

Denver Church Planting Update

By Joe Beckler / May 10th, 2011

A Quick Update...

Denver continues to be a terrific opportunity for church planting! Over the past three months Colorado Baptists made significant progress, seeing new church plants emerge. These include **KaRon Coleman's** work at Northeast Fellowship in the Montbello and Green Valley Ranch areas. The second group is the Summit Denver team, led by **Bryan Barley** and **Andy Metzger**. This team is planting in Five Points, an urban area of north Denver county, which is diverse and full of unreached people. **Jason Tipton**, with Riverside Castle Rock, is likewise doing a terrific job. His vision and insight into the potential for the Castle Rock campus is remarkable and affirmation of what God is doing through Riverside Baptist Church.

As well, there is increased discussion with three potential church planters who may begin work in the communities of **Lakewood, Boulder, and Lone Tree**. These three planting projects are still in the preliminary stages and all initiated by leaders who live in Denver, grasp the culture, and are willing to plant regardless of funding provided by Colorado Baptists and NAMB.

The Role of the Local Church...

Colorado Baptists believe that local churches plant churches. To properly honor this conviction, certain measures are being applied to ensure that future church plants in the Denver Metropolitan Area have healthy and meaningful relationships with sponsoring churches. Using five criteria, we can ensure a proper relationship between the sponsor church and church planting team.

Prayer... Every church planting candidate must exhibit, early on in their process, that they can develop a prayer strategy that encompasses early stages, core team development, launch, and long term church development.

Partner... Church planters must be able to develop a key partnering church relationship in the Denver area. Instead of denominational leaders attempting to broker a partnership, church planting candidates must identify and develop a partner church relationship. The ability to do this is critical and a first step in the church planting process. [Consideration of a church planter for our field is contingent upon their ability to negotiate a meaningful church partnership in the Denver Metropolitan Area.](#)

People... Church planting candidates must identify the people group(s) associated with the church planting project. This is crucial in determining both vision and strategy.

