

To: Englewood City Council
From: Joe Jefferson, Englewood City Council Member, District 1
Date: July 13, 2015
Re: 93rd CML Annual Conference, Breckenridge, June 16 – 19, 2015

Dear Council,

Please see the following report of events to memorialize some of the highlights from my recent trip to the 93rd CML Annual Conference, Breckenridge, June 16 – 19, 2015. This is not intended to be a comprehensive report of my activities but rather simply an overview of a few of the most important takeaways.

Negotiating and Regulating the Development Opportunity

Wednesday, June 17, 2015 1:00 – 2:15

The Town of Timnath celebrated the grand opening of Costco in October 2014. We heard how the Town moved the project through entitlement approval, annexation, and agreement stages from green light in August 2013 to opening in October 2014. However new URA laws would have made this deal impossible as they “would never had been able to meet Costco’s timelines.”

2015 Legislative Update

Wednesday, June 17, 2015 3:15 – 4:15

This was an analysis of the last Colorado legislative session with an emphasis on municipal issues including any upcoming ballot issues, as well emerging trends in state–municipal relations, with an eye toward issues that may come up in 2016. There were too many issues to list here but a good overview.

Xcel Energy Meeting

Wednesday, June 17, 2015 7PM

This brief meeting revealed an opportunity through their “partnership Program” for funding for energy consumption long-term community planning studies. The also donated \$1000 to our 4th of July event the first time we asked them!

Privileges Under the Colorado Open Records Act

Thursday June 18, 2015 10:15 – 11:30

Discussion about Colorado Open Records Act requests for records and protected privilege and trade secrets, such as the work product, deliberative process, or attorney–client privilege marked as “confidential”.

Sign and Billboard Regulation 2015

Thursday June 18, 2015 1:45 – 3:00

Big changes in sign regulation that Englewood needs to be aware of! Content neutrality was the hot topic in light of the banner case at the U.S. Supreme Court, Reed v. Gilbert. Our Council needs an update ASAP! We learned about free speech and free press issues in regulation of signs and billboards, including

digital signs, billboards on city land, political signs, religious images on public property, and the Highway Beautification Act.

Legalized Marijuana: Emerging Challenges and Lessons Learned

Thursday June 18, 2015 3:15 – 4:30

The legalization of both medical and recreational marijuana has resulted in a number of significant challenges for the state, local governments, and law enforcement across Colorado. As a state, we are not only treading on new territory but also developing and establishing best practices for the rest of the nation to follow in the future. Chief Marco Vasquez, the designated marijuana czar for the Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP), discussed lessons learned, emerging challenges, and the impacts they have had. I found the presentation data to be suspect at best and disingenuous at worst. We need better data from a more neutral source IMHO.

Ethics and Public Service: Do the Right Thing

Friday June 19th, 2015 10:30 -11:45

The discussion described six universally accepted ethical values as they are applied to public service beyond simply the legal restrictions imposed on public officials. It was interesting to note the notion of public perception and its effect on public service ethics.

Attorneys Luncheon: Marijuana in the Workplace

Friday June 19th, 2015 12:00 – 1:30

This lecture addressed the personal use of marijuana by employees in different circumstances and the lack of protection for medical users in Colorado.

IMHO the best part of these trips is the opportunity to strengthen ties both within and outside Englewood. I think we did a great job networking to better represent Englewood and spending time nurturing our existing relationships!