

# CORY-MERRILL

— NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION —



WINTER / JAN - MAR 2024

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year to all of our Cory-Merrill neighbors. The Board of your Neighborhood Association looks forward to being of service to you throughout 2024. We will, of course, be holding our regular quarterly meetings beginning in February and scheduling other events such as the Food Truck Nights later this year. As I write this, the Stock Show is about to begin as is our gradual slide into longer days and shorter nights. Dues are always appreciated as are your comments and suggestions to better serve you. Take care and have a GREAT 2024.

- CHRIS OLSON

## Upcoming Neighborhood Events



### NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING!

WEDNESDAY,  
FEBRUARY 7, 2024  
6:00PM

MAIN SANCTUARY  
KIRK OF BONNIE BRAE  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
1201 S. STEELE

The Cory Merrill Neighborhood Organization aims to be a resource for information about events, changes, or future projects happening in our neighborhood! We hope you will join us!

## CMNA Thanks!

### Thank You to Weaver's Automotive!

CMNA's Halloween Table was lots of fun again this year. Thank you to Weaver's for hosting CMNA's table on their property, and donating funds for candy.



### Thank You to Our Dues Payors!

Your contributions are vital to making our events and newsletters come to life! So far, we have collected dues from 140 donors. Using last year's community of donors as our baseline, progress toward our goal of 100% participation currently stands at ... **85%**!



If you have not yet had an opportunity to contribute, there is still time! Dues donations can be **made by check** and mailed to the address below, or

**paid online** via PayPal. Use the QR code at right, or go to the CMNA website:  
[www.corymerrillneighborhood.com](http://www.corymerrillneighborhood.com)  
[/donate-1](https://www.paypal.com/donate)



## Beyond Cory-Merrill

### Tune in to Denver City Council!

New year, new leaf, new interest in municipal matters? Then check out these easy ways to follow (& join!) the action of our city's legislative body!



Image from *Denverite's City Council 101*

City Council General Sessions happen Monday afternoons at 3:30PM (some holidays cause changes - check the Council website).

Attend in person, tune in to Channel 8 or go [online](#) to watch proceedings. **Public comment** starts at 5:00PM. People can send written remarks to [dencc@denvergov.org](mailto:dencc@denvergov.org), or comment in person or on Zoom, but they need to sign up in advance [online](#) or by calling 720-337-2000. To learn more, search City Council on [denvergov.org](http://denvergov.org).



## Stay Informed!

**Newsletter** Sign up on the District 6 [website](#)

**Visit** In-District Office Hours - every Thursday, 8a.m.-noon, Pete's University Park Cafe (2345 E Evans Ave, at the corner of University and Evans). Parking available in the back.

\* Note: the following are excerpts from Councilman Kashman's most recent newsletter. For the full content, subscribe on his website.

### Hey, D-6ers -

The world as Paul would like to see it as we look ahead in 2024.

- Humans have figured out how to solve problems without making each other's lives untenably difficult, or trying to end them altogether.
- Humans have realized that natural resources have limits, cherish them and consume them with prudence.
- Homelessness and criminal behavior have been recognized as the inevitable result of societal failures and inequities. Policies to fund critical supportive programs have been enacted to prevent their occurrence.
- A combination of enhanced public health programming and better trained and staffed safety agencies have made Denver a city where all residents feel safe in their homes and communities.
- Colorado is now a leader in per pupil funding for education (we're now near the bottom of the list of states).
- Innovative programs to assist youth in mental health distress have dramatically reversed the disturbing increases in suicide among young people.
- Mental health and addiction treatment services are readily available and covered by all insurance providers.
- Affordable/attainable housing is now available to all Denver residents with an emphasis on increasing home ownership opportunities for lower income levels.
- Healthy food is readily available in all Denver ZIP codes, making food insecurity a thing of the past.
- The numbers of serious injuries and deaths on our roadways are declining as Denver has aggressively implemented traffic calming measures across the city.
- Bicyclists now have a far more expansive connected network of protected pathways to safely take them to home, work or play.
- The Department of Transportation and Infrastructure has begun the construction of a fully connected, properly maintained sidewalk network through an equitable fee structure that does not unfairly burden individual taxpayers.

Well, a guy can dream. I'd love to hear your top three, either from my list or your own. Enjoy the new year. Do something for someone who needs a little help.

- Paul

## News from NEIGHBORHOOD SCHOOLS!

With Winter Break just behind us, we are giving our schools a chance to get back to business and will cover spring happenings next edition. In the meantime, if you are interested in helping students and families in need, please consider Denver South High School's [Giving Grocery](#), or the [LoVVe Project](#) at nearby Ellis Elementary.



