



AGENDA

Planning and Economic Development Policy Committee

June 9, 2021

8:30 am

VIRTUAL MEETING

City of Aurora, Colorado

15151 E Alameda Parkway

Public Participation Dialing Instructions

Call in Number: (408) 418-9388

Access Code: 187 467 6340

Council Member Marsha Berzins, Chair
Council Member Dave Gruber, Vice Chair
Council Member Angela Lawson, Member

Council Goal: Be a great place to locate, expand and operate a business and provide for well-planned growth and development.

	Pages
1. Call to Order	
2. Approval of Minutes	1
3. General Business	
3.a. Havana Street Corridor Study Update	11
Huiliang Liu/Daniel L. Money, Senior Assistant City Attorney	
3.b. Proposal for New Climate Action Committee	74
Karen Hancock and Jeffrey Moore /Ian Best, Assistant City Attorney	
4. Miscellaneous Matters for Consideration	
4.a. Aurora Economic Development Council	
4.b. Havana Business Improvement District	
4.c. Aurora Chamber of Commerce	

4.d. Planning Commission

4.e. Oil and Gas Committee

4.f. Business Advisory Board

4.g. Retail

4.h. Small Business

4.i. Visit Aurora

5. Confirm Next Meeting Date

July 14, 2021 at 8:30 AM

6. Adjournment



Planning and Economic Development
MINUTES

Date: May 12, 2021
Time: 8:30 am

Members Present Marsha Berzins, Dave Gruber, Angela Lawson

1. Call to Order

2. Approval of Minutes

April 14, 2021 minutes were approved.

3. General Business

3.a City Center Vision Project Update

Summary of Issue and Discussion:

Daniel Krzyzanowski, Planning Supervisor

- Daniel presented on the City Center Vision Project.
- Despite a delayed start due to Covid-19, the project was initiated in 2020. The project team has facilitated steering committee and community engagement and has started development of guiding principles and articulation of the community’s vision for future area development.
- The city requested community input through an online survey that was open to the entire Aurora community and available in both English and Spanish. Over 860 responses were received and provided the project team with a wealth of information on key topics important to the community. There was a lot of support for an active “downtown” district at City Center that includes a wide variety of uses and activities. Unique or locally owned businesses were especially desirable as were high-quality public parks and plazas. Respondents supported the idea of a “park once and walk” type of district that is safe, convenient, and comfortable to move through.. The presentation from the December 2020 Housing, Neighborhood Services and Redevelopment Policy Committee meeting also provided a summary and details of the public input received.

- Staff has developed a first draft of the City Center Vision document. The document includes a vision statement, guiding principles, and a series of recommendations to support the city's implementation of the area vision. The recommendations fall into four major categories which staff addressed in more detail: vision, development framework, zoning and development standards.
- Staff is creating a draft plan and will be taking it out to the community for feedback. Once that is complete, they will bring it back to Council for consideration and adoption.
 - Council Member Berzins asked for clarification on the presentation. Daniel responded this presentation provides the draft document content they are creating to take out to the public for feedback. This is like the process they did for the housing study. They will refine the draft into something they can bring forward to Council for consideration and adoption.
 - CM Berzins asked if socialized housing is included in the plan presentation? Daniel responded the way housing is addressed in the draft is a mix of housing types in the area. They will take into consideration the feedback from individual council members and the community then articulate the feedback in the draft.
 - CM Berzins expressed concern with the effort since there is already an area plan, and the city does not own any of the land. She expressed her belief that socialized housing will not pass Council. She does not want this process to hold up any area projects. George Adams responded that this process is not delaying any of the current area projects. The input received at HORNS (Housing Neighborhood Services and Redevelopment) regarding socialized housing is not part of the plan Daniel is presenting. They will meet with Council Members Marcano and Coombs to get a better understanding of their vision for the area. The staff is shaping the plan to include ideas of what the stakeholders and community want to see in the area. They want to get feedback from area property owners and developers on a more defined plan and set of regulations, and standards. CM Berzins expressed appreciation for the clarification and remarked about the time spent on the process with the department's workload. George responded this an important project. They want to make sure the plan is achieving the vision of the council for a more urban district in the area.

