



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Community Invited to Public Meeting
Metro District to present ideas for owning Highlands Ranch Mansion

Over the past two months the Highlands Ranch Metro District has conducted a public involvement process seeking the community's input on owning, renovating and operating the historic Highlands Ranch Mansion. More than 100 community members attended meetings and provided their input on a variety of issues including how many events should be held at the Mansion each year; how late should events be allowed to run; and should alcoholic beverages be served.

The results of the public involvement process will culminate at a Public Meeting Wednesday, Sept. 1, 6 – 8 p.m. at Plum Creek Academy. The Metro District's recommendation for Mansion operating guidelines will be introduced. The operating guidelines were crafted by an 18-member study group consisting of community members, stakeholders and Metro District staff. The results of the community, neighborhood and organizational outreach initiatives will also be presented.

As a steward of public lands throughout the community, the Metro District began studying the feasibility of becoming the steward of the Highlands Ranch Mansion in October 2008. The public involvement process came after a citizen survey determined there was sufficient interest by respondents supporting the Metro District taking over ownership and operation of the Mansion.

"The Highlands Ranch Mansion is a landmark in our community and the Metro District would like to keep it that way," said Tom Hoby, director of parks, recreation and open space. "We encourage the community to participate in the public involvement process so we can successfully meet the public's expectations when it comes to owning, operating and renovating the Highlands Ranch Mansion."

The public is encouraged to attend the Public Meeting Sept. 1 at 6 p.m. Plum Creek Academy is located at 9340 Commerce Center St., off Town Center Drive one block east of Santa Fe Drive next to Shea Stadium.

The Highlands Ranch Metro District Board of Directors also invites the public to attend the **Metro District's Board Study Session** on Sept. 21 at 7 p.m. at the Metro District office at 62 W. Plaza Drive. Results of the public involvement process will be presented including feedback gathered at the Public Meeting Sept. 1.

For more information about the Mansion Evaluation Process, visit www.highlandsranch.org/mansion.html or send an email message to info@highlandsranch.org and ask to be signed up for Mansion electronic updates.

Founded in 1981 as the local government in Highlands Ranch, Colorado, the Metro District provides a variety of municipal services to this planned community of 90,000 people. Learn more about the Metro District at www.highlandsranch.org

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