

June C. Waller  
710 South Union Blvd #207  
Colorado Springs, CO 80910  
[junewaller@aol.com](mailto:junewaller@aol.com)

To whom it may concern:

As a resident in the Hillside Neighborhood, I would like to discuss the value of keeping the Leon Young Pavilion, a neighborhood legacy.

I understand it is within the planning of city personnel to demolish the site of the Leon Young Pavilion and leave nothing for the neighborhood to enjoy. I believe this would be a detriment to our small community and would be a waste of space when we could be enhancing and doubling areas of enjoyment for the neighbors and the neighborly environment.

As a neighbor, I ask that this be reconsidered and do not destroy the site and leave it vacant but build up the site for barbeques, family get-togethers and, neighborhood meetings. There are just too many ideas to further the impact of not tearing down the area and leaving the area useless.


Please accept some of the ideas that have been submitted by my neighbors and posting in the area of the Pavilion. Please include us in your planning efforts and give respect that our voices matter. We want to work with the city in their efforts to maintain our beautiful environment. Let us have as many safe community and open spaces to enjoy.

I have a great-granddaughter, Aniyah Vasquez, who has been very instrumental in the design and language of this letter. She is eight years old and even she understands the value of letting the "powers that be" know her feelings since she visits often and knows our neighborhood quite well. She states: "Please let our environment live".

Sincerely,

  
June C Waller

and

  
Aniyah Vasquez

June 2, 2018

Mary Foster

914 E. Las Animas St.

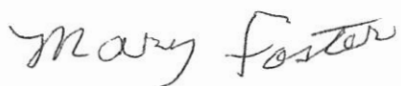
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

To whom it may Concern:

Good Day, my name is Mary Foster. I have lived in the Hillside community for over 50 years. As a long time resident in this community I have known Mr. Leon Young and appreciate all that he have done for our Hillside community. When the Leon Young Pavilion was established on the corner of Fountain and Corona, in South Shook's Run Park, I felt very proud that we could honor him in this way.

As the years have gone by the pavilion have not been kept up, but it is still of value to our community. I would like to see the pavilion rebuilt so it will be more useful for the community. It would be nice to have grills and some covered picnic areas for families to once again enjoy afternoon cookouts, or family reunions, there in the park.

In considering what you plan to do with this area, please keep in mind the long time residence of this community and our desire to continue to honor one of our own.

Sincerely, 

June 22, 2018

Terrell Brown  
817 Fountain Court  
Colorado Springs Colorado, 80910

To whom it may concern:

My name is Terrell Brown. I was born and raised in the Hillside neighborhood and I am forever thankful for the opportunity to briefly discuss the importance of keeping the Leon Young Pavillion.

As a kid, Hillside residents were "close knit" and possessed a great sense of community pride. Growing up, I can recall several community barbeques where adults shared inspiring stories about community leaders (Leon Young, Reverend Milton E. Proby, and Sam Dunlap) that inspired young people like myself to do better.

Today, our community is need of a space where residents can come together for social gatherings, learn more about the history of Hillside, and cultivate genuine relationships with neighbors . With input from local residents and City support, I strongly believe that the Leon Young Pavillion will serve as a valuable resource that inspires all. This asset is needed in our community!

Thanks,

*Terrell Brown*

Terrell Brown



06/27/18

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter as a long time resident of the Hillside Community and as a community leader. I run a community based youth empowerment program at the Hillside Community center called LEAD (Leaders Empowered Amazingly Determined).

I moved here in 2005 with my daughter. I have rented an apartment in the neighborhood, rented a house in the neighborhood, and I, the person who was never going to settle in and grow roots, purchased a home in this community in 2010.

I decided to settle here because I felt like I was moving in to a community, not just living in a space I could afford. I felt connected to the community at the time, especially, because my daughter was attending Hunt Elem, which was a valuable resource for our community, which is now gone.

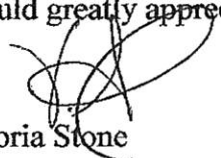
As I was thinking about what to write and how to write this letter, an idea came to my head. Both sides of my family are rooted in New Orleans, LA. I have spent countless summers in NOLA with my family, but a couple of years ago I went with a friend from here and they showed me a different side of NOLA that I had never seen before, the tourist side. I had never gone to the tourist spots in all my time there, I went to the places where people who really know NOLA go.

