West Area Plan Steering Committee Meeting #10

Thursday, June 18, 2020
Microsoft Teams 6:00-7:30PM
Tonight’s Agenda

• Schedule Review
  • Monthly Summer Breakdown

• Blueprint Denver Equity & Complete Communities

• West Area Guiding Principles

• Opportunity Area Identification
  • Summary Maps
  • Steering Committee Focus Areas
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**Task 6: Study/Learn/Explore**
- Gather input for each of the planning topics (Economy, Housing, Mobility, Quality of Life & Land Use) & focus areas
- Research case studies & best practices
- Develop findings, priorities & planning principles for: Economy, Housing, Mobility, Quality of Life & Land Use
- Identify opportunities

**Task 7: Opportunities, Alternatives & Draft Recommendations**
- Build on identified opportunities & priorities to develop alternatives & draft recommendations by topic
- Confirm preferred alternatives & draft recommendations with Steering Committee & community input

**Task 8: Draft Plan**
- Revise/refine recommendations
- Refine implementation strategy
- Assemble draft materials & write new material
- Create rough draft for client review

**Task 9: Review & Adoption**
- Final Draft

**Deliverables**
- **Task 6:** Public input summary by planning topic (economy, housing, mobility, quality of life & land use)
- Findings, principles, priorities, focus areas & opportunities
- **Task 7:** Draft alternatives & recommendations with supporting concept sketches/visuals
- **Task 8:** Refined recommendations
- Draft plan
- Native files of materials
- GIS layers
Outreach Efforts - June
“Safer at Home” Prohibits In-Person Meetings

Steering Committee
• Review Guiding Principles
• Discuss the Role of Equity
• Define Blueprint Denver Complete Communities
• Identify Major Opportunity Areas

Public Outreach
• Launch and Promote Discovery Modules
  • Social Media Promotion
• Virtual Community Office Hours
  • Virtual Presentations to Community Groups
  • Virtual Online Appointments
  • Traditional Conference Calls
Outreach Efforts - July

“Safer at Home” Allows Limited In-Person Meetings

Steering Committee
- Promote Discovery Modules in Community
- Opportunity Area Work Sessions
  - Incorporating Equity in Recommendations
  - Define/Develop Complete Communities

Public Outreach
- Close Discovery Modules/Incorporate Feedback
- Virtual & Small Group Office Hours
  - Virtual/One-on-One Presentations
  - Virtual Online Appointments
  - Traditional Conference Calls
Outreach Efforts - August

“Safer at Home” Allows Small In-Person Meetings

Steering Committee
- Continue Draft Recommendations
  - Incorporate Equity
  - Explore Completing Communities
  - Neighborhood Specific Recommendations

Public Outreach
- Draft Recommendation Modules
- Small Group Presentations (Virtual and Live)
  - Small Group Presentations
  - Traditional Conference Calls
  - Telephone Town Hall/Facebook Live Event(s) with Council
  - Social Media Promotion
Outreach Efforts - September
(TBD) In-Person Meetings w. Safety Protocols

Steering Committee
• Final Draft Recommendation Selections
• Community Promotion and Feedback
• Identifying Community Groups for Presentations

Public Outreach
• (TBD) “Regional” Public Meetings
• Small Group Presentations (Virtual and Live)
  • RNO Presentations
  • Traditional Conference Calls
  • Telephone Town Hall/Facebook Live Event(s) with Council
  • Social Media Promotion
Blueprint Denver

Access to Opportunities (Equity) & Complete Communities
Blueprint Denver: Equity and Access to Opportunity

**Improving Access to Opportunity**
creating more equitable access to quality-of-life amenities, health and quality education.

**Reducing Vulnerability to Displacement**
stabilizing residents and businesses who are vulnerable to involuntary displacement due to increasing property values and rents.

**Expanding Housing and Jobs Diversity**
providing a better and more inclusive range of housing and employment options in all neighborhoods.
The Elements of a Complete Neighborhood

Enhance the character and quality of neighborhoods.

Connect people to the neighborhood places where they live, work and play.

Provide neighborhoods with parks and open spaces, natural features, recreation opportunities and social spaces.
West Area: Guiding Principles

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

**Vision Elements**

- In 2040... Denver is an equitable, inclusive community with a high quality of life for all residents, regardless of income level, race, ethnicity, gender, ability or age.
- In 2040... Denver’s neighborhoods are complete, unique and reflective of our city’s diverse history.
- In 2040... Denver is a global city with a robust economy that reflects the diversity of our community.
- In 2040... Denver is connected by safe, high-quality, multimodal transportation options.
- In 2040... Denver is a thriving, sustainable city connected to nature and resilient to climate change.
- In 2040... Denver is a city of safe, accessible and healthy communities.

