



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**  
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### **Mansion Evaluation Public Involvement Process Underway**

The Highlands Ranch Metro District is reviewing the idea of owning, renovating and operating the historic Highlands Ranch Mansion. At more than 100 years old, the mansion requires significant renovation to operate it for the public benefit, as outlined in the Highlands Ranch Development Guide, created prior to the community's formation.

The Metro District began a Mansion Evaluation Process in October 2008. Initially a study was conducted to determine the cost of renovation followed by a public survey to gauge citizen support for the Metro District owning, renovating and operating the Highlands Ranch Mansion. In addition, the survey questioned parameters and various uses of the Mansion. The survey results reported more than 88 percent of respondents support the Metro District owning, operating and renovating the mansion for community use.

Because of the high level of interest, the Metro District began a public involvement process to involve the community in decisions about Mansion operations. A third-party project consultation team is facilitating the public involvement process.

**Neighborhood Meetings** are being held this month to seek input from the neighbors who live near the Mansion. Neighbors received a postcard inviting them to attend their individual neighborhood meeting.

**A Stakeholder Meeting** was hosted by the Metro District earlier this month with representatives from groups including the Highlands Ranch Historical Society, Douglas County, Douglas County Libraries, Douglas County School District, the Douglas County Cooperative Extension Service (4-H), the Douglas County Sheriff's Office, the Chamber of Commerce of Highlands Ranch and the Highlands Ranch Community Association.

**Operating Guidelines Study Group** meetings will be held in early August with representatives from the community, surrounding neighborhoods and stakeholder groups.

Members of the public are invited to attend the following meetings to learn more about this process and to give feedback.

A **Community Meeting** will be held July 30 from 6 until 8 p.m. at Plum Creek Academy, 9340 Commerce Center St., off Town Center Drive one block east of Santa Fe Drive.

A **Public Open House & Presentation** will be held September 1 from 6 until 8 p.m. at Plum Creek Academy. The Metro District will present results of the community, neighborhood and organizational outreach initiatives and answer questions about Mansion operations.

In addition, Metro District staff is making presentations to community groups regarding this process. To schedule a presentation for your group, please contact Stefanie Quintana at 720-240-4911.

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

For more information about the Mansion Evaluation Process, visit [www.highlandsranch.org](http://www.highlandsranch.org) or send an email message to [info@highlandsranch.org](mailto: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 93,000 people. Learn more about the Metro District at [www.highlandsranch.org](http://www.highlandsranch.org)*

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