



HOME BUILDERS  
ASSOCIATION  
of  
METRO DENVER®

# Home Builder Advocate

May 18, 2011 • Volume 14 • Issue 8

9033 East Easter Place  
Centennial, CO 80112  
(303) 778-1400  
[www.HBADenver.com](http://www.HBADenver.com)

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### Government Affairs Committee

Tuesday, May 24, 3:00-  
4:30 pm, HBA North  
Conference Room  
Contact: Kim Calomino,  
[kcalomino@hbadenver.com](mailto:kcalomino@hbadenver.com)

### Arvada Coordinating Committee

Thursday, May 26, 8:00-9:00  
am, City of Arvada, CCR  
Conference Room  
Contact: Kim Calomino,  
[kcalomino@hbadenver.com](mailto:kcalomino@hbadenver.com)

### Aurora Joint Task Force

Thursday, June 2, 3:30-5:00  
pm, Aurora Municipal  
Building, Mt. Elbert  
Conference Room  
Contact: Kim Calomino,  
[kcalomino@hbadenver.com](mailto:kcalomino@hbadenver.com)  
or  
Chérie Talbert,  
[ctalbert@hbadenver.com](mailto:ctalbert@hbadenver.com)

### HBA Stormwater Committee

Thursday, June 9, 2:00-3:30  
pm, HBA Large Conference  
Room  
Contact: Chérie Talbert  
[ctalbert@hbadenver.com](mailto:ctalbert@hbadenver.com)

### Regulated Utilities Committee

Tuesday, June 14, 8:30-9:30  
am, HBA North Conference  
Room  
Contact: Kim Calomino,  
[kcalomino@hbadenver.com](mailto:kcalomino@hbadenver.com)

### Jobsite Safety Committee

Tuesday, June 21, 2:00-3:30  
pm, HBA Lower Level  
Conference Room  
Contact: Chérie Talbert  
[ctalbert@hbadenver.com](mailto:ctalbert@hbadenver.com)

## Westminster to Plans to Continue Focused Workweek Schedule

Under the "Focused Workweek" trial program launched August 2, 2010, Westminster extended its regular business hours Monday through Thursday to 7 am through 6 pm, remaining open through lunch, and was closed on Friday. Under the program, Building Division customers saw these additional changes:

- Requests for same-day inspections could be accommodated if made to prior to 6 a.m.
- Building and electrical inspectors were in the office to answer questions from 7-8 a.m. and 5-6 p.m.
- Residential walk through plan check was held on Mondays 1-5 pm and Thursdays 8 am to noon.
- Building Division staff is unavailable during its staff meeting every Wednesday from 7:30-8:30 a.m.

Staff conducted an assessment of the program and presented the findings to council at their May 16 study session. Staff's report can be viewed at <http://www.ci.westminster.co.us/agendas/ssaq051611.pdf>.

Council provided direction to proceed with a formal permanent adoption of the Focused Workweek Schedule, requesting that another assessment be conducted in one year. Adoption by resolution is currently slated for council's regular meeting on May 23. Based on feedback from our members, the HBA will inform council that many of our members have concerns regarding the impact of the Focused Workweek schedule and would prefer a return to the traditional work week.

If you are working in Westminster and have not already provided us your comments specific to the Focused Workweek Schedule, please send them to Kim Calomino, [kcalomino@hbadenver.com](mailto:kcalomino@hbadenver.com), 303-551-6733 by noon Friday, May 20.

## City of Boulder to Host Use Tax Seminar

Following substantial changes to their use tax processes, the city is holding a seminar on Wednesday, May 25 beginning at 9 AM in the council chambers. The seminar information is posted on the [Construction Use Tax](#) web page or can be obtained at the permit counter, cashier's desk and project specialist work stations at the city. You may also obtain a copy of the seminar flyer by contacting Kim Calomino, [kcalomino@hbadenver.com](mailto:kcalomino@hbadenver.com), 303-551-6733.

## Arapahoe County Re-instates RTIF

Beginning in May 2009 the HBA sought and four times secured six-month suspensions of the Regional Transportation Improvement Fee (RTIF). On May 3 the County Commissioners approved staff's recommendation to re-establish the fee for single family homes effective May 16, 2011. The fee will be re-instated at the same rate in effect prior to the suspension. While the BOCC considered HBA's recommendation to suspend the RTIF for an additional six months, ultimately their decision was based on the consideration that Arapahoe County's permit fees are among the lowest in the region and their concern that further suspension of the RTIF would compound existing shortfalls in the RTIF program.

For more information contact Kim Calomino, [kcalomino@hbadenver.com](mailto:kcalomino@hbadenver.com), 303-551-6733.

## Denver Water's Extension on Terminating Un-activated Taps Expires December 31, 2011

The HBA has begun conversations with Denver Water to determine whether, due to the continued slow market, there is a need to again extend the duration of water licenses without penalty or loss of SDC fees. Water licenses are valid for two years, but the HBA previously negotiated an extension to prevent termination of as yet un-activated taps and the loss of 50% of paid SDC fees, arguing that these were not abandoned licenses but that market conditions were causing significant delays in carrying out development plans.

