

Far Northeast Area Plan Steering Committee Meeting #13



Date and Time: Thursday, June 28, 2018, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Location: Green Valley Ranch Recreation Center

Attendees

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS (PRESENT)

Angie Rivera-Malpiede	Maricruz Herrera (proxy for Blanca Madrid)
Loretta Pineda	Frank Tagader
Charlie Foster	John Foote
Ann White	Terry Liggins
Donna Garnett	Rick Wells
Rose Thomas	Norah Kimball (proxy for Susan Stanton)

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS (ABSENT)

Brian Smith	Tim Camarillo
Earleen Brown	LaToya Petty
Turner Wyatt	Katie McKenna
Shelli Brown	Rachel Marion
Rich Barrows	

ELECTED OFFICIALS/COUNCIL DISTRICT AIDES

Stacie Gilmore, District 11

COMMUNITY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT STAFF

Eugene Howard	Lilly Djanants
Valerie Herrera	Courtland Hyser

VISITORS/GUESTS

Mondi Mason	Scott Gilmore
Raquel Davis	

Meeting Summary

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Co-Chair Frank Tagader welcomed the attendees and led the meeting.

2. MEETING NOTES APPROVAL

The May 30, 2018 meeting notes were reviewed and approved. There were no changes.

3. AIA DESIGN CHARRETTE RESULTS

Lilly Djanians presented the results from the AIA design charrette for opportunity areas 6-10. The steering committee had minimal comments on the individual areas, and instead discussed broader themes relating to how the charrette results will be incorporated into the plan. Staff clarified that charrettes are a useful way to test concepts and to generate new and creative ideas, but aren't intended to be used as-is. The steering committee's role at this stage in the process is to help staff vet the charrette ideas, identify which ones are useful, and then decide where to apply them within the planning area.

4. PREVIEW OF DRAFT MATERIALS FOR PUBLIC MEETING #4

Courtland Hyser and Eugene Howard presented draft material for the upcoming public meeting on July 12th. The purpose of the public meeting is to give the public an opportunity to review and refine draft ideas before we start writing the plan. Topics to be addressed in detail at this meeting include: future growth and development, affordable housing, food access, parks and recreation, and transportation. Themes from the steering committee's discussion on each topic are summarized below.

a. Future Growth and Development

- i. What can be done in "by right" development situations where developers choose to build lower than their entitlements?
 - Generally speaking, plans describe the long-term vision for the area, even if that vision isn't achievable in the immediate future. As market forces change over time, the vision remains in place and allows for denser development/redevelopment. The Tech Center is an example of an area that gradually became denser over time.
 - For areas where a minimum intensity of development is desired, the plan could recommend the use of regulatory tools that require minimum floor area ratios or building heights to prevent under-development.

b. Affordable Housing

- i. Committee members expressed support for using deed restrictions as a strategy for preserving existing market rate affordable units.
- ii. Consider expanding tax abatement programs for seniors and people with disabilities.

c. Food Access

- i. Add strategies to support mobile food markets like Any Street Grocery.
- ii. Provide a list of healthy food assets that are already located within the community.
- iii. The city's curbside composting program charges a fee, which is a disincentive for people to participate.
- iv. Support food delivery services and first/last mile connections to transit to make it easier for people to get their groceries home.
- v. Consider a local circulator to improve food access for seniors and people who do not own cars. The circulator does not need to be owned and operated by RTD.

d. Parks and Recreation

- i. In future versions of the maps, show connections to facilities that are located outside of Denver in Aurora, Adams County, and the Rocky Mountain Arsenal.
- ii. For the public meeting, provide a map that shows all of the existing parks and recreation facilities in Far Northeast, as well as any that are currently under construction (Montbello Open Space).
- iii. Address the need to fund the future park and open space system in Far Northeast. Denver Parks and Recreation has identified 30-40 acres of future parks in this area but does not have the funding to implement it.

e. Transportation

- i. Comments on design alternatives for Montbello residential collector streets:
 - Update the graphics to make it more obvious that an amenity zone can be added without affecting on-street parking.
 - Develop an alternative that shows protected bike lanes located between the curb and on-street parking.
 - Ensure that the needs of senior citizens are considered in the design alternatives for these streets by coordinating with Girl Trek and Montbello Walks.
- ii. Drag racing tends to be more of a problem in GVR than in Montbello. Take a closer look at GVR streets to determine if any can be recommended for road diets.
- iii. As a general safety strategy, try to slow down traffic near schools and parks.
- iv. Comments on the off-street trail network:
 - Show connections to existing trails outside of Denver
 - Coordinate with DEN on their future off-street trail system
 - Coordinate with the Peak to Prairie trail system
 - Update the map to show the current lack of access to the off-street trail near the Peoria A-Line station.