

Behind The City Scene

Two very prominent Council Members will be checking out of Hotel Aurora in December. After a record seven election victories, both as a Ward and At-Large Council Member, Barb Cleland is not seeking reelection. Barb is a family friend and has been an inspiration to me in my efforts to serve the residents of Ward 4. We are also losing Ward 4 Council Member Renie Peterson to term limits.



Charles "Charlie" Richardson
Council Member
Ward IV
crichard@auroragov.org

I hold both of these individuals in the highest regard for many reasons but the foremost is their willingness to question and when appropriate, push back on the City bureaucracy which will, if unchallenged, seize control of both operational and policy decisions.

The sad truth is that the political world is still a male dominated environ. It is subtle but it is there. When Barb or Renie had opinions it seemed like they had to speak twice as forcefully and loudly to be recognized.

Why will they be missed? New Council Members are frequently awed by their new status. They are pampered and fawned over by the City Administration and naturally pleased by their new title. It is unrealistic for a new Council Member to rock the boat because they are just trying to walk steadily on the deck. As I often say government will always serve its own interests through suppression of bad news and perpetuating all the perks.

We have a very strong City Manager and now going forward an even weaker City Council. This November the residents of Ward 4 will get to vote for two new At-Large Council Members. In making your important choice please consider a candidate's views on who they will represent — you the residents or the City Administration.

Now to really lighten things up I want to give a big shout out to one of our Ward 4 residents Reno Carollo. Reno is everything I am not...an imaginative artist and creative force. He is hosting an event at his museum — whoops house on July 14 and 15. (*See additional information top right.*)

Charles "Charlie" Richardson
Council Member Ward IV
303-739-7516 (Council Office)
crichard@auroragov.org

2016 Ward IV Town Meetings — held on the third Thursday of each month from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at EcoTech Institute, 1400 S. Abilene St., unless otherwise noted.

An illustration of an artist's palette with various colored paints (purple, blue, red, yellow) and two paintbrushes (one with a red tip, one with a silver tip) resting on it. The entire graphic is enclosed in a blue border.

The Aurora Art Group Presents
"Those DAM Artists"

July 14, 5-9 pm
July 15, 4-9 pm

12598 E. Bates Circle
Aurora, CO 80014

A Visual Arts Show with a Juried Exhibition
called "Inside the Box"

Celebrating fine Visual Arts with great food, drink and great people.

This is a start up group of Artists and Arts Patrons with the goal of creating an Art Center in Ward 4. We hope to build spaces for visual artists to work in, learn in and share their art with our community. We will create retail spaces for our artists to sell their art work and an opportunity for our citizens to add fine art to their lives.

Come join us and meet some of Aurora's finest artists.