



**Capital Improvement Program
Citizen Advisory Committee
Q2 Statements to Council
Aug. 1, 2016**



In recognition of the role Commerce City citizens played in the passage of Issue 2K in November 2013 and the desire of Commerce City leadership to provide a framework for engaging the community in meaningful ways throughout the implementation of the voter-approved projects, the City Council of Commerce City established the Commerce City CIP Citizen Advisory Committee.

The mission of the committee shall be:

- To receive staff reports on the progress of each approved CIP project in relationship to established schedules, budget allocations, project goals, and quality management guidelines.
- To provide advice to the City Council on opportunities and issues related to the implementation of the five approved CIP projects, specifically relating to the three key program elements of:
 - Accountability – Demonstrating effective stewardship of taxpayer dollars
 - Engagement – Provide tangible opportunities for community members to engage
 - Potential – Leverage civic support and progress beyond the initial five projects
- To review and provide comment on public engagement and public information plans.
- To promote public awareness and understanding of the voter-approved CIP projects and the implementation of each.

Members: Colleen Becker, Susan Carabajal, Sandy Carruthers, DeLilah Collins, Brian Connor, Gordon Hamby, Maura O'Neal, Jonathan Popiel

STATEMENTS FROM COMMITTEE TO COUNCIL

The last 6 months have been very exciting, fun, and productive, and at times comical like the brief discussion surrounding the name of the “bio-swale” near the new rec center being changed to “naturalized median.” It’s not just the specifics of these conversations that are effective, but more importantly, it is the communication dynamic between CIP CAC, city staff, contractors, and project managers, that makes this committee very effective in its duties and a pleasure to serve on. Beginning in January, as in the previous year, information flowed very efficiently through CIP CAC and was discussed in great detail. However, as we move forward the exchange of information and ideas becomes even more effective and efficient, providing the committee with much to ponder, discuss, and bring to the citizenry at large. As such, CIP CAC has engaged in outreach activities bringing detailed information to the community, and community concerns and input to the committee, and in turn to staff, and city council. As we move forward with Tower Road, the new rec center, the original rec center expansion, and finishing up the parks projects, it is very exciting to have reached the halfway point and reflect on everything we have learned and experienced, helping move cohesively into the second half of the 5 in 5 project initiative. We are thankful for the support of City Council and the openness of those who are tasked with moving

these projects forward. I am also thankful to the members of CIP CAC who are dedicated and engaged, showing great persistence in their follow up on key issues, ensuring that the community's voices are heard. The ideas, questions, and suggestions are flowing fast and furious as we enter the second half, and I expect the process to increase in its efficiency, effectiveness, excitement, and fun! – Gordon Hamby, Ward I, co- chair

It's a privilege to represent such an esteemed group. I truly appreciate all the work everyone has done on this committee. The meetings have been very informative and eye opening. The whole process has shown me how committed the City Council and citizens are to making Commerce City a first-rate community to live and work in for so many. I've learned how dedicated our City Council is to improving our city and the work they put into it deserves very high praise. Also how such a large group has worked side by side without great dissension speaks very highly of good leadership and knowledgeable people. It's been such a great honor to work on this project. I have learned so much about everyone and I appreciate the opportunity to contribute to making Commerce City the best place in Colorado to live! Thank you so very much! – Susan Carabajal, Ward II, co-chair

My highlights include:

- Increased square footage and program for the new recreation center
- Commencement for Tower Road and the decision to add the onramp at Pena Blvd.
- Parks, Parks, and more Parks! Love all the new Parks that have come online. – Jonathan Popiel, At-Large, Ward IV

