

EB MD 2 NEWSLETTER

EAGLE BEND METROPOLITAN DISTRICT 2



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Colorado Statutes provide that 67 days before an election is the deadline to file a self-nomination

form to have one's name on the ballot and 64 days is the deadline to file a write-in candidate affidavit. An election may be canceled 63 days before the election date if there are not more candidates for office than positions to be filled. That being the case, the District has canceled its May 6 election and declared George Arellano, Richard Rexroat and Larry Geiger elected to four year terms on the Eagle Bend Metropolitan District #2 Board. Tom Coker, Vice President, will administer the oaths of office to the three on May 22.

At the February meeting of the District Board, Aurora Mayor Steve Hogan attended the meeting and, after a brief presentation on City issues, answered questions from residents attending the meeting. A summary of that meeting begins on page 2.

The Board held a post-mortem to the February Board Meeting with a number of our invited

guests. The day's events resulted in a letter to the editor which is reprinted on page 4.

City of Aurora Water Conservation Department representatives will be teaching Xeriscape 101 at the Eagle Bend demonstration garden on June 21. The article on page 5 provides more information on the class schedule and requirements.

Looking forward to four more years of service to the District and our residents, I have summarized some of the challenges and opportunities the District faces and the goals the Board has for the Eagle Bend community on page 6.

On page 7, Rex Rexroat has penned the first in a series of articles on water resources along the Colorado front range and the challenges of providing a steady supply of this scarce resource in a semi-arid environment.

As always, the District calendar is published on the back page. Your Board encourages you to join us at our meetings to learn more about your District.

Larry Geiger, President



Aurora Mayor Steve Hogan Meets with Eagle Bend

Thursday, February 28, 2014 Aurora Mayor, Steve Hogan was invited to speak at the monthly Eagle Bend Metro District #2 meeting held at the HEB Clubhouse. Mayor Hogan has been in office since November 14, 2011. Twenty people plus the Board of Directors were on hand to ask Mayor Hogan



questions about a variety of topics from marijuana to raising chickens.

Mayor Hogan first gave a few facts about Aurora:

Did You Know?

1. Aurora is the 56th largest city in the United States with a 2012 population of approximately 335,700 people. By comparison Denver is the nation's 23rd largest city.
2. There are only 3 suburbs in the U.S. which are larger than Aurora per the 2010 census.
3. If Denver and Aurora were combined into one city the "new" city would be the 11th largest in the nation.

What is the Mayor's top priority? Expanding 6th Avenue east to E-470. The projected cost for construction is roughly \$17 million.

How is the City preparing for the establishment of recreational marijuana stores? The City must have regulations in place by July



1, 2014. The City Council is wrestling with two questions: 1. How to decide who receives a license to sell marijuana and 2. Should there be any additional city taxes assigned? Mayor Hogan noted \$60,000 in tax revenue was generated in Pueblo within a 2 month period.

Why isn't the City being proactive regarding the widening of roads such as Arapahoe Road or Gun Club Road? CDOT currently does not have monies to expand roadways at this time; as all monies have been designated for maintaining existing roadways. Mayor Hogan acknowledged that certain roadways are definitely overpopulated and need to be widened however, "the work cannot be done as there is no money within the City budget to do so". NOTE: Mayor Hogan was Executive Director of the E-470 Authority from 1991-1998.

Raising chickens in the "backyard" is becoming popular, so what is the HEBMA's role in this? HOA's were given authority to determine whether chickens would or would not be allowed within a community.

What can be done about the unequal distribution of the tax burden within Aurora? Since the south end of Aurora is more populated than our northern neighbors it carries a heavier tax burden regarding the infrastructure of the city e.g. water, sewer, streets etc. It was questioned whether it would be possible to establish another ward within Aurora. Mayor Hogan stated this is plausible...but

Continues on Page 3

Aurora Mayor Steve Hogan Meets with Eagle Bend (continued)

the City's Charter would have to be amended as all wards must be equal in size to have representation on City Council. Simply petitioning for another ward is not feasible. Ballot issues in the past have not been successful such as 2B which was defeated in the November election. **HISTORY REGARDING CITY COUNCIL:** The Aurora City Council is composed of a mayor and 10 council members. Of those 10 members, six are ward council members, representing one of the six wards that section the city. Eagle Bend is in Ward 6. The remaining four council members are elected at large, like the mayor, to represent the entire city. The 10 members are part-time elected officials. The mayor's position is a full-time responsibility as required by the City Charter.