I thought that that would be a great way to connect with the Leon Young Pavilion. Memorial Park is really a park for the whole of Colorado Springs, and Fountain Park has its own misconceptions that it is just part of the Hillside Community Center, and not a park for the community, so saving and restoring Leon Young Pavilion could create a Hillside neighborhood space.

I have heard rationale that no one uses it because it is scary, or dangerous, I would propose that if it was upkept like the other parks in the community that people would go there. It needs some TLC. But, I think that TLC would create a beautiful energy in the community. I also think that people might not use it as much because it is not maintained by the city. I sat in on a meeting and was told it was not on the mowing/up keep route for the city. That makes no sense because the kiddie park across the street is. I wouldn't expect people to go to an overgrown park either.

I think we are in a perfect space right now, there is funding to tear down, and to rebuild, I think the rebuild should come with signs that say Leon Young Pavillion, maybe some grills, and with some refurbishment and love the community would come out claim their community park. I think it would go a long way to say that the Hillside Community is not a forgotten community, but a place that is loved and cherished for its rich history.

I would greatly appreciate your consideration to rebuild a great community space for the Hillside Community!



Victoria Stone

June 20, 2018

Josh Rafail

Hillside Neighborhood

To whom it may concern:

The Leon Young Park is a critical part of the Hillside area and to the historical accomplishments of Colorado Springs. Not only that but the space is absolutely beautiful and unique, it is a lovely piece of nature that should not go to waste but rather be revitalized to be enjoyed by the families of the community. I am writing this letter as a member of Hillside and citizen of Colorado Springs. I love my city, my neighborhood and their history and I would like to see that history preserved!

Thank you,

Josh Rafail

June 27, 2018

Kay Day  
842 E Moreno Ave  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

To Whom It May Concern:

I would like to share my support for the revitalization of the Leon Young Pavilion on the corner of Fountain and Corona.

I live in Hillside in a sweet little house I purchased just over a year ago. I am new to the neighborhood, but am excited to see the efforts to restore and revitalize the area. I would love for the Leon Young Pavilion to be a nice place with covered tables, grills, and good lighting. While Memorial Park is nearby, this smaller space feels more personal and meaningful to the neighborhood. I would also like to see it more clearly marked as a memorial to the city's first African American Mayor.

I fully support the use of CDBG funds to revitalize the Leon Young Pavilion. I believe that your support of this project would be a great encouragement to the residents of Hillside. To be frank, I know that Hillside doesn't have a great reputation throughout the greater community. In my short time here, however, I have seen what a wonderful neighborhood it is. I have met more neighbors here than anywhere else I've lived, and I see a desire to build the sense of community and neighborliness that has long been a part of this neighborhood. Your investment would make a positive statement about the value of our community.

Sincerely,

Kay Day

Hillside resident/homeowner

6/26/2018

LEON YOUNG PAVILLION

To Whom It May Concern,

Name is Paul P. Nelson, I am the Pastor of The Living of Baptist Church located at 311 S. Hancock Ave. CSC 80903. I am writing this letter in support of rebuilding the Leon Young Pavillion located at the corner of Corona and Fountain Blvd on the southside. I have been meeting with serval residents of the Hillside Community for the past 3 months on Friday's to rebuild in that community. This one of many projects we are working on to rebuild up the Hillside community.

If you need to contact me my number is 719-271-9903 and my email is ppn413767@yahoo.com. I thank you for your support to rebuild in our community.



Pastor Paul P. Nelson





*214 East Vermijo Avenue, Colorado Springs CO, 80903*

To Whom it may concern, RE: the Leon Young Pavilion,

June 15, 2018

Concrete Couch has worked in Colorado Springs for over twenty years, bringing community groups and kids together to co-create community-built projects for our public spaces. We have also worked with the Pikes Peak Justice and Peak Commission during this period and find them great partners in community building endeavors.

The Leon Young Pavilion is, as it stands, a great gathering place for community. We are interested in working with the PPJPC on the next permutation of the pavilion as we have a history painting and restoring the pavilion and experience working in the Hillside neighborhood. Additionally, we are purchasing a property in very close proximity to the pavilion and have a vested interest in the space remaining open to all along the Shooks Run Trail.

