



January 31, 2020

Via email to:

hgdoby@gmail.com; wgarnsey@ecentral.com

Re: Park Hill Golf Course Land

Dear Messrs. Doby and Garnsey:

Thank you for your correspondence dated January 15, 2020, on behalf of Save Open Space (SOS) Denver in which you inquired about the status of the planning process for the Park Hill Golf Course property. The *Westword* article is correct. Community Planning and Development intends to invite SOS Denver, and any other members of the public who wish to participate, to weigh in on their priorities for this property via a public planning process.

We believe it is critical that people be allowed to have an open and frank discussion about a future for this property that is not exclusively limited to a private golf course. As the city department charged with the mission of city planning – and having a realistic expectation that the property's owner will submit a new proposal for the land at some point, which will require City Council consideration – it would be irresponsible of us not to facilitate a community conversation about the future of this important property in Denver.

In all areas of the city, having an adopted plan is how the city can advocate for well-designed public open space, built design that honors and uplifts our neighborhoods, development that prioritizes our residents' needs, great street and sidewalk networks and infrastructure investments.

Please know that our planners share the city's Game Plan goal of increasing the amount of publicly accessible open space in Denver. Last summer, our team spearheaded new requirements for developers to ensure that any new private development over 5 acres include significant open space that is publicly accessible and usable. We also work closely with Denver Parks and Recreation throughout any planning process to ensure our work will help further their goals of creating a park or open space within a 10-minute walk for everyone. To this end, the very first briefings we conducted about inviting the community into a planning process for the Park Hill Golf Course was to the Denver Parks & Recreation Advisory Board and The Park People.

We have been candid about the process with those who have asked, and we will continue to be transparent throughout the planning process. It is our obligation to ensure the neighbors who are most impacted by this property, and for whom the Park Hill Golf Course has been a meaningful part of the neighborhood for decades, have the same opportunity to be informed and to plan. I sincerely hope SOS Denver will join us for these conversations. We will make a public announcement ahead of the formal launch of a planning process, but you are also welcome to reach out to me at any time with further questions about the planning process.

Best,

Laura E. Aldrete  
Executive Director, Community Planning and Development

Community Planning and Development  
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cc: The Hon. Michael Hancock  
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