NEIGHBORS SUPPORTING NEIGHBORS at VIRGINIA VILLAGE  
VECINOS APOYANDO A VECINOS at VIRGINIA VILLAGE



# Transportation & Infrastructure News!

## Denver Loves Electric Bikes (E-bikes)!

Denver's growing [rebate program](#) for e-bikes put 2,831 e-bikes on the roads in 2023. Better yet, 1,068 of those bikes went to income-qualified individuals. Over 200 e-bikes were distributed through community partners. They also gave out 19 adaptive e-bike rebates!

Check out a free E-Bikes 101 class, and stay tuned for more information about when and how to participate in 2024. You can also check out the [state's e-bike rebate program](#), set to launch for all CO residents this spring.

## E-BIKES 101 CLASS!



FREE!  
VIRTUAL!

[WWW.BICYCLECOLORADO.ORG/INITIATIVES/BIKE-SCHOOL/EBIKE-101/](http://WWW.BICYCLECOLORADO.ORG/INITIATIVES/BIKE-SCHOOL/EBIKE-101/)

## ZERO FARE for Youth

From Sept '23-Aug '24, just hop on board the bus or train. Ages 19 and under ride at no cost.

Beginning September 1, RTD is excited to welcome a future generation of transit users to experience all the benefits without a fare.\*

Zero Fare for Youth is a one-year pilot program that aims to enhance the lives of RTD customers and communities by reducing transportation costs for families. By inviting ages 19 and under to ride at no cost, we also remove barriers to education and employment, while creating access to destinations across the metro Denver region.



Learn more about Zero Fare for Youth and all the benefits of public transit at [rtd-denver.com/youth](http://rtd-denver.com/youth).



\*Proof of eligibility required. For a complete list, visit the website.



## Sidewalk Shoveling Help!



## Denver's SNOW ANGELS

Neighbors Helping Neighbors!

CONTACT US:  
[snowangels@denvergov.org](mailto:snowangels@denvergov.org) |  
[www.denvergov.org/snowangels](http://www.denvergov.org/snowangels)  
720-913-SNOW (7669)

### WANT TO BE A SNOW ANGEL?

- Must be 18 years of age or older, and
- Must be a City and County of Denver Resident, and
- Must be physically able to visit homes and shovel front sidewalks.

### WANT TO A SNOW ANGEL TO VISIT YOUR HOME?

- Must be a City & County of Denver resident, and
- Must be an older adult physically unable to shovel, and/or
- Must be a resident living with a disability.



**DENVER**  
HUMAN RIGHTS &  
COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



# WINTER & A WARMING PLANET

2023 was Earth's hottest year. 2024 is predicted to be hotter.

It is strange to worry about rising global temperatures when it is still cold and (sometimes) snowy outside our Denver windows. Yet the start of 2024, predicted to be hotter than record-setting 2023, is also a good time to review the efforts our city is making, and find ways to act and advocate ourselves. **The Climate Protection Fund, voted in by Denver voters in 2020, raises \$40M annually to act urgently to mitigate the causes of climate change and to center that work on equity.** The goal is that over half of this fund goes to communities in Denver most harmed by climate change impacts. See Denver's list of accomplishments (highlights below) online - and find areas where YOU can get involved in 2024.

- **Progress Towards More Clean Energy for More Denverites**, including a bigger solar co-op: 1,947 households and small businesses signed up for rooftop solar through [Solar Switch Denver](#). Nearly 300 of them moved forward to install new solar arrays. Want to participate in a future SolarSwitch cohort? You can [register today](#) so that you're already on the list when those cohorts open up.
- **Fruitful Tree-Planting Seasons!** Denver had the goal to [plant 2,100 new trees](#) in heat-vulnerable neighborhoods by 2025. The program won a \$5 million grant from the Inflation Reduction Act, which will [triple the size of this program](#) in future years. Since starting, we have planted 1,014 new trees!
- **Denverites Electrifying Their Homes and Buildings** Denver's [home energy rebates](#) helped 430 households make the switch to an efficient electric heat pump! Many of these homes lacked air conditioning before installing their heat pumps. Income-qualified homes, commercial and multi-family buildings also made progress under specific city programs.
- **Funding Denver Businesses to Go Green** Nearly 120 businesses are now certified through [Certifiably Green Denver](#). This program provides free consultation on improving operations to be more sustainable. The CGD program also gave out \$324,977 in [equity grants](#). These funds helped 41 women- and minority-owned businesses reach their sustainability goals. Projects ranged from new energy-efficient equipment to incentivizing sustainable transportation for employees.

## Meet Our Neighborhood Pets!

*We are always excited to meet new pets and feature them in our communications! If your pet would welcome a little celebrity status, please email us with a pic and a bit about your furry, feathered or other friend!*

### Milo & Ziggy

This is Milo and Ziggy. Ziggy, the black and tan pup, is actually our senior dog. We got him from a shelter 11 years ago when he was just a puppy. A couple years ago we decided he needed a friend to keep him young and active, so we reached out to a local breeder and got Milo, our fox-faced Pomeranian. These two are never far apart and love their twice-daily walks around Cory-Merrill!

- the Meeks family