Our first recommendation is to retain the structure. We know the chemical-treated wood can be problematic, but experts we have spoken with have stated that the chemicals have fully leached out of the wood years ago. That being said, we could apply a non-toxic wood treatment to rehydrate the old wood, lock in any trace remaining chemicals, and ensure the structure lasts for another fifty years. We would employ Hillside teens to complete a job-training program to implement this project of restoring the pavilion wood (and adding artistic elements).

If the pavilion is slated to come down, we could work with the community to re-design and rebuild a space for gathering and picnicking. We have extensive experience with this work around the state and specifically in the Hillside neighborhood, and have garnered awards for this work such as the "Project of the Year" award from the American Public Works Assoc.

Gathering spaces are sparse in many urban settings, including southeast Colorado Springs, and we believe strongly that the pavilion area dedicated to Leon should remain a space for people to rest, enjoy shade, eat food together, meet each other, and get outside. Whether we restore the current wood or rebuild a new, similar structure we would love to be involved and partner with the PPJPC.

Feel free to contact us with any additional questions.

Regards,

Steve Wood, Executive Director  
Concrete Couch  
(719) 373-7694



# LEGACY INSTITUTE

June 26, 2018

Zachary McComsey  
6 North Tejon Street, Suite 510  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

To Whom it may concern:

I am writing to express my support of the revitalization of the Leon Young Pavilion in South Shooks Run Park. The Legacy Institute currently owns and operates the Helen Hunt School nonprofit campus, along with several acres of land at 1090 South Institute in the Hillside Neighborhood. We are also in the process of attempting to help the city connect the Legacy Loop trail just south of this playground, and if and when that occurs, such progress would make this site even more viable for members of the community.

Rarely do projects in the Hillside Community receive funds in excess of \$100K and it is our position that this would be a very viable win in the community. And if the main reason for denial of support for the City of Colorado Springs is a lack of funding, we are also more than willing to participate in future conversations to ensure the residents and children of the neighborhood receive equally high quality parks and playgrounds as children throughout the rest of the city.

In conclusion, I fully support the use of CDBG funds to revitalize the Leon Young Pavilion as I believe it will further the progress of several positive activities currently underway in and around Hillside.

**We are one of the largest investors on an unfortunately too short list of philanthropies actively involved in supporting the Hillside Neighborhood. And with how scarce funds are for noteworthy community projects, it would be tragic to discard such an investment and instead of building a new playground for the neighborhood, tearing one down.**

Sincerely,



Zachary McComsey  
CEO

719.237.5836

[SpringsLegacy.org](http://SpringsLegacy.org)

6 North Tejon Street, Suite 510

Colorado Springs, CO 80903



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DEDICATED TO ACHIEVING HEALTH EQUITY FOR ALL COLORADANS

June 27, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to express my support of the revitalization of the Leon Young Pavilion in South Shooks Run Park. As a Health Equity Foundation, we invest in the development of resident leaders and support their organizing efforts to build power to effect change in their neighborhood.

Over the past two years, we have partnered with Hillside residents to host key informant interviews, focus groups, town hall meetings and a youth-led photo voice project where this neighborhood park has been identified as a challenge to mobility, active transportation, public safety and social cohesion. The Hillside youth photovoice project has created many opportunities for change. One of our more visible successes, was the resurrection of the abandoned basketball courts in Memorial Park. This effort, spurred by a photo, generated conversation, fueled new partnerships and led to the revitalization of that community space. The Leon Young Pavilion located at South Shooks Run was another photovoice location that sparked many community conversations, outreach efforts and mobilization of community members.

The residents have worked hard to engage their neighbors as well as community stakeholders in the visioning for a revitalized Leon Young Pavilion - a very specific neighborhood park that has been repeatedly identified as a challenge for Hillside Community members of all ages. In 2017, the Hillside Neighborhood was selected to receive \$150k in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Public Facilities Funds. This opportunity was an exciting development for the neighborhood as it not only creates new investments in the Hillside neighborhood but directly underscored the residents' efforts to engage in the public process and actively create community change.

Revitalization of the Leon Young Pavilion also builds on and leverages the Envision Shooks Run Plan, the Legacy Loop, Pike Ride and it fulfills 5 of the 7 Park System Master Plan recommendations, including:

- Take Care of What We Have
- Diversify Financial Strategies
- Broaden, Enhance and Promote Recreation Opportunities
- Build our Community with the Understanding that Parks Create Great Neighborhoods
- Enhance and Formulate Strong and Broad Partnerships

In conclusion, I fully support the use of CDBG funds to revitalize the Leon Young Pavilion as I believe it will not only preserve a historic neighborhood park in an underserved area of our community it will also serve to honor the legacy of our City's first and only black mayor – a Hillside resident himself. The revitalized pavilion would also represent what is possible when residents engage in the community development process.

