West Area Plan

February Steering Committee Workshop: Cultural and Historic Preservation

February 18, 2021
Today’s Agenda

• Recap of Office of Social Equity and Innovation (OSEI) Citywide Goals
• Denver Landmark Cultural Ordinance Changes
• Denver Latino/Chicano Cultural Study
• Importance of Preservation in West Denver
• Workshopping: Breakout Groups
• Share Out and Next Steps
Indigenous Land Acknowledgement

“It is important to understand the longstanding history that has brought [us] to reside on the land, and to seek to understand [our] place within that history. Land acknowledgements do not exist in a past tense, or historical context: colonialism is a current ongoing process, and we need to build our mindfulness of our present participation.”

Sources: https://nativegov.org/a-guide-to-indigenous-land-acknowledgment/ and Northwestern University
Office of Social Equity and Innovation (OSEI)

- **MISSION**: The Mayor’s Office of Social Equity and Innovation shall lead efforts to eliminate social inequity and race and social injustices by evaluating institutional and structural government systems, policies, and practices.
OSEI Citywide Goals

1. Denver will be an inclusive employer where city staff is valued, supported, and given the tools to advance social equity, race, and social justice.

2. Denver will be an inclusive city that integrates social equity, race, and social justice into policies, practices, programs, and budgetary decisions to create equitable outcomes.

3. Denver will be an inclusive government that effectively engages the community to create equitable outcomes.

4. Denver will use nationally recognized research and data-driven practices to support the city’s progress toward social equity, race and social justice.
“It is hereby declared as a matter of public policy that the protection, enhancement, perpetuation and use of structures and districts of historical, architectural, geographic, or cultural significance ... is a public necessity, and is required in the interest of the prosperity, civic pride and general welfare of the people.”
Current Landmarks in West
What are we doing about it? - Denver Landmark Ordinance Changes
New Landmark Criteria

• History
• Architecture
• Geography
• Culture
History

- Have direct association with a significant historic event or with the historical development of the city, state, or nation;
- Have direct and substantial association with a recognized person or group of persons who had influence on society.
Architecture

- Embody the distinctive visible characteristics of an architectural style or type;
- Be a significant example of the work of a recognized architect or master builder;
- Contain elements of design, engineering, materials, craftsmanship, or artistic merit which represent a significant innovation or technical achievement.
Due to its prominent location or physical characteristics, represents an established and familiar feature of the neighborhood, community or contemporary city;

Promote understanding and appreciation of the urban environment by means of distinctive physical characteristics or rarity.
Culture

- Represents an era of culture or heritage that allows an understanding of how the site was used by past generations;
- Be a physical attribute of a neighborhood, community, or the city that is a source of pride or cultural understanding;
- Associated with social movements, institutions, or patterns of growth or change that contributed significantly to the culture of the neighborhood, community, city, state, or nation.
Discover Denver

- West Colfax Survey – 2020
Importance of preservation in West Denver
What we’ve heard so far
Let’s Hear from You...

• 30 Minute Breakout Sessions: North and South of 6th Avenue
  • Let’s Hear From Everyone In the Group
  • Tell Us about Places using the Map
  • Comment in the Chat
  • Sessions will be Recorded for future reference

• 7:00 – 7:15 Report Outs

• 7:15 – Villa Park Video Response (Thanks Villa Park!)
North of 6th Avenue
South of 6th Avenue
Report Outs – What Did You Share?

Opening Question

Introduce Yourself

Tells us

1) What do you really like about Villa Park
   OR

2) If you have someone visiting, where would you show them or take them in the neighborhood
Thank You!