



East5ide Unified | Unido is an interconnected group committed to a strong East Denver where all children and families are valued, healthy and thriving.

We meet to work toward a common goal, planning actions and working to influence the community around us to be a great place for young children and families.

The four goals are: Children are healthy and learning; Caregivers, adults and families are engaged, interactive and responsive; People and places that impact children are safe, supportive and connected; The East Denver community prioritizes children and families

## ACTION PLAN



### VISION MISSION

a strong East Denver community where all children and families are valued, healthy, and thriving

To build a thriving network of support systems and a community-wide commitment to leveling the playing field for young children so they can succeed in school and in life

### CORE VALUES GOALS

#### CHILD FOCUSED & FAMILY CENTERED

we seek to create equity of opportunity for all children, honoring and embracing the experiences and diversity of families

#### APPRECIATIVE OF CULTURAL HERITAGE

we preserve, value, and acknowledge the rich history and culture of the neighborhoods and the people who live within them

Children are healthy, engaged, learning, and exploring

Places, spaces, and environments that impact children are safe, supported, and connected

#### COMMUNITY DRIVEN

we are led by authentic community voice, building on the assets and gifts that exist within the five neighborhoods

#### CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE

we respect, honor, and incorporate diversity and are responsive to culture, language, and abilities

#### INCLUSIVE

we value all children, youth and adults who live, work, learn and play in this community

Caregivers, adults, and families are engaged, interactive, and responsive

The East Denver community prioritizes children and families

### STRATEGIES

#### RESILIENCE

Build resilience in all who are part of the community

#### RELATIONSHIPS

Enhance connections that build relationships, trust and a sense of belonging

#### OWNERSHIP

Promote engagement and ownership at individual, program and community levels

#### HOLISTIC APPROACH

Support holistic, multi-dimensional approaches to comprehensive health and learning in homes, schools and community

## EastSide Unified | Unidos Governance - Engagement

EastSide Unified | Unido (EU) is an association of individuals, other associations, and institutions coming together to make East\* Denver a place where children and families thrive.

EU is working to build a thriving network of support systems and a community-wide commitment to ensure young children and their families succeed in school and in life. The power of our association is dependent upon cross-community collaboration, lifting up our knowledge and resources, and working toward the same goal of a thriving East\* Denver. Whether you lend your voice at events, join an Action Team, lead on the council, read the newsletter, we invite you to be involved.

### Ways to Engage

Below find specific ways you can get involved in the EastSide Unified | Unido, including the benefits of becoming engaged.

#### Council

The Council is the advising and decision-making group for EU. The Council is composed of those who live, learn, work, play, or pray in East Denver. They may have a long history in the community, or are newer – all are strong advocates, dedicated and invested in the well-being of the community. The Council meets monthly to review progress, provide support and guidance to the Action Teams and Project Team, ensure accountability, monitor budgets and contracts, and build partnerships.

#### Action Team

These teams come together to actualize the work of EastSide Unified | Unido! There are teams around Community Connections, Anchor Institutions, Evaluation and Learning, and more as they rise. Action Teams each have a lead who are part of the Project Team and keep the Council apprised of progress and needs. They work on their own specific



## JOIN EASTSIDE UNIFIED|UNIDO

Nominate yourself or someone else to be on the 2019 Council-Due December 7, 2018 at midnight

- The Council meets monthly for 2 hours
- The Council provides guidance & support to action teams
- The council monitors the EU budget

Council Members might be:

- Committed & invested in East Denver
- Live, work, learn, pray, or play in East Denver
- Already connected to EastSide
- Reflect the neighborhood's diversity
- Live in one of the 5 neighborhoods

For Questions or Submissions, email [emily@civiccanopy.org](mailto:emily@civiccanopy.org), call 720-996-0754 or visit <https://bit.ly/2Pjt0Z>

Learn more: [www.eastsideunified.org](http://www.eastsideunified.org) 








issue area and connect to each other and the greater East Denver community. They often meet monthly, but are self directed based on their work plan. They strive to be open, inclusive and transparent. They seek support and approval from the Council. If they are institutional, they must have community and or Council representation.

