognized 100 volunteers who donate their time to make the senior programs run so well.

Special events: Recreation Services helped about 300 youth enjoy the "Any Which Way You Move Parade" and Easter party at the Broomfield Community Center. The parade was rained out, but the party was a success. It took the three- and four-year-olds only one minute and 11 seconds to completely clear the gymnasium floor of the enormous amount of candy scattered about!

Preschoolers attending their own Easter Party, also at the Broomfield Community Center, had their choice of face painting, playing on inflatables, a "Craft Patch" and meeting "Flopsy" the Easter Bunny. There were 89 children in attendance.

Youth and teens: Summer Camp has 242 campers registered, leaving only 11 slots available in two separate one-week sessions. This year's summer camp staff is returning 83 percent of the staff from last year's session.

Capital projects



Sheridan Boulevard Underpass at Highland Park

The east half of the underpass structure has been installed and the roadway has been reconstructed over the structure. Two-way traffic has been shifted to the northbound lanes. The contractor has begun work on the underpass structure on the west side while the concrete subcontractor continues to build the retaining walls on the east side.

East Midway power burial, landscaping

Staff is working with Xcel Energy to bury the power lines along East Midway from the Westlake

Townhome development near Lowell Boulevard to Zuni Street. The first phase across the Westlake Village frontage is underway. Landscaping will be bid in the early summer for late summer/fall construction.

West directional interchange landscaping

Landscaping of the West Flatiron Circle and U.S. 36 interchange near Flatiron Crossing shopping center is underway. Work should be complete by the end of June.

At the Audi ...

'Around the World' this summer

This year's summer concert series is titled "Around the World." All concerts begin at 7 p.m. in the Broomfield Amphitheater in Community Park. If the weather is wet, concerts will move to the Auditorium next door.

On Wednesday, June 28, Conjunto Colores, a popular dance band, will bring its hot and spicy sounds to Broomfield; on July 5, hear Kubandara, a marimba and drum-based band performing traditional instrumental music and songs from various regions of Africa.

Coming July 12 is Lionsouljahs, July 19 Los Lantzman, July 26 Book 'em Danno, and August 2 Pan Jumbies.

DownStageLeft begins first season

DownStageLeft Productions will open its inaugural season of community theater with FREE SHOT, an original play by David Christner.

The play will begin Friday, May 26 at 7:30 p.m. Additional showings are May 27, June 2 and 3 at 7:30 p.m. with matinees on Sundays May 28 and June 4 at 2 p.m.

The play centers around Lauren Alexander, a high school All-American basketball player from Los Angeles. For reasons she doesn't fully understand, she has a stormy relationship with her mother Kate. Things go from bad to worse when Lauren is recruited by a former NBA all-star who coaches at a small college in New England.

When Kate finds Aaron in her home alone with her daughter, things get prickly. (Due to mature subject matter, this show is not recommended for students under age 15.)

Quilters to return to the Audi

Save the date! The Aster Women's Choir will present the musical *Quilters* on November 17 and 18 at the Broomfield Auditorium. Antique and contemporary quilts will be displayed in the lobby prior to the show, with a reception for the performers and quilters following the performance on Friday.

For more information on events at the Audi, call the Events Hotline at 303.469.3301, ext. 7999.

Information on tickets, directions to the Audi and year-round event information are available at www.broomfieldauditorium.com