Thank you for your support and your consideration of this worthy project.

Sincerely,  
Mia Ramirez, MPH  
Community Partner





June 30, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Patience Kabwasa and I am the Director of Programs for Colorado Springs Food Rescue (CSFR). Colorado Springs Food Rescue is a 501© (3) Non-Profit Organization working to cultivate a healthy, equitable food system in the greater Colorado Springs community. CSFR does this through two programmatic focus areas: food access and food education. CSFR serves 500 families through 9 community driven healthy food distribution programs. One of our partnership neighborhoods is the Hillside Community of Colorado Springs, where our office is located at 917 E. Moreno St. Colorado Springs, Co 80903.

As an organization CSFR has worked with the Hillside community for 2 years. During that time we have hosted community neighborhood sessions, canvassed the community, and worked to create a collaborative of organizations within the Helen Hunt Non-profit campus. On a personal note, however, I have worked with members of the Hillside community for over 12 years.

I am writing you this letter to express my support for the revitalization of the Leon Young Pavilion in South Shooks Run Park.

Through my neighborhood engagement, I have listened to numerous concerns of neighboring residents about the revitalization of the Pavillion. They have expressed wishing it was regularly maintained by parks (i.e; cleaning up trash, mowing grass and weeds, and rebuilding the wooden structure: which is treated with outdated and possibly harmful chemicals, as well as in some areas not structurally sound, was safe enough for use). I interviewed many residents in Column I [wrote](#) in Colorado Springs Independent about it.

I have also heard residents say, the lack of routine maintenance has discouraged regular activation of the area because folks don't feel as safe as they should. Making it a place that is attractive for criminal activity and homeless camps. Most importantly and most discouraging though, is, the community's desire to uphold the Legacy of one of the original African-American neighborhoods in Colorado Springs (due to Dejure segregation it was one of the only places Black people could live) and, Leon Young who was the first Black Mayor of the City--- his legacy should continue to be honored there. Currently, there's not even a sign that signifies his namesake.

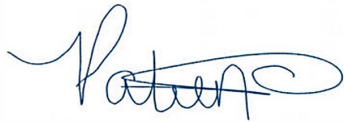
Over the years, I have come to know the Hillside Community to be passionate and driven community---particularly about their neighborhood. In fact, they were the first "neighborhood" to win "The All-American City" award in 1997, making the community a model of community power and organizing to the entirety of Colorado Springs.

I recently attended a Block Party hosted by the Colorado Trust in Hillside. The party was well attended by

a diverse group of neighborhood residents. One of focal points that stood out to me: the neighborhood's concern about the future of the Leon Park Pavillion. And, why Community Development Block Grant dollars the neighborhood was allotted were not being used to revitalize it? At the party, they organized a voting booth and voted for what they wanted in the space and documented what they wished it was.

I fully support the use of CDBG funds to revitalize the Leon Young Pavilion. Thank you for your support and your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Patience', with a stylized flourish extending from the end.

Patience Kabwasa,

Director of Programs

Colorado Springs Food Rescue

917 E, Moreno St.

Colorado Springs, CO 80903

719-639-3397

[patience@coloradospringsfoodrescue.org](mailto:patience@coloradospringsfoodrescue.org)





To Whom it may concern,

My name is Zac Chapman, the Executive Director of Colorado Springs Food Rescue (CSFR). CSFR is a 501 (c)(3), with a mission to cultivate a healthy, equitable food system in the greater Colorado Springs community. We accomplish this mission through neighborhood-based programs integrating nutritious food access, education, production, and advocacy. With 15,000 individuals served in 2017, 60+ active community partnerships, and over one million nutritious meals redistributed since founding in late 2013, we see first hand the intersections between nutritious food access, healthy living, and community building.

CSFR has been building relationships and programs in the Hillside neighborhood for over two years, and Hillside is now the home of our headquarters, located at the Helen Hunt Campus. Through our neighborhood engagement work and participation in Hillside neighborhood events, we've come to hear much from resident stakeholders on our board/volunteer base about the importance for community health and vitality of revitalizing the Leon Young Pavilion. Our work is not about rescuing food, it is about increasing health equity in our partnership neighborhoods through supporting resident-led initiatives therein.