The City Council of Aurora authorized a study in 2012 to examine the incorporation of Aurora to become the "City and County of Aurora." What is the result of this study? The final report was given to City Council last month. The report stated that over the next 20 years of an implementation period the General Fund and City would benefit. However, social services and the construction of new buildings specifically a new county jail, would be the largest expenditures. Council has requested more information regarding the fiscal impact. To incorporate to become a City and County a state

amendment is needed and must be executed during an even election year. Should the incorporation go forward, Mayor Hogan predicts it would not be effective until January 2021 due to a very complicated process.



How will fracking impact the environment? There have been 3 proposals to drill and frack wells. When a well is fracked, drilling occurs 1000's of feet deep unlike drilling for general water wells. There is a miniscule chance that fracking could contaminate our drinking water however, Mayor Hogan stated that 97% of our drinking water comes from mountain run off not underground aquifers.

How can I contact the Mayor? City Council Office 303-739-7015 or by email shogan@auroragov.org.

Submitted by: Audrey Davie

Metro Meeting with Mayor Hogan Postscript

After the Eagle Bend Metro District Board meeting with Mayor Hogan, the District Board invited the representatives of the Homeowner Associations and Compass Bank who were present to join them to the Wholly Cannoli Café for lunch and further conversation.

The Metro Board members were dispersed among their guests to discuss community concerns and potential relationships between the District and the commercial and residential neighborhoods within the District. The meeting was a rare opportunity for leaders representing various constituencies within the District boundaries to compare and discuss common problems.

Among the topics mentioned were traffic and speed issues on the collector streets in the neighborhood, concerns about development in the areas bordering on the District, maintaining a viable Eagle Bend MarketPlace for the convenience of residents and the tax implications to homeowners, further development of Red Tail Hawk Park, further joint projects between the homeowner associations and the District, and the desirability of further communication between the District and the associations. Shortly after the lunch meeting, I received the following letter from one of the participants.

“Dear Larry,
I attended the Eagle Bend Metro District Board meeting on February 27. I was inspired to attend because Mayor Steve Hogan was your special guest. I found everything about the meeting to be interesting and educational and am so grateful that I attended.

I am certain that I am not alone in what I have said. The meeting was well attended. I don't know

if this were unusual or not as I suspect that the Mayor's presence was quite a drawing card. The fact that Mayor Hogan attended speaks to the importance of the work you are doing. I was especially interested in the Mayor's overview of the challenges facing the City of Aurora and the amazing statistics he shared. There are only three suburban cities larger than Aurora in the US. Denver and Aurora combined are the eleventh largest city in the US. I knew that “we” were big, but I did not know these facts. I knew that Aurora was a part of three different counties, Arapahoe, Adams, and Douglas, but I did not have any idea how complicated this fact makes doing business for the City of Aurora government. A look into Aurora's becoming both a city and county, as Denver is, makes perfect sense but what it a shame it is that it will take so long to be accomplished, once a decision is made to pursue it. I could quote many other highly interesting facts gleaned at the meeting but I believe that these will suffice.

I want to thank you so much for the work you and your board are doing and for the help you have and will provide to Heritage Eagle Bend...water rates, the under-drain system in HEB North, the possibilities for improved landscaping, to name a few.

And finally, thank you for the wonderful lunch at Wholly Cannoli! It was good to support our commercial neighbors and more than that, the food was out of this world!”

Sincerely,
Bunky Lundberg
Heritage Eagle Bend Master Association Board
Assistant Treasurer”

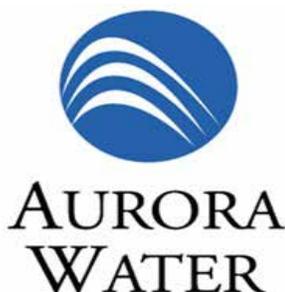
Thanks for the letter, Bunky, glad the meeting was informative.

Submitted by Larry Geiger



AURORA WATER EXPLAINS XERISCAPE OPTIONS

Xeriscape Start to Finish Class Comes to Heritage Eagle Bend!



Learn the in's and out's of converting your lawn into xeriscape at our upcoming **"Xeriscape Start to Finish"** class, hosted by the Heritage Eagle Bend Metro District #2. In this hands-on class, you will learn everything you need to know about turf removal, irrigation and how to create healthy soil.

