



COLORADO SPRINGS COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING #2 SUMMARY

8:30 – 10:30 am, 19 August 2016

ATTENDEES

Steering Committee

Merv Bennett, *Chair*
Jill Gaebler, *Vice Chair*
Rachel Beck
Lynette Crow-Iverson
Susan Davies
Charles Deason
Kent Fortune
Kevin Kratt
Hannah Parsons
Eric Phillips
Harry Salzman
Tim Seibert

Robert Shonkwiler
Taj Stokes

Guests

Stu Davis, *Springs Rescue Mission*

City of Colorado Springs

Peter Wysocki, *Planning & Community Development Director*
Carl Schueler,
Comprehensive Planning Manager

Jamie Fabos, *City Communications*
Krithika Prashant, *City Communications*
Jay Anderson, *Office of the Mayor*
Travis Duncan, *City Communications*

Consultant Team

Bruce Meighen, *Logan Simpson*
Megan Moore, *Logan Simpson*

MEETING MINUTES

BACKGROUND

A. Welcome & Introductions | Councilman Bennett

- Councilman Bennett welcomed the Steering Committee to their second meeting.
- No modifications to the agenda were made.

B. Meeting Minutes Protocol | Carl Schueler

- No changes were made to the meeting minutes.
- The Committee determined they would formally approve minutes; members are free to suggest changes/refinements at any time

C. Phase I Public Process Toolkit | Bruce Meighen + Jamie Fabos

- Presentation attached.
- Members provided interactive questions, feedback and comments on particular facets to be considered as the public process is rolled out, refined, and adapted
- Members expressed broad support for the plan name and logo.

EXERCISE

A. Locations for our Phase I toolkit | Bruce Meighen

B. Elaborate on biggest issues, opportunities and measures of success

a. Stakeholder Interviews to Date

- Staff and consultants have already seen a fairly good cross-section of the population, and continue to work to schedule additional representatives (e.g. faith community, Transportation Advisory Committee, school districts, military retirees, and retired NCOs)
 - After public launch of the Plan, staff will attend board and commissions and neighborhood meetings to give a brief overview and get them connected to the process
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- Steering Committee members are encouraged to send additional contact information for limited additional stakeholder interviews, to Carl

b. Field Trip Update

- The intention of the field trip was to show the enormity of the city, and touch on some of the opportunities for the city
- The itinerary and briefing book will eventually be posted on the PlanCOS website
- Discussion Comments:
 - Field trip gave a good overview of the city, and an understanding that there are a lot of common issues that the Plan will need to address in a manner that's respectful and effective
 - Look at the possibility to include additional trips to some of the specific sites later on and discuss further the issues and opportunities, and see any additional improvements that have been made

Steering Committee members who were unable to attend the first meeting were asked to respond to three questions to help frame the expectations for the planning process:

What are your goals for the Comprehensive Plan? For example, complete this sentence: "This Plan will be a success if _____."

- ...it is approachable, but also allows decision-makers to make decisions (the last plan was a good plan, but it means something to everyone).
- ...it gets us to 2036 in a better way; if it guides fiscal decisions, and helps identify more efficient ways to fund improvements and be fiscally-responsible.
- Discussion Comments:
 - We should look into the history of our policies, and what has caused some of our current issues – here's how we got here, and here's where we want to be – the plan audit will investigate this to an extent
 - As we go through the process, it's very important to let the community know where we are, and where we're going
 - Decision-making shouldn't just be council decision-making, but community as well, but will need to educate the community on what hos decisions mean
 - We will reach out to the Mayor's Task Force for Young Professionals to ensure that we're reaching a younger segment of the population
 - Need to maintain the recently awarded status of one of top 20 cities in the US to start a business; should look into what is needed to make it into the top 5

What are our biggest issues and opportunities for the Plan?

- The creation of great, attainable housing for our general workforce, and identifying responsibilities for funding, managing, building, and maintaining
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housing

- COS Housing Authority will be interviewed as a stakeholder
- Addressing homelessness, in relation to downtown enhancements and redevelopment, and safety on trails, etc.
- Will be acknowledged as part of this plan, but likely will not go into all of the detail that is part of other city initiatives

What will Colorado Springs look like in 2035?

- A balance between quality of life and economic drivers
- Proactive and definitive about our brand and who and what we are; celebrate all these great things
- An enhanced quality of education at all levels
 - Why should you own a home in an A+ school district? COS is in a good situation, but doesn't really compete with other cities on an educational level, however the Thomas MacLaren School recently achieved the highest average ACT score in the state

General Exercise Comments:

- In summarizing data and public feedback, the consultant team will categorize comments, and will make an interpretation of comments
- Steering Committee members will be able to request the raw data, but it is not intended to be distributed publically

HOMEWORK

A. Next Steps | Megan Moore + Carl Schueler

- The next meeting will be held **Friday, October 21st, 8:30 – 10:30 AM**, in the CAB, Suite 102
 - Staff and consultant will work to compile a more detailed summary of the data from stakeholders and from public outreach, and give a summary of what we're hearing
 - Draft vision statements will be identified and reviewed at the next meeting
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