**BLUEPRINT DENVER**

**Complete Neighborhood Elements**

**Land Use and Built Form**

- Enhance the character and quality of neighborhoods

**Mobility**

- Connect people to the neighborhood places where they live, work and play

**Quality of Life Infrastructure**

- Provide neighborhoods with parks, trees, natural features, recreation opportunities and civic social services
# West Area: Guiding Principles

## Land Use Principles

**Grow**
Direct future growth to areas that can "handle it," like near transit, along major corridors, and around gulches – while making sure future development results in increased community benefits and enhances the quality of life for all residents.

**Adapt**
Enhance existing industrial areas to better serve neighborhood needs. Incorporate a broader mix of uses to expand services to residents and improve streets to increase safety and connectivity.

**Expand**
Expand housing options that are affordable for residents at all income levels and lifestyles, including the housing needs of our lower-income families. This includes expanding housing options beyond apartments and single-family homes to have more affordable duplex, triplex, tandem homes, and accessory dwelling units.

**Nurture**
Support existing shopping areas inside neighborhoods by encouraging community desired uses and designs that contribute to the character of the surrounding neighborhoods.

**Preserve**
Preserve existing housing that is affordable to residents at all income levels (e.g., smaller, original homes) and encourage new development to be quality design at all scales.

## Economy Principles

**Direct growth to areas along corridors, centers and in industrial areas that are integrated with public transit to preserve neighborhood character and encourage new community benefits.**

**Strengthens ties between local businesses and residents – increase opportunities for residents to have local, well-paying jobs that don’t require long commutes.**

**Explore areas within the planning area that might be suitable for limited and small-scale mixed-use retail and job centers.**

**Encourage a variety of local jobs, growth and innovation along corridors, centers and in the existing industrial areas.**

**Promote investment in small businesses and use tools and programs that preserve existing affordable commercial spaces.**

## Mobility Principles

**Implement traffic calming measures to slow down speeding cars and reduce outside traffic from traveling through neighborhoods.**

**Make walking more comfortable by improving the sidewalk network throughout the plan area. By filling gaps, we will create more space for people walking, rolling, biking and improve access to transit.**

**Improve connectivity between neighborhoods and across major barriers. Adding to existing networks will provide more high comfort bike lanes, improve intersections along important corridors and centers, make transit more accessible, and give residents more options beyond driving.**

**Improve access to the South Platte River, Lakewood/Dry Gulch, and Wet Gulch trails and West area open spaces.**

## Quality of Life Infrastructure Principles

**Encourage natural areas and green infrastructure in the communities where the need is great (i.e., Sun Valley and Valverde), and around existing park facilities, trails, and gulches. Food systems, specifically production and distribution, should be emphasized to address food insecurity.**

**Enhance existing green infrastructure networks to serve neighborhood needs, including ways to increase mobility options and connectivity along gulches and trails. Plan policies should promote access to healthy food and healthcare, and support partnerships and collaboration among city agency and community organizations to expand services to West area residents.**

**Recommend future public and private projects include the health and well-being needs and values of West area residents (i.e., neighborhood parks, open spaces, places for food production, arts, culture, mental and physical well-being).**

**Develop recommendations that maintain the health and well-being of existing natural systems in support of community values and the City’s environmental and sustainability goals. Attention should be focused on opportunities surrounding gulches, trails, park facilities and community-serving public spaces.**

**Invest in parks, open spaces, and culturally significant areas that are important to the neighborhoods that surround them. Maintain and encourage increased accessibility to family-oriented places and encourage activities that build on the existing sense of community.**
Land Use

STADIUM DISTRICT
Both projects have existing plans that are currently being implemented.

DHA SUN VALLEY REDEVELOPMENT
Economy and Jobs
Mobility
Green Infrastructure
Next Steps...

Thursday, June 25, 2020
6:00-7:30 PM (Microsoft Teams)
• Residential Design Quality
• Affordable Housing Incentives

Steering Committee Opportunity Area Workshops
6:00-7:30 PM (Microsoft Teams)
• July 9, 2020 - Area One
• July 16, 2020 - Area Two – *(Scheduled Steering Committee)*
• July 23, 2020 - Area Three
• July 30, 2020 - Area Four