- Council Member Gruber asked about the city's financial relationship regarding this project. Daniel responded there will be an opportunity for the city to contribute in the future by improving streets and connections. CM Gruber asked whether the developer, Washington Prime, has asked the city to contribute any money to this overall project. Daniel responded at this point there is not a specific public ask for any projects at the mall site. If one of the property owners wants to discuss a TIF or other public support, we have processes in place for those specific discussions.
- CM Gruber asked if the property developer at the Metro Center site has asked the city to partner with them or for a contribution? George responded early on there were discussions, however, the project was not providing the kind of development that would justify incentives. There is a significant historic investment by the city in the larger site as Daniel noted. This includes the I-225 interchange, the pedestrian pathway under Alameda Parkway, and significant drainage improvements associated with the AMC. More recently there is an incentive agreement for the Parkside project. There has been a lot of public money put in the area in the past, and there is potential for more in the future. This study is a refinement of the current station area plan, zoning rules, and guiding recommendations to help the next generation of area development. This vision will help the area evolve into a much more robust mixed-use, dense, and economically productive area. CM Gruber asked if this a viable work project that the developers must follow or something they can ignore? George responded he believes it is a worthwhile effort. Many times, it's welcomed by the development community as they understand the city and council priorities. It also assures them that development in the area will be of a quality and character that justifies the higher investment. CM Berzins commented she agreed that the city already has high development standards. They want people to come to Aurora and have a good experience. CM Lawson agrees with the plan and the community engagement. She also asked for clarification on what is being expected by the developer, and how will the community engagement be structured? Daniel responded this project is the development of an area plan by the city for the entire city center area. This is a plan that staff would like to develop with the intent to have the council review, approve and adopt the plan. There are elements of the plan that will articulate the vision for what the community wants to see in the area and a series of specific zoning regulations and development standards. The plan will also include direction on some of the financial tools available to the city and private property developers, in public-private partnerships.

- CM Berzins added she toured the Fieldhouse USA project that will serve the mall. She stated kudos to those who got the project. It's a wonderful project that is unique and amazing to see. She added encouragement for everyone to tour the project which is scheduled to open at the end of summer.
- CM Gruber asked about the plot of land the city owns that is North of Alameda and South of the Aurora Municipal Center (AMC). He also asked if there will be an opportunity for a public-private partnership? Mindy Parnes responded at one time there were ideas for an entertainment center. She indicated there is an area master plan that shows it can be developed. CM Gruber stated he would like to have this land included in the presentation charts to show that land as potential public-private partnership development.
- CM Lawson asked who at RTD is involved with the meetings for the station and have those conversations started? Mindy responded RTD recently received the plan so they can consider development on their property and they are part of the steering committee, stakeholder meetings and are willing to join in conversations with the city.
- CM Berzins asked when Parkside will be opening? Jennifer Orozco responded they were targeting June for their opening of the residential portion.

3.b A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, EXPRESSING THE AURORA CITY COUNCIL'S SUPPORT OF THE CREATION OF A VIRTUAL AURORA KOREATOWN AND CELEBRATING THE CREATION OF A KOREATOWN LOGO

Summary of Issue and Discussion:

Council Member Gruber and Council Member Berzins

- This resolution supports the creation of a virtual Koreatown and the logo and recognizes the contributions of Korean-Americans to the city of Aurora.
- Does Council wish to approve this resolution supporting the creation of a virtual Korea Town and celebrating the creation of the Koreatown logo?
 - CM Gruber shared the Korean community has created their logo, a marketing package, and a virtual Korea Town independent of the city. Becky Hogan shared a thank you to Council Member Gruber and Peter Lee for piloting this idea early on. This model is open to anybody in the

city. There are several Korea Towns, but the name for this will be Korea Town - two separate words with a capital K and a capital T. CM Berzins asked if there is a plan for a website? CM Gruber responded this will have nothing to do with the city. Becky added next week they will adopt a formal brand for Korean business windows, a website, and an interactive map. This will help Koreans outside of the community come to shop, eat and do business in Korea Town. CM Lawson suggested correcting the spelling of Korea Town in the Resolution.

