8-8-17 WeCAN General Membership Meeting

Leah Rounds began the meeting at 6pm.

Announcements

- The preliminary Go Bond was passed and awaits final approval by voters in November. $1.9 million of the bond is for transit enhancements along West Colfax Avenue.
- Denver public schools are back to school August 21; be aware of the school zones
- WeCAN running clubs meets every Monday at 6:30pm.
- West Colfax Food Co-op is hosting a BBQ and launching a food club kick off. $10 per person if you are not a member. Members are free. All food will be from High Plains Co-op. There will be additional information about the plans for the co-op.

Re-Zoning of 17th Ave and Newton

David Zucker and Ted Featherstone presented from Zocalo Development about the rezone request at 17th Ave. and Newton St. The property is Denver’s oldest PUD. They had originally intended to create 240-250 units of mixed affordable and market-rate rentals and a 12 to 16 story condo tower. They’ve realized that more time needs to be spent with the neighborhoods associations, the city, and also they need to look at the way all the buildings would go together and look at the overall site plan.

Parking would be either underground or under the buildings.

Concern was expressed about bus lines, parking, and the impact on the view because of the new buildings and also about pedestrian access through the site. Adding pedestrian access through the site is very much under consideration.

The projection for the parking is that 1 ½ to 2 units would be built per bedroom for the condos and possibly less for the rental units. Parking is still unresolved though and is still under discussion.

Presentation to the city council won’t be until next year.

The projected zoning change would be an amendment to the PUD zoning.
For further inquiries, Zocalo Development will continue to be involved in future general meetings and further questions can be brought forward at those times.

Ordinance 300

Ashley, Director of Excise and Licenses, which regulates marijuana businesses presented on the general regulations and parameters to Ordinance 300.

This is a new topic, and we want to engage in discussion on how the neighborhood wants to be involved and what should the process be on how to handle potential applications for these types of businesses.

Information: Ordinance 300 allows owners to apply for permits to allow for marijuana consumption at their business or for special occasions. There are currently no applications for these permits. Molly presented on the basic information of the ordinance and what it would mean for local businesses and the parameters of it.

Emmett Reistroffer shared about what led up to Ordinance 300 and the circumstances surrounding the use of cannabis outside of people’s private residences. They are looking a solution to the issue of cannabis being
legal but not having venues for its use. Many rental properties do not allow cannabis use, even though many times people use it anyway.

Jude DelHierro shared a different perspective on Ordinance 300. He shared about the concerns of safety around consumption and substance abuse. After people leave the venue, they go out into our community. Tourists may come into a venue in our community to consume cannabis. How much will they be concerned about our community?

Time allowed for questions and answer time.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:29pm.