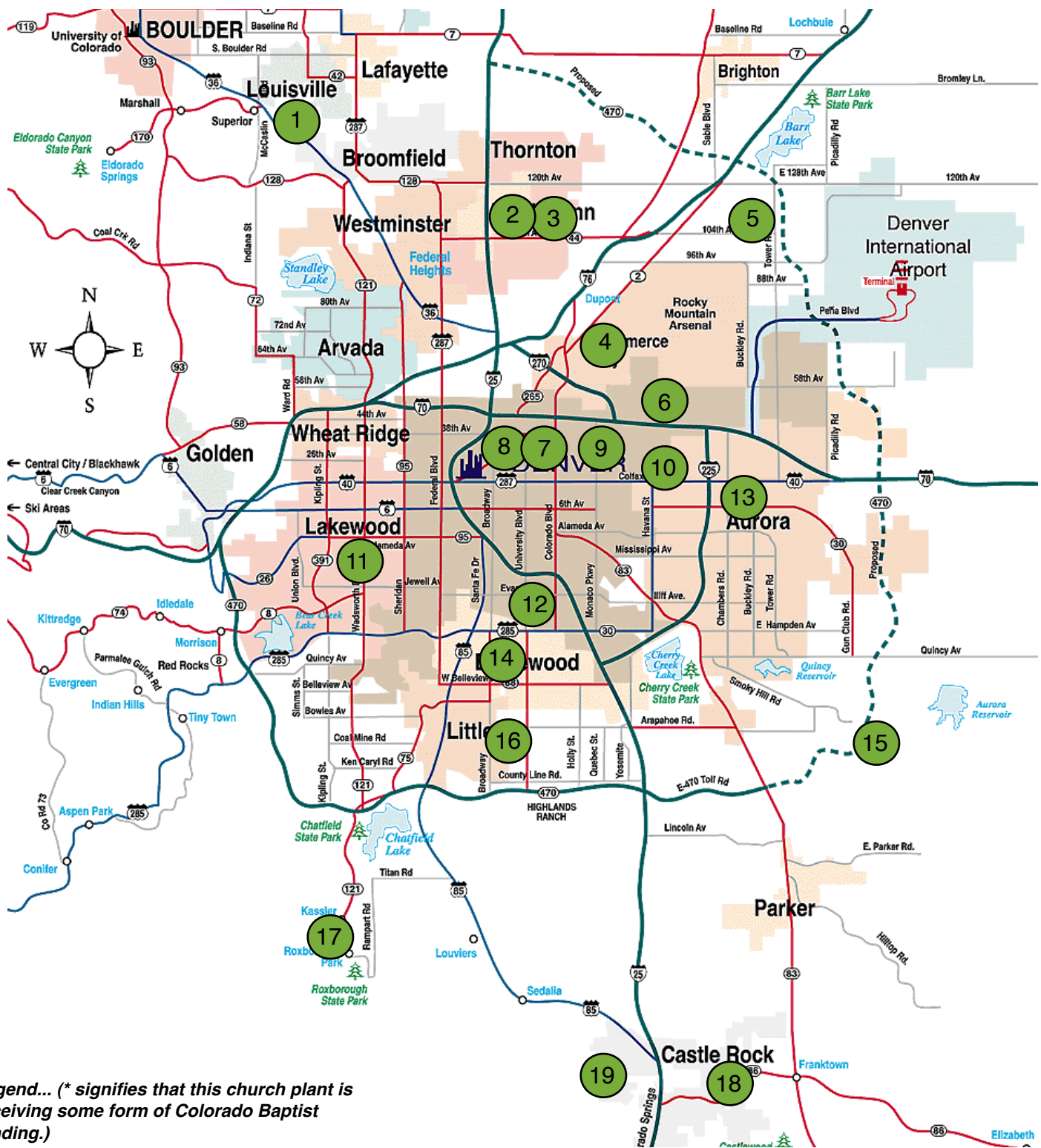
Place... Locations associated with potential church plants must line up with targeted people group(s). With the help of a partner church relationship, location for a church planting project is prayerfully determined.

Person... Ultimately, the planter candidate must be the right person for the church planting project. Church planting candidates will be evaluated by trained assessors, using the NAMB endorsed assessment processes. Assessment determines the viability of candidates for church planting in the Denver Metropolitan area.

The Governor's Statewide Homeless Initiative...

Homelessness continues to be a challenging issue in Colorado. Governor Hickenlooper's administration is leading a statewide initiative to address homelessness. As is the case in Denver, churches play an essential role in addressing this issue. Gary Sanford, the governor's policy advisor on homelessness, is aware of the Colorado Baptist network and interested in determining ways we can partner together across Colorado. From the Governor's office all the way to the streets of Colorado towns, Southern Baptists have a golden opportunity to show the love of Jesus. Future details about this opportunity will emerge over the coming months.

Where our network of Church Planting Teams are located...



Legend... (* signifies that this church plant is receiving some form of Colorado Baptist funding.)

1. Christ Church, Scott Kelly
2. Encuentro Con Dios, Jose Tello *
3. New Generation Brazilian Church, Ilamarques Morais
4. Iglesia: Bautista El Buen, Pastor Carlos Sosa
5. The Forum, Jay Williams
6. Northeast Fellowship, KaRon Coleman
7. High View Church, Brad Hovis*
8. Summit Church, Bryan Barley/ Andy Metzger*
9. Elevate Church, Rich and Missy Sivernell*
10. Resurrection Community Bible Church, Roy Rayburn

11. Iglesia Oracion Y Accion, Carlos Lopez *
12. First Romanian Church, Dan Cuc-Capota*
13. Wellspring Community Church, Mike Morgan
14. Japanese Hope Mountain Family Church, Yoichi Mori *
15. The Edge Community Church, Ryan Heller*
16. Sola Church, Chad Mondragon
17. The Gathering at Roxborough, David Jarboe
18. Riverside Castle Rock, Jason Tipton *
19. Genesis Church, Rand Clark *