The class instructor, Zach Versluis, will show you how to create: 1.) a site layout, as well as 2.) proper planting techniques. Zach is a water conservation specialist with Aurora Water, and has a degree in ornamental horticulture with an emphasis in landscape design.



Zach Versluis speaking at the Open House

Class Title: Xeriscape

Start to Finish

When: Saturday, June 21

Time: 9:30 – 11:30 a.m.

Where: Xeriscape Garden located at the northwest corner of Gartrell Road and Aurora Parkway, next to Safeway.

Class registration is required. Go to www.aurorawater.org and click on "Conservation" and then "Classes-Education" or call Diana Denwood at 720-859-4407.

Make sure to wear closed-toe shoes and bring a water bottle and a note-pad. You won't want to miss any of our water conservation tips!

BBVA Compass Bank and the Metro District will provide coffee and pastries.

Submitted by: Diana Denwood, Senior Water Conservation Specialist, City of Aurora Water Department

EAGLE BEND ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The last half of this decade is going to provide a number of important and challenging opportunities for the Eagle Bend community and your Metro District. Those opportunities fall into the broad categories of financial, community desirability, commercial growth and water.

In reverse order, water is an issue because the District's customer needs a steady, reliable supply of water and we need to insure that we are able to provide that supply. The District analyzes the reliability of its sources as to physical reliability and political reliability. The water we obtain from wells is politically very reliable but physically it is dependent on the level of water in a huge aquifer we share with others and the mechanical condition of our pumping system and 1800 feet of pipe per well. The water we obtain from other utilities is physically reliable because of the condition of the utilities assets but politically less reliable because of multiple customers making demands on those sources of water. Given those facts, the District has hired a consulting engineer to help it find other sources of water which can mitigate the risks inherent in the other sources.

Commercial growth is important to the District and its taxpayers. The further development and success of our

commercial property impacts the level of taxes which must be paid by residential owners. The District will continue to support the Eagle Bend MarketPlace and its tenants as well as assist the owner's of the undeveloped commercial tracts with their approval and entitlement processes with the City of Aurora. We believe the overall appearance of the community also impacts commercial development and thus will continue maintaining the public medians and park areas to high standards.

The desirability of the three communities in the District to prospective residents helps maintain the value of all our homes and the tax basis of the District. Thus, the District intends to continue to partner financially with the three home owner associations within our boundaries on water conservation projects along major thoroughfares and public safety projects impacting their residents. The District will also continue to work with the associations on issues with the City of Aurora where we believe our contacts can be of mutual benefit.

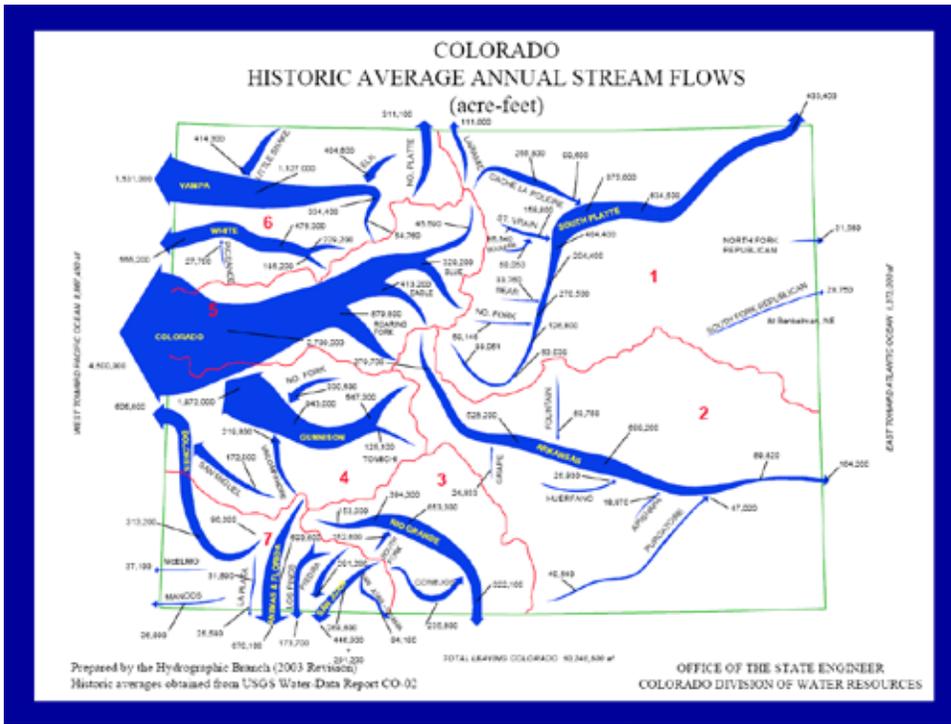
Financially, \$17,005,000 of District debt becomes callable over the next two years. The District Board will be examining options which may exist to refinance one or more of those bond issues during that time if such action results in significant saving to the District's taxpayers.

