



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods Forms Climate Crisis Committee

Neighborhood Engagement Critical to Combating Human-Induced Climate Change

DENVER (May 28, 2019) -- From more frequent wildfires to longer heatwaves and droughts, communities across Colorado already experience the impacts of human-induced climate change. According to the United Nations' Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, these disasters will grow more devastating unless action is taken now.¹ To heed this notice, Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods (C.H.U.N.) has formed the C.H.U.N. Climate Crisis Committee.

Throughout its 50 year history, C.H.U.N. has worked to improve the quality of life in Greater Capitol Hill. The formation of the committee is a continuation of this goal and recognizes the need for local neighborhoods to think globally and act locally. "Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods is committed to creating a cleaner, healthier, and more sustainable community. From planting trees to promoting cleaner transit options, the Mile High City can--and *should*--be a model for urban, earth-friendly policymaking" says the organization's board president Travis Leiker.

The committee's formation represents the next phase of the foundation established by C.H.U.N.'s longstanding Tree Committee as well as other previous environmental sustainability work. The committee will be co-chaired by C.H.U.N. board of delegate members Jim Slotta, a founding member and president of Accelerate Neighborhood Climate Action, and Stephen Polk, assistant professor in environmental studies at Naropa University in Boulder.

“The Climate Crisis Committee will convene a community-based dialogue around the urgent, worsening climate crisis and will promote a planet-helpful lifestyle among residents in C.H.U.N.’s neighborhoods,” says Slotta. “Denver has tremendous opportunities to experiment with creative solutions in combating climate change that involve wide swaths of neighborhood stakeholders,” adds Polk.

Topics that the committee will address include water conservation, recycling, composting, renewable energy, and more. **The committee's first meeting will be Thursday, July 25 at 6:30 PM at 1290 Williams Street, Denver.** Meetings will be held regularly and are open to the public; follow C.H.U.N. on Facebook for future event/meeting dates.

1. See: https://www.ipcc.ch/site/assets/uploads/2018/02/ipcc_wg3_ar5_summary-for-policymakers.pdf

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Capitol Hill United Neighborhoods (C.H.U.N.) is a registered neighborhood organization and a Colorado nonprofit corporation. Founded in 1969, C.H.U.N. has evolved into one of Denver’s oldest, largest, and most influential registered neighborhood organizations. The organization’s mission is Preserving the Past. Improving the Present. Planning for the Future. C.H.U.N. accomplishes this mission through its emphasis on historic preservation, affordable housing and homelessness, land use and zoning, and public safety. At the foundation of its work is the critical importance of civic participation– that our community becomes healthier and more vibrant through the active involvement of those who live and work in our neighborhoods.