As such, CSFR writes in strong support of revitalizing the Leon Young Pavilion in the Hillside neighborhood, and using the CDBG funds to do so. Such a maneuver will allow the neighborhood to leverage funds for public good, and reinvigorate a crucial congregating space that honors the legacy of Colorado Springs' first and only black mayor.

Thank you for your support and consideration,

Sincerely,

**Zac Chapman**  
Executive Director  
Colorado Springs Food Rescue  
719 - 470 - 2737



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**Colorado Springs Office**

228 North Cascade Avenue  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903  
Telephone: 719.636.2345  
Fax: 719.636.1216

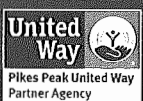
**Marian House Complex**

14 West Bijou Street  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903  
Telephone: 719.475.7314  
Fax: 719.633.0289

**Castle Rock Office**

210 Fifth Street, Suite 100  
Castle Rock, CO 80104  
Telephone: 720.215.4521

**CCharitiesCC.org**  
info@CCharitiesCC.org



Tax ID: 84-0586169

June 29, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

It is with great interest and support that I am writing on behalf of the revitalization of the Leon Young Pavilion in South Shooks Run Park. Family Connections, a program of Catholic Charities is grateful to be a part of the Hillside Community at the Helen Hunt campus. We moved into the neighborhood on December 1, 2017 and are excited to participate in this community providing needed services including Family Support (diapers, wipes, clothing, etc.), Emergency Services, Family Life Coaching, Early Childhood Education & Enrichment and a variety of other services and classes (parenting, ESL).

To have this public space upgraded and the pavilion rebuilt would be of great benefit to the neighborhood, providing a place to gather and build social relationships and greater community between families. Honoring our first and only black mayor with this revitalization also sends a message of the esteem and honor we hold for his legacy in a fitting way.

Respectfully,

Michelle Swanson, MSW  
Director, Family Connections

## TRANSIT MIX CONCRETE CO.



Transit Mix Concrete Company  
444 E Costilla  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

To whom it may concern,

Transit Mix Concrete Company has had a presence in the Hillside Community for over 73 years. We are very grateful to be accepted by, and be a part of such a wonderful community! Over the years we have seen a lot of changes in the neighborhood, the most recent being the closing of Helen Hunt Elementary School. While it was sad to see the school close, it is nice to see that the property will be saved and utilized to serve the community through the John E. and Margaret L. Lane Foundation.

As community members we would also like to see the Leon Young Pavilion saved from destruction and refurbished for community use. While the population in Colorado Springs is growing rapidly, and new construction is abundant, we cannot forget about our older neighborhoods by letting them fall to disrepair and neglect. Colorado Springs, as a City, should honor the past and people of significance within the community. By continuing to have this area of remembrance for Leon Young within the Hillside community we are building a stronger city.

"We cannot seek achievement for ourselves and forget about progress and prosperity for our community... Our ambitions must be broad enough to include the aspirations and needs of others, for their sakes and for our own." – Cesar Chavez

Sincerely,

Jerry Schmitz  
Vice President  
Transit Mix Concrete



Coleman Court Apartments  
Payne Chapel Apartments  
Primm Manor Apartments

## RASA II DEVELOPMENT CORP.

1001 S. Institute Street  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903  
Email: PCHousing44@aol.com

Telephone: (719) 442-1947  
Fax: (719) 442-6453  
After-Hours Emergency (719) 210-8539

July 18, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

Why is the \$150,000 being taken away to rebuild the Leon Young Pavilion? It is disheartening that all the development that is occurring around the City of Colorado Springs and again this area is being neglected. *The Southeast side of the City and the Hillside Community matters also.* Why would money that was approved be taken away from the project? This is a project that is to honor our first black Mayor Leon Young. As a teenager I worked for Mayor Young. He provided me with my first job. Please honor our former mayor and show love to the community that the city continually overlooks. In campaigning to become mayor, Mayor Suthers said he would be focusing on development in the Southeast community. Does he need a refresher of his word and commitment? Rebuild the pavilion and preserve Mayor Leon Young's legacy

Sincerely,

  
Manager