

DMCAR Government Affairs Newsletter May 2009

The following information is designed to provide DMCAR members with recent news regarding local and statewide government affairs issues that impact commercial real estate. DMCAR encourages you to ask questions, share opinions, and suggest additional topics you would like your team of experts to explore further. For more information, please contact Barbara Lambert at DMCAR, 303.75.DMCAR (3-6227). We need your participation and input.

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Castle Rock Creates Sign Code Working Group

At a meeting in late April, the Town Council of Castle Rock voted to create a sign code working group in order to address the city's current regulations on signs, including real estate signs. The working group will be made up of 8 to 10 citizens and is intended to be made up of many diverse points of view. The group will meet through May and will make recommendations to the city council in early summer. The Douglas/Elbert REALTOR® Association has been closely involved in this issue and expects to have at least one REALTOR® appointed to the working group.

Northglenn to Meet with REALTORS® Regarding Rental Properties

The North Metro Denver REALTOR® Association was recently involved in the defeat of a proposal in Northglenn to register and inspect rental properties with non-resident landlords. In the wake of this legislative victory, NMDRA is taking steps to move forward with the city and build a positive working relationship on rental and property condition issues. On May 12th, NMDRA members will meet with Northglenn to discuss common goals for future rental property regulations as well as exploring ways that the City can benefit from the real estate knowledge our members possess. More information will follow in these updates as events warrant.

Two REALTORS® Running for City Council in Aurora This November

The Aurora Association of REALTORS® (AAR) has two members seeking election in Colorado's second largest city this November. Incumbent Larry Beer is seeking reelection in Ward 3, a seat he has held since 2005. Former City Council member Bob LeGare is seeking one of the available at large seats. Beer is the current chairman of the REALTORS® Small Donor Committee for CAR and is actively involved in a myriad of City and REALTOR® Issues. LeGare served on City Council from 1995-2003 and pursues a successful career in commercial real estate. Bob was also awarded CAR's Political Service Award in 1995 for his many contributions to the real estate industry.

AAR will very likely be officially supporting these two campaigns in the very near future. REALTORS® everywhere are encouraged to do what they can to help fellow members

get elected to political office in order to best represent the views of the real estate industry. Please contact Nick Bokone at nbokone@gmdra.com for more information about getting involved with these two candidates or to find out more information about how you can run for a position in your area.

Energy Improvement District Legislation Pulled by Bill Sponsor

Late Thursday afternoon, CAR sent a Call for Action to REALTORS® statewide asking that they urge their State Representatives to vote NO on HB 1350, which was expected to be heard on the House floor in late April. Modeled after a program in Boulder which was supported by REALTORS®, CARA felt more time was needed to deliberate its merits before taking the program statewide.

HB 1350 sought to create a new Colorado energy improvement district, a statewide special district. The district would have imposed special assessments on eligible real property in the district on a voluntary basis, and issued bonds from the assessments to provide loans to district members to cover the costs of completing new energy improvements.

CAR learned on Friday morning that primary bill sponsor Rep. Joe Miklosi is pulling HB 1350 from further consideration. REALTORS® look forward to working with Rep. Miklosi and other stakeholders this summer regarding this legislation.