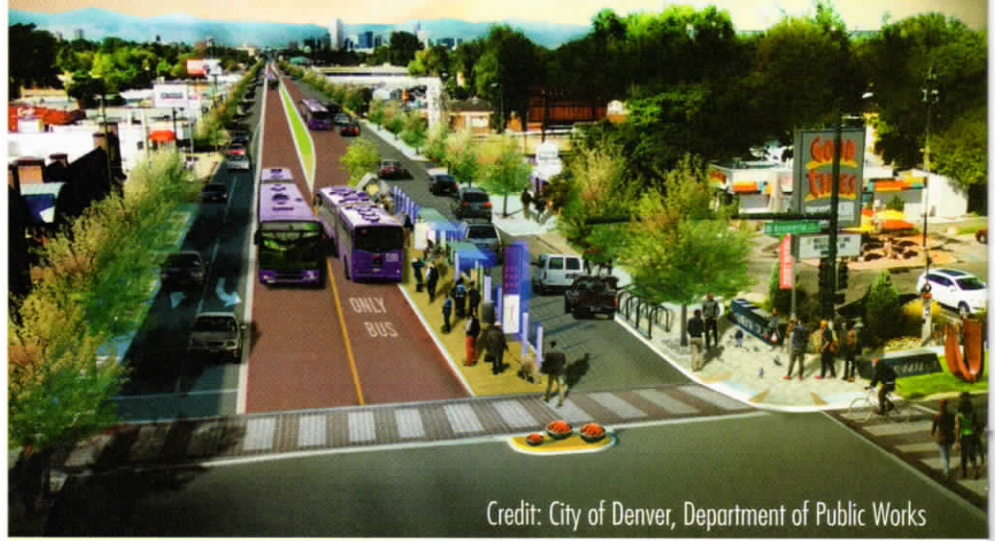


Colfax welcomes seven new businesses



Credit: City of Denver, Department of Public Works

Artist's rendering of the intersection at Colfax and Krameria.

By Hilarie Portell, Executive Director, Colfax Mayfair Business Improvement District

Much like you, this time of year we are sprucing up, planting new seeds and getting organized here in the Colfax Mayfair Business Improvement District.

At least seven new local businesses are taking root. Look for:

- The Goddard School, a new preschool at Colfax and Locust
- New ownership and ideas at Ed Moore Florist, at



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Colfax and Leyden

- Handmade market at Colfax and Leyden
- Tessa Deli at Colfax and Ivy
- Dash & Dare, a women’s clothing store at Colfax and Ivy
- Hank’s Texas Barbeque at Colfax and Grape
- Anytime Fitness on the Fax, at Colfax and Jasmine

All these businesses are making new homes in old buildings. Many are owned and operated by women entrepreneurs.

We’re thinking a lot about how to cultivate local businesses, especially as property values respond to public investments and the local economy. We’re working with the East Area Plan consultants (see Page 8) on things like incentivizing rehabilitation of old buildings, a small-scale development strategy for our many small commercial lots, ways to create smaller and shared spaces for businesses, including space on the ground floor of residential buildings near transit stations, for young professionals and area workers.

The Mayfair Town Center is an opportunity to create a walkable, mixed-use place where people could live, work, socialize and do their daily errands. Maybe we can even build a space for community events. There are good guiding principles already set forth in the 2006 community assessment.

We’re meeting frequently with Denver Public Works on 2017 bond-funded plans for pedestrian safety, streetscape improvements and Bus Rapid Transit.

All these initiatives are about creating a 21st century main street and town center that are compatible with adjacent neighborhood contexts. New development should be sensibly scaled, reflect local character and provide things people need to make life better. Colfax Avenue is a former trolley line on a main street adjacent to residential homes. It



is not Brighton Boulevard, or Colorado Boulevard, with large industrial parcels or big parking lots. It is a unique community corridor with a rich history and should be treated as such.

Colfax Avenue is America's longest main street. But improving it is a circuitous path. Thank you for your continuing support.

Keep in touch with us on Facebook or sign up for our monthly e-newsletter at www.colfaxmayfairbid.com.

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The Psilocybin Mushroom Decriminalization Initiative would deprioritize in Denver, to the greatest extent possible, imposition of criminal penalties for possession and use of magic mushrooms for persons 21 years of age and older. Petitions have been returned for this initiative and deemed sufficient to place it on the ballot.

The Let Denver Vote Initiative would prohibit the City of Denver from using public monies, resources or fiscal guarantees in connection with any future Olympic Games without first obtaining voter approval. At the time of writing, this initiative was deemed to not have a sufficient number of petition signatures. The initiative can still turn in signatures to allow it on the ballot for a later election.

Finally, the Denver Internet Initiative would reestablish the right of Denver to

provide all high-speed services and/or cable television services and facilities restricted since 2005. This initiative would not cause Denver to supply these services, but it would grant the city the ability to do so. In 2005 the Colorado General Assembly passed Senate Bill 05-152 that limits the ability of local governments to provide these services without first obtaining a successful vote of the people. This initiative has not yet turned in its petitions for the ballot.

Find status updates on all potential initiatives and a list of candidates running for office by visiting www.denvervotes.org and clicking on the "What's On the Ballot" button. You can also find info on voting by mail, important dates and register to vote at www.denvervotes.org. Denver's municipal elections take place May 7. The run-off election for candidates, if needed, takes place June 4.

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