- CM Berzins asked if this resolution is okay to have the spelling corrected then to go to Study Session? CM Gruber & CM Lawson approved the revised resolution to move forward to Study Session.

3.c Havana Street Corridor Study Update

Summary of Issue and Discussion:

Huiliang Liu, Principal Transportation Planner

- CM Berzins requested this item to be moved to next month's meeting due to time constraints.

3.d Authorize two (2.0) FTE Over-hire Positions for Development Staff

Summary of Issue and Discussion:

Tod Kuntzelman, Development Process Improvement Manager, General Management

- In 2016, the Development Review Fund created "over-hire" budget authority for 15.0 FTEs that will remain unfunded until needed. This provided hiring flexibility to respond quickly to workload levels and improve performance measures for services that impact customers. The activation plan for these positions is as follows: 1) Notify appropriate council policy committee (PED) with justification; 2) Include required funding in the next budget appropriation process. Staff will review development activity, workload, performance statistics and fund balance on a quarterly basis and respond appropriately with staffing levels.
- The Development Review Fund has authorized 13.0 of the 15.0 FTE from the original over-hire authorization created in 2016. This request is to authorize the remaining two positions (2.0 FTE); 1.0 FTE for PROS Planning, Design and Construction Division, and 1.0 FTE for Public Works, Engineering.

- CM Gruber asked for confirmation this will not require an update to the budget? Tod Kuntzelman clarified they just need the spending authority. Approved by CM Gruber, CM Berzins, and CM Lawson.
- CM Berzins asked how recruitment is going? Victor Rachael responded recruitment is done through the typical broadcast. They also go out to specific areas of expertise like the Institute of Transportation of Engineers, and specific organizations. They have filled two vacancies, added a new supervisor that was an internal candidate, and have extended an offer to backfill the internal candidate's position.
- Cindy Colip asked if they could provide an update to the performance metrics from last month. Victor reported in 2020 they were at 48% on time and 62% within a five-day window. In April for civil plans, they are up to 77% on time and 87% within a five-day window. They are rapidly approaching their metric and expect to hit it by next month.

4. Miscellaneous Matters for Consideration

4.a Aurora Economic Development Council

- Yuriy Gorlov reported on:
 - Deals closing soon will result in about 1,500 jobs as well as 1,000 other jobs lined up with a few other deals. These are good operations that are e-commerce, manufacturing, or construction related.
 - They continue to see landowners who want to sell and develop the land.
 - Currently, they have about a million and a half square feet of industrial space under construction.
 - There is some negative absorption in the office market due to some companies downsizing.
 - They are working to get more Class A office space out of the ground.
 - They are working with educational partners like Metro State College and the workforce development centers on a talent pipeline.
 - They are keeping an eye on assessment values to stay mindful as they compare the area to other markets across the region.

4.b Havana Business Improvement District

- Chance Horiuchi reported on:

- Closed - They have had zero businesses that have remained closed due to Colorado-specific orders. The very last restaurant reopened on May 1st after being closed for five months.
- New Businesses -
 - Sharetea was a deal that died during the pandemic but has come back. They have their sign-up and have re-leased at Village on the Park.
 - Old Town Hotpot is a new business. Mr. Subra Panda Buffet closed but have updated their business model; same ownership, now doing Hotpot.
 - Coffee Story will be going in the former Denver E-Cig on Iliff and Havana.
 - Broadview Kennels was sold and closed. Will now be a new auto dealership.
 - Mazal Motors will be opening.
 - Grand opening of Shin Milan Guan Korean BBQ.
- Focused on COVID-19 recovery and vaccination clinics and helping the workforce access different resources.
- Five major water projects along Havana Street.
- Marker signs - Looking at maintenance or replacement.
- Redevelopment - Colorado Golf Association (CGA) is looking to relocate their association to Aurora from Greenwood Village. CGA will be looking for stakeholder, community, and city feedback on what that redevelopment looks like. Mazda & Hyundai will be going through redevelopment. Argenta is being redeveloped. Zurich is looking to redeveloping their six acres at Concord.
- Eat on Havana Street Week is still going on.
- CM Gruber commented Tri-County Health said that Arapahoe County is going to clear this Saturday, which is a big deal. They haven't received the briefing from Adam's County yet but anticipate it to be the same. There is a lot of Cares Act money coming into the city. CM Gruber is asking the business community to consider ways to advise Council on how best the Cares Act funds can be used to help businesses, help the economy, and restart the jobs.