Larry Geiger, President



Water

One of the charges for the Eagle Bend Metropolitan District No. 2 is to provide adequate water for irrigation of the golf course and other landscaped areas across the community. Although this focus is somewhat narrow, rarely does a day go by that concerns about water quantity or quality do not make headlines in the press and other media. Events, such as the record-breaking rains and flooding that occurred last September in and downstream of the Boulder County foothills or the thousands of West Virginians who were unable to drink or bathe with their tap water due to contamination of the Elk River in early January 2014, remind us that we often take for granted the importance that water plays in our day-to-day lives. In Colorado, less dramatic, but by no means less important, discussions about water typically focus on not having enough water for all desired uses or that the water is not in the "right place" at the "right time". Few topics create more animated and sustained discussions than the availability of water in the arid southwest of the United States.



Colorado is a "Headwaters State" with eighteen states relying on rain and snow that falls in Colorado and then flows out of the state in one of the major rivers (Colorado, North and South Platte, Arkansas and Rio Grande). The width of the arrows in the map is proportional to the amount of water flowing in the river segment.

Unfortunately for Colorado water users (i.e., residents), water that falls in the state does not stay here; and we are not entitled to use all of this water anyway. A myriad of international treaties, interstate compacts, litigation rulings,

and agreements dictate who is entitled to use how much of the water from each river basin. Within Colorado itself, discussions about who gets to use the water between the "West Slope" (where about 80% of the state's precipitation falls) and the "East Slope" (including the Front Range, where about 80% of the people reside) are often heated.

As you can imagine, you can dig as deep as you choose to in order to learn more about the colorful history and complexity of water issues in Colorado. For those so inclined, who are just starting out with their explorations, a recommended first step is a two-page brochure prepared by the Colorado Division of Water Resources entitled "Mountain to Plains", which is available on their website at: <http://water.state.co.us/DWRIPub/DWR%20General%20Documents/COWaterMountainsToPlainsBrochure.pdf>

In future newsletters we will investigate other hot topics from a water-in-Colorado perspective. These will include (i) for local flavor, what steps our City of Aurora has taken in recent years to ensure that more water will be available for its customers during times of drought, and (ii) the impact of oil and natural gas production in Colorado with an emphasis on recent developments that affect those of us who live along the Front Range.



8005 S. CHESTER ST, SUITE 150 • CENTENNIAL, CO 80112



EAGLE BEND METROPOLITAN DISTRICT 2

Board of Directors and Officers

- Chairman & President Larry Geiger
- Sr. Vice President / Treasurer Tom Coker
- Vice President Water Ops / Secretary
 Rex Rexroat
- Vice President Landscape Ops
 George Arellano
- Vice President Communication
 and Newsletter Editor Bruce Simner
- Recording Secretary Audrey Davie

Eagle Bend Metropolitan District #2

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Held at Heritage Eagle Bend Clubhouse

23568 E.Heritage Parkway | Aurora, CO 80016

Board meeting April 24 at 10:00 AM

Board meeting May 22 at 10:00 AM

Xeriscape Class at Demonstration Garden June 21
 at 9:30AM. Conducted by City of Aurora Water
 Conservation Department.

Board meeting June 26 at 10:00 AM

Board meeting July 24 at 10:00 AM

Board meeting August 28 at 10:00 AM

Board meeting September 25 at 10:00 AM

NOTE: The above constitutes NOTICE to all property owners within EAGLE BEND METROPOLITAN DISTRICT #2 of the meetings scheduled

VISIT US ON THE WEB AT

WWW.EAGLEBENDMETRO.COM

for copies of the newsletter, Board minutes and financial information relating to the District