

## News On Havana Street

### The Buzz on The Street:



**Celebrate  
National Hamburger Month On  
Havana Street the month of May**

**23 Restaurants  
Special Burgers  
Special Offers  
Weekly Prize Drawings  
Grand Prize:  
A 4-Burner Char-Broil  
Gas Grill**  
Go to [www.OnHavanaStreet.com](http://www.OnHavanaStreet.com)  
For more info

### Our District marketing motto:

**"Putting feet on the street and  
customers in our businesses."**



### WEBSITE HITS:

[OnHavanaStreet.com](http://OnHavanaStreet.com)

**February 2009  
133,172 hits**

**March 2009  
142,712 hits!**

**Don't forget to sign up  
for the monthly Life On  
Havana Street E-News  
on our website's home  
page.**

## Havana Street Overlay District

The Havana Corridor Committee, which is made up of BID business owners, city staff, neighborhood leaders, CDOT and industry consultants, is putting the final touches on the draft of the streetscape overlay district.

Over the last couple of years, we have heard numerous comments from BID commercial property owners: The street trees are blocking my sign and my building! I'm not going to do any improvements to my property because, if I do anything, the city will come by and make me redo all of my land-

scaping, do a detached sidewalk and tree lawn, which will cause me to lose parking spaces and access to my business—and make me pay for all of this!

The BID board and business owners on the Havana Corridor Committee have also experienced similar frustrations. Over the last 10 months, the Committee has worked to come up with an overlay district for the Havana corridor to address these issues and allow us to achieve the goals of making the Havana District more appealing and marketable.

Over the past 30 years, CDOT has widened Havana, leaving us with 70% attached sidewalks and restricted lot sizes, adding to our challenges. In July of 2008, Gayle did a very extensive inventory of the properties fronting Havana to document the current streetscape conditions and restrictions. The conclusion was that a tiered approach would be necessary to give us some flexibility and a means to achieve our goals of a beautiful, distinctive District character over time. (Continued on page 2)

## Second Annual Cruzin' Havana, June 20, 2009

The Cruzin' Havana Car Show & Poker Run returns for a second year on Saturday, June 20, 2009.

The 2009 Cruzin' Havana posters are here and will be distributed to each BID business in the next couple of weeks.

We are expecting 3,500 classic cars and an estimated 10,000 people in the District for this very popular car show & poker run.

Havana Auto Parts is donating the poker run grand prize again this year—A Big Screen HDTV.



The dream cruise of the Rocky Mountain West!

## Havana Street Overlay District (Continued)

The proposed ordinance addresses the issue of trees blocking signs and buildings by increasing the view corridor into a property. For example, the property owner would be able to substitute a bench from the District's "kit of parts" for one tree or substitute "tree equivalents" from the recommended Xeriscape Plant and Tree List for a tree.

The committee has spent many hours discussing what

would trigger landscape improvements. We wanted to make sure that routine "deferred maintenance" on your properties would not trigger the landscape requirements. The triggers are clearly stated so property owners know they can refresh the tenant signs in a strip mall or resurface their parking lot, for example, without having to pay for new landscaping and a detached walk.

The Havana Corridor Committee is holding a public forum on May 21, at 8:30 a.m. at the Wells Fargo Bank Building, 1450 S Havana, in the conference room on the 8th floor to present the draft of the overlay district, answer questions and allow you to express your thoughts.

You can view the recommended Xeriscape Plant and Tree list under the "About Us" tab on our website at

[www.OnHavanaStreet.com](http://www.OnHavanaStreet.com). At the public forum on May 21, we will have our "kit of parts" design elements on hand with the hope of seeking stakeholder input on which elements to incorporate in the new overlay district (i.e. street benches, trash receptacles, bollards, tree grates, low wall materials, etc.)

We still have to seek approval from planning commission, CDOT, and Aurora City Council on our plans, which we hope to accomplish by August of 2009.

### School-to-Work Youth Jobs Program

Are you looking for part-time temporary help this summer to fill in for employee vacations or account for seasonal business fluctuations? Lynn Burgess from the School-to-Work program has contacted us to see if any of our business owners would be interested.

Here is how it works: A business agrees to hire a high school student from the program for 8 weeks this summer, 25 hours a week, and provide the on-the-job training.

The School-to-Work program and Arapahoe-Douglas works pays for the youth's salary. This program is not meant to replace any of your current employees. The program also serves as a Business Watch tool for our businesses—give a youth a job and he/she is less likely to get in trouble over the summer. If you are interested in the program, please let Gayle know so she can forward the info to Lynn. [Gayle@OnHavanaStreet.com](mailto:Gayle@OnHavanaStreet.com)

### Street Sweeper Sighting!



Yes, it is true—the City of Aurora is sweeping Havana Street on a regular schedule now. You will recall our dilemma last year, after we realized that the street had not been swept in several years, with both CDOT and Aurora

thinking that the other was doing the sweeping. After a meeting of the minds in December, Havana is now on the regular street sweeping schedule for the City of Aurora.

The sweeper made a pass up and down Havana on April 28. This was the second time this year we have been swept. The first sweeping occurred the first week in January. One of our BID goals is clean and safe, and regular street-sweeping goes a long way to help in our Beautiful Havana Campaign.

### More Events in 2009

**May 20, 2009, 11 a.m. Grand Opening Ribbon Cutting ceremony at the new CommonGround Golf Course**

**Saturday, May 30, 8 a.m. is our annual Business Watch Neighborhood Watch free pancake breakfast at the Saturn of Aurora Dealership. The Aurora Police Officers are doing the cooking. You are all invited!**

**June 2, 2009, is our HBID Open Golf Tournament to benefit the junior golf program at CommonGround**

### Code Corner

Springtime is here, the weeds are beginning to sprout, and the sand from past snowstorms is sitting our sidewalks. This is just a reminder—to avoid a visit and/or citation from your City of Aurora neighborhood code enforcement officer, please make a conscious effort to keep your property looking nice. The property owner is responsible for pulling weeds, sweeping and shoveling snow from the sidewalks, even the sidewalks at the perimeter of your properties along Havana Street.

As a part of our Beautiful Havana Campaign for the Havana District, we are making a concerted effort to present a clean and safe image to make the area more inviting and marketable to our customers. Please do your part.

#### Upcoming Meetings and Events:

**Thursday, May 21, 2009, BID Board meeting and Public Forum on the Havana Overlay District, 8:30 a.m. at the 1450 S Havana (Wells Fargo Bank Building) on the 8th floor**

**Thursday, May 27, 2009: Free website training for BID business owners from 8:00-9:30 a.m. at the MLK Library. There will be a drawing for a free website. We will be doing a separate mailing with more info.**

**Watch the website for our 2009 meeting and events schedule: [www.OnHavanaStreet.com](http://www.OnHavanaStreet.com)**