



Project: Advancing Equity in Rezoning
Subject: Task Force Meeting #9
Meeting Date: Wednesday, October 26, 2022
Meeting Time: 3:00pm - 5:00pm
Meeting Location: Virtual Zoom Meeting

Meeting Notes

Meeting Objective:

- Provide Taskforce with an update on the extended project timeline
- Discuss the proposed strategies that CPD will continue to explore to find a preferred approach and understand the feasibility of potential tools and process improvements.

Introductions and Remarks from Laura Aldrete

- Staff and Consultant Team Introductions
- Task Force Introductions
- Laura Aldrete, Executive Director of Community Planning and Development
 - CPD will be pausing to analyze recommendations and strategies through the remainder of 2022
 - CPD still has a staffing shortage. We need time to ensure this project is fully staffed.
 - Several of the solutions identified by the task force will require work internally to make sure they are solutions the city can implement, and we need time to make progress on this so future task force meetings will be productive and efficient for our community volunteers.
 - To the extent that people are able to spend the upcoming holiday season with friends and family, they should be able to do so without worrying about also trying to stay engaged with this project.
 - Task Force Meetings will resume in 2023

Where We Are & Four Main Proposed Strategies

- Slides were presented by Liz Weigle, Andrew Webb and Rob Haigh
- [Issue Identification Report](#) was shared previously by CPD Staff
- Feedback on Issue Identification Report:
 - The issue identification report is very clear and captured Task Force discussions.
 - Can we be certain to capture the thinking for people who may come to live in Denver? Future residents of Denver also be considered.

- **Proposed Strategy: tailor Process and fees based on rezoning size, location, and impact**

Discussion:

- How can rezoning improvements also benefit the small property owners and consider their burdens from the process?
- **Proposed Strategy: Public Engagement/Involvement**
Discussion:
 - Does this include notification at the pre-application phase?
 - Making participation in public hearings more accessible
 - Improve the timing for noticing
 - Human centered design approach would be helpful to ensure understanding of human needs and processes.
 - Use existing databases of email addresses to improve noticing
 - Consider an ombudsman rather than a written guide.
 - Use of technology for notices, community members can sign up for push notifications and notices.
- **Proposed Strategy: Develop tools to require enforceable commitments**
Discussion:
 - Concerns raised about the role of the City in enforcement
- **Proposed Strategy: Update Rezoning Review Criteria**
Discussion:
 - Consistency with outdated adopted plans or no adopted plans is a concern.
 - Concern about overlapping plans where there are differences.
- **Next Steps and Process Feedback**
Discussion:
 - Anxiety around the suggested process of pausing for 3 months and returning when it's fully baked.
 - Does CPD have a DEI position?
 - CPD works closely with Office of Social Equity and Inclusion
 - Members expressed not being comfortable with OSEI being the only voice on DEI issues
 - IDEAs (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Accessibility) for the 21st Century to add Accessibility
 - Task Force will reconvene to review draft strategies

Public Comment

- None was provided

Closing and Next Steps

- CPD will continue to explore to find a preferred approach and understand the feasibility of potential tools and process improvements.
- Task Force will reconvene in 2023