For a list of all HBA meetings and events visit [www.HBADenver.com](http://www.HBADenver.com).

#### CITY GOV'T LINKS:

City of Aurora Council Agenda Link:

[www.auroragov.org/auroragov/government/city\\_council/meetings\\_agendas\\_and\\_minutes/index.htm](http://www.auroragov.org/auroragov/government/city_council/meetings_agendas_and_minutes/index.htm)

City /County of Denver Council Agenda Link:

[www.denvergov.org/default.aspx?alias=www.denvergov.org/citycouncil](http://www.denvergov.org/default.aspx?alias=www.denvergov.org/citycouncil)

#### Great Meeting Space Available at the HBA:

Consider using the HBA facilities for your next meeting or training event - and let others know of the advantages of holding their meetings at the HBA:

State of the art A/V equipment

Education Room seats up to 90 & has kitchen access

Use your own caterer to keep food & beverage costs down

Meeting rooms in sizes to accommodate nearly every size & type of event

Very reasonable user fees

Ample parking for most events; overflow parking for a reasonable fee

Members always receive a discount on facility rental

For a copy of the HBA Facility Rental Agreement or for more information contact Toby Paioff at [tpaioff@hbadenver.com](mailto:tpaioff@hbadenver.com)

Denver Water will conduct a study to determine the number, licensee and location of taps that fall within the extension that is set to expire at the end of the year. If you have Denver Water licenses purchased prior to December 2009 that are not yet activated, or have been contacted by Denver Water regarding un-activated taps, please contact Kim Calomino, [kcalomino@hbadenver.com](mailto:kcalomino@hbadenver.com), 303-551-6733.

#### Hickenlooper Signs CAHB's Green Building Bill into Law

HB 1160 creates a program encouraging the construction of above energy code new homes by providing incentives to the purchasers of such homes, who are also the sellers of existing homes in need of energy improvements, the cost of which improvements can be offset by higher than average rebates from the Governor's Energy Office. Congratulations to CAHB on successful passage of their bill, which was the culmination of a three year effort, and thanks to the bill's two sponsors, Rep. Gerou and Sen. Jahn. The bill takes effect August 10, 2011. Watch for future information on how to take advantage of the opportunities presented. For more information, contact Kim Calomino, [kcalomino@hbadenver.com](mailto:kcalomino@hbadenver.com), or Amie Mayhew, [amie@hbacolorado.com](mailto:amie@hbacolorado.com).

#### State Board Openings

There are openings for public and professional members on several State Boards that oversee areas of impact to the industry. The boards with public and professional member openings include State Board of Licensure for Architects, Professional Engineers and Professional Land Surveyors; Examining Board of Plumbers; State Board of Landscape Architects; and State Electrical Board. Members are encouraged to consider application. For more information visit the Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions website at [www.colorado.gov](http://www.colorado.gov) or contact Brian Pritchard, Director, Business & Technical Section, 303-894-7784, [brian.pritchard@dora.state.co.us](mailto:brian.pritchard@dora.state.co.us).

#### HBA Coordinating Committees are Your Opportunity for Direct Engagement

The HBA has coordinating committees in the following jurisdictions: Broomfield; Denver; Thornton; Erie; Douglas County; Parker; Arvada; Arapahoe County and Aurora (Joint Task Force.) Builders and developers working in these jurisdictions are encouraged to participate in the meetings. Information on upcoming coordinating committee meetings can be found under the Upcoming Events column to the left here in the *Advocate*; on the Events and Education calendar at [www.hbadenver.com](http://www.hbadenver.com) or by contacting Kim Calomino, [kcalomino@hbadenver.com](mailto:kcalomino@hbadenver.com).

#### Have you heard? In Member's Words

We've launched a new element to the HBA website called *In Member's Words*. Check out the home page on [www.HBADenver.com](http://www.HBADenver.com) to see who's featured this week, and then visit the [In Member's Words](#) page to see who is next in the line up. Provide us your photo and a brief quote about why you're an HBA member, and you too can be featured on the HBA home page! For more information, contact Cherie Talbert, [ctalbert@hbadenver.com](mailto:ctalbert@hbadenver.com), 303-551-6734.

*Home Builder Advocate* is a member benefit of the HBA of Metro Denver. We distribute this publication to our entire membership on a biweekly basis. Back issues are posted to [www.HBADenver.com](http://www.HBADenver.com), Publications & News.

If you are not a member but would like to become one, please contact Vicki Pelletier at [vpelletier@hbadenver.com](mailto:vpelletier@hbadenver.com).

If you have questions about government affairs or any advocacy issue, please contact Kim Calomino, [kcalomino@hbadenver.com](mailto:kcalomino@hbadenver.com).

If you have questions about *Home Builder Advocate*, Public Affairs or the Metro Housing Coalition please contact Cherie Talbert, [ctalbert@hbadenver.com](mailto:ctalbert@hbadenver.com).