



DENVER  
INC

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Neighborhoods work better when they work together.

## Parks and Recreation Committee

Katy Stracina  
Special Projects Manager  
Office of Mayor Michael B. Hancock  
[Katy.Stracina@denvergov.org](mailto:Katy.Stracina@denvergov.org)

Dear Ms. Stracina

INC is in receipt of your email of June 6, 2014 in response to the letter from INC President, Larry Ambrose of March 8, 2014. Having heard nothing at all regarding the formulation of policies regarding how the City plans to handle the overwhelming number of events being scheduled in Denver's parks and in our streets, INC Parks and Recreation Committee wishes to express its concerns about scheduling events, notification process and policy and raise some questions to which we feel Denver's neighborhoods are entitled to have answers.

It was at the INC delegation meeting on November 12, 2013 that you presented the Hancock Administration's plan to deal with the problems being presented by the lack of policy and control over the event scheduling processes within the Denver City government. You asked that INC be part of the Special Events and Planning Task Force (SEAP) as stakeholders and INC provided three representatives to this group which met and held a number of public meetings in January of 2014. No policy, followup or change to the event scheduling policy seems to have taken place. And other than your email in which you promise that a follow up meeting of the SEAP Stakeholders group will be held, no reported progress has been made by the Hancock Administration.

Instead, there seems to be a trend of more events taking place on our streets and in our parks, some that have negatively branded our City and which are disruptive to the quality of life of our citizens and the enjoyment of our out of town visitors.

The City seems to continue to promote, expedite and provide help for those wishing to navigate the event scheduling process through Kevin Scott, whose title is Citywide Film and Event Administrator and who serves as the City's liaison for event promoters. Mr Scott seems to have the ultimate power to make commitments to event promoters and effect permitting. Using his seemingly unquestionable authority, major events continue to be scheduled which could have significant ramifications for the City's neighborhoods without notification or involvement whatsoever of RNOs or members of the community.

This has come to light just in the past few days as a result of widespread publicity being given to the Chive Fest in City Park on August 16. This precedent setting, alcohol, rock concert based event featuring 2 stages and 8 bands is likely to have negative impacts on animals at the Denver Zoo and to surrounding neighborhoods. Although the event does not as yet have a park permit, it is already selling tickets and garnering widespread publicity. [Visit http://www.chivefest.com/denver](http://www.chivefest.com/denver)

The INC Parks and Recreation Committee has the following questions:

Why has the Hancock Administration failed to publicly identify ideas and recommendations from the SEAP Stakeholders and promulgate proposed policies developed through the SEAP process before the critical 2014 summer event season?

What role and under what policies is Kevin Scott operating and what powers does he have to make commitments to groups such as the Chive Fest that they can begin the sales of tickets and advertising of liquor sales before a park permit has been issued or liquor license application has even been posted?

What responsibility does Mr. Scott have to notify and involve RNOs in the planning of major events which will impact life in Denver's neighborhoods? A major discussion item in the stakeholders meetings.

How can the City of Denver justify permitting the Chive Fest event at City Park in light of the fact that an identical type of event was denied the use of City Park in 2008 due to the impact of loud music on the animals at Denver Zoo?

Given the impact on noise, public safety and parking, how can the Hancock Administration justify allowing the precedent setting use of Denver's City Park as a rock concert venue for an event such as the nature of Chive Fest and why was this event not directed to a venue such as Sports Authority Field where other such rock concert events have been directed? In Chicago the Chive Fest was held in Soldier Field. Seattle's fest was held in the Seattle Center and Dallas' will occur at South Fork Ranch. A video from the concert in Soldier Field can be found at <http://chivefest.com/chicago/socialize>

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Maggie Price". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Maggie Price  
Co-Chair, INC PARC