4.c Aurora Chamber of Commerce

- Kevin Hougen reported on:
 - The Leadership of Aurora class is accepting nominations for the class.
 - Golf Tournament at Heritage Eagle Bend on June 17th.
 - Armed Forces recognition luncheon on August 20th.
 - Awards banquet for Unsung Heroes and frontline workers on October 15th. People can nominate people from their organizations.
 - The current legislative session has the public policy moving forward on a statewide insurance program. Former Mayor Wellington Webb wrote an article in the Denver Post opposed to the public option. Representative Jodeh from Aurora is carrying that bill.
 - Mike Weisman and the metro districts at the state capital may affect future investments for Aurora and the counties.
 - YMCA opened in Ward six yesterday.
 - Redistricting – Jason Crow will be moving out of Aurora to Centennial before this next election.
 - The Registered Apprentice Program is going well.

4.d Planning Commission

- Dennis Lyon reported on:
 - The agenda item for tonight's planning commission is Murphy Fuel. A conditional use site plan on the vacant land at Colfax and Altura.
 - At the April 28th Planning Commission Meeting, they approved the Fitzsimons Village office building (Fitz 500). This is an eight-story 231,000 SF building with parking structure located across from Children's Hospital. This is one of the first class A office buildings of substantial size in Aurora in 30 years which is a great achievement.

4.e Oil and Gas Committee

- Brad reported on:
 - 1st Qtr 2021 Report was included in last month's Agenda Packet.

- There is a Citizen position vacancy that will be available in July. The application deadline was last Friday. Interviews will be at next Wednesday's meeting.
- Oil & Gas Manuals - Attended with Jeffery Moore the Ward II Town Hall meeting on oil & gas manuals to answer questions and respond to comments from the constituents. The Planning Commission Study Session is tonight which will be about the oil & gas manual. The manual is due to come to City Council on May 24th.

4.f Business Advisory Board

4.g Retail

- Bob Oliva reported on:
 - Kimco who has three centers in the area just bought Weingarten. Now Kimco picks up all those centers which is a big deal in the retail industry.

4.h Small Business

- Marcia McGilley reported on:
 - The SBDC (Small Business Development Center) is on target or better than needed in representing the small business communities as presented in the self-identified ethnicity chart.
 - The Advanced Colorado Procurement Expo was virtual where the city of Aurora, AURA (Aurora Urban Renewal Authority) were co-presenters with the Minority Business Office and OEDIT (Office of Economic Development and International Trade). Mayor Coffman announced the in-person Advanced Colorado Procurement Expo will be in Aurora, October 7, at the Hyatt.
 - The Home-Based Spanish Language Child Care Business Training Course was a huge success. It was a six-session program in the evenings from April 6 to May 12. The English language program will run later this summer.

4.i Visit Aurora

- Bruce Dalton reported on:
 - Ryman Hospitality bought the remaining 35% of the Gaylord Rockies from Rida for \$188 million as well as the three parcels surrounding the property.