### Project Team

This group gets together to connect the dots across all of East5ide Unified | Unido work. It includes a Council liaison, Action Team leads, Canopy Supports, and Contractors. They track progress and hold each other accountable by providing updates and support. This team is charged with following routines to build inclusion and transparency across the East5ide Unified | Unido work. They meet monthly, and communicate updates weekly.

### Community Wide Activities

East5ide Unified | Unido creates space to come together as a community. Sometimes it's a community meeting to talk about an East5ide issue, something happening in the community, or sharing information and hosting a training! EU also supports each others efforts by spreading the word, and showing up at each other's events. Stay informed about East5ide Unified | Unido and East Denver happenings by signing up for the newsletter, and email content you want to share to [emily@civikkanopy.org](mailto:emily@civikkanopy.org).

[Like and follow us on Facebook](#), check out our [website](#), and join us on [Civic Network](#) to learn even more about us and see what we are up to!



## East5ide Unified | Unido Governance - Council Proposal

- Attributes desired for 12-15 person Council
  - a. A combination of individuals, associations, and institutions
  - b. Committed and invested in East\* Denver
  - c. Live, learn, work, play or pray in East\* Denver
  - d. Are diverse and reflect diversity of the neighborhood (e.g age, religion, racial/ethnic, socio-economic, cultural, gender identify, sexual identify, and other facets)
  - e. Legacy members – those with historic connection to East5ide Unified | Unido
  - f. Someone living in each of the five neighborhoods – Whittier, Cole, Five Points, Skyland, Clayton
- Process to Seat Council
  - a. Nomination process – self nominations or nominating someone not yet involved
  - b. Governance team reviews applications to approve, decline, or redirect to another way to engage.
  - c. The Council and key partners are responsible for recruiting
  - d. The Council and key partners/project team onboard
- Consider
  - a. 2 year term limit for council -- with ways to continue to serve (e.g. babba/mamma group)
  - b. Establishing a routine agenda template and rotating meeting chair
  - c. Rotating meeting spaces
  - d. Open Council meeting, with the space to call an executive session if needed
  - e. Attendance expectations
  - f. Decision making – by consensus via fist-to-five? seated Council members?
  - g. Chair and co-chair?
  - h. Days and times of meetings, Frequency of meetings
  - i. Anchor institutions as participants? Non-voting but may attend

Use a grid/matrix to ensure all the desired attributes met when signing people on to the Council



## EastSide Unified | Unido Governance – Routines: Clear and Replicable

### Council Meetings

- Standing meeting agenda template available so anyone to lead with
  - a. Updates on progress and activities from action and project teams
    - i. Provide feedback
    - ii. Reflect, learn and create clarity
    - iii. Identify way for council to support
    - iv. Support implementation
  - b. Review budgets, contract updates – ensure deliverables are being met
  - c. Quarterly review of milestones and deliverables
  - d. Visioning forward and sustainability planning
  - e. Surface tensions and address difficult conversations
- Council prep -week ahead in Canopy conference room

### Action Teams

- 2 council representatives on action teams to provide support and guidance.
- Action teams provide monthly updates to Council
  - a. Review past month, preview next month (include and invite)
- Uphold routines to build transparency and inclusion
- To create and update regularly and bring to council meetings
  - a. Work plan – purpose, deliverables, activities, timelines
  - b. Two members to attend monthly eu meetings
  - c. Identify resources needed:
    - i. what can we do ourselves
    - ii. what can we do with a little support
    - iii. what do we need someone else to do

### Project Team

- Onboarding Council and/or new to EastSide Unified | Unido people to:
  - a. History
  - b. Routines and processes
  - c. Connections
- Connect Council and EastSide Unified | Unido to ongoing training and learning opportunities – could be an action team, also filtered up from action teams

- Ensure materials needed are prepared for the Council (e.g. reports, budgets)
- Make project and grant information available and accessible
- Ensure connects to contractors and action teams are regular and comprehensive
- Ensure work, communication efforts are accessible
- Identify accountability mechanisms and routines
  - a. Factor in learning, listening in order to adapt and respond to East5ide happenings