- The Fieldhouse – Over 100,000 SF of space with a 40-foot ceiling.
- They are seeing growth in the hotel industry. Last Saturday the hotels were running close to a 60% occupancy.
- Visitor Guide – They will be sending out the visitor guide to all residents in the next couple of weeks. They are excited for the residents to see all the different activities to do over the summer in Aurora.
- CM Berzins asked if Ryman (who owns the Grand Ole Opry building in Nashville) will be doing something like that or maybe a big auditorium? Bruce responded with Ryman now owning the 130 acres surrounding the property there is an opportunity to start the Rockies Village sooner rather than later. Ryman is looking forward to developing that area for their highest-level customers. There will be a larger investment into the property with a lot of great additions.
- CM Lawson asked about the new staff member, Candace Hobson. Bruce responded they have their first hire back, Candace Hobson. She previously worked at the Crown Plaza Hotel. She is a strong personality that will work as a national salesperson with the hotels on the group business side.

5. Confirm Next Meeting Date

June 9, 2021 at 8:30 AM Teleconferencing meeting

6. Adjournment

Marsha Berzins, Chair



CITY OF AURORA

Council Agenda Commentary

Item Title: Havana Street Corridor Study Update
Item Initiator: Huiliang Liu, Principal Transportation Planner
Staff Source/Legal Source: Huiliang Liu/Daniel L. Money, Senior Assistant City Attorney
Outside Speaker: None
Council Goal: 2012: 3.2--Reduce travel time and reduce congestion and provide expanded multi-modal mobility choices

COUNCIL MEETING DATES:

Study Session: NA
Regular Meeting: NA

ACTIONS(S) PROPOSED *(Check all appropriate actions)*

- Approve Item as proposed at Study Session
- Information Only
- Approve Item and Move Forward to Regular Meeting
- Approve Item as proposed at Regular Meeting
- Approve Item with Waiver of Reconsideration
Why is a waiver needed?

PREVIOUS ACTIONS OR REVIEWS:

Policy Committee Name: Planning & Economic Development

Policy Committee Date: 8/12/2020

Action Taken/Follow-up: *(Check all that apply)*

- Recommends Approval
 - Does Not Recommend Approval
 - Forwarded Without Recommendation
 - Recommendation Report Attached
 - Minutes Attached
 - Minutes Not Available
-

HISTORY *(Dates reviewed by City council, Policy Committees, Boards and Commissions, or Staff. Summarize pertinent comments. ATTACH MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS, POLICY COMMITTEES AND BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.)*

Staff provided a project update to the Planning & Economic Development committee on August 12, 2020, Transportation, Airports and Public Works Policy Committee on August 20, 2020 and Planning Commission on July 22, 2020

ITEM SUMMARY *(Brief description of item, discussion, key points, recommendations, etc.)*

The purpose of this project is to conduct a corridor-wide transportation, land use and visioning study that promotes safe and active pedestrian, bicycle and transit friendly places along and across the Havana Street Corridor. The Havana Street corridor is a multimodal transportation corridor with regional significance and is critical to the fiscal and economic health of the City of Aurora. Multimodal enhancements for the Havana Street Corridor will make it safer, more interesting, convenient and an attractive place for people to shop, walk and enjoy and for businesses to flourish and thrive. The corridor has a high concentration of vulnerable populations which can also greatly benefit from multimodal enhancements and place making.

Goals for this project include:

- Working with stakeholders to develop a vision and land use framework for the corridor
- Incorporating existing Havana Street Business Improvement District (On Havana) branding and public art
- Evaluating the corridor’s multimodal transportation system, travel needs and system performances, relative to all modes of travel, while considering existing and future land uses, conomic development and business activities, and
- Providing safe, convenient and reliable mode choices to users of all ages, incomes and abilities as well as businesses that provide services and produce or sell goods

QUESTIONS FOR COUNCIL

This item is information only

LEGAL COMMENTS

The City Manager shall be responsible to the Council for the proper administration of all affairs of the City and shall have the power and duty to make written and verbal reports concerning the affairs of the City upon request of Council. City Charter Section 7-4 (e). McKenney

PUBLIC FINANCIAL IMPACT

YES NO

If yes, explain:

PRIVATE FISCAL IMPACT

Not Applicable Significant Nominal

If Significant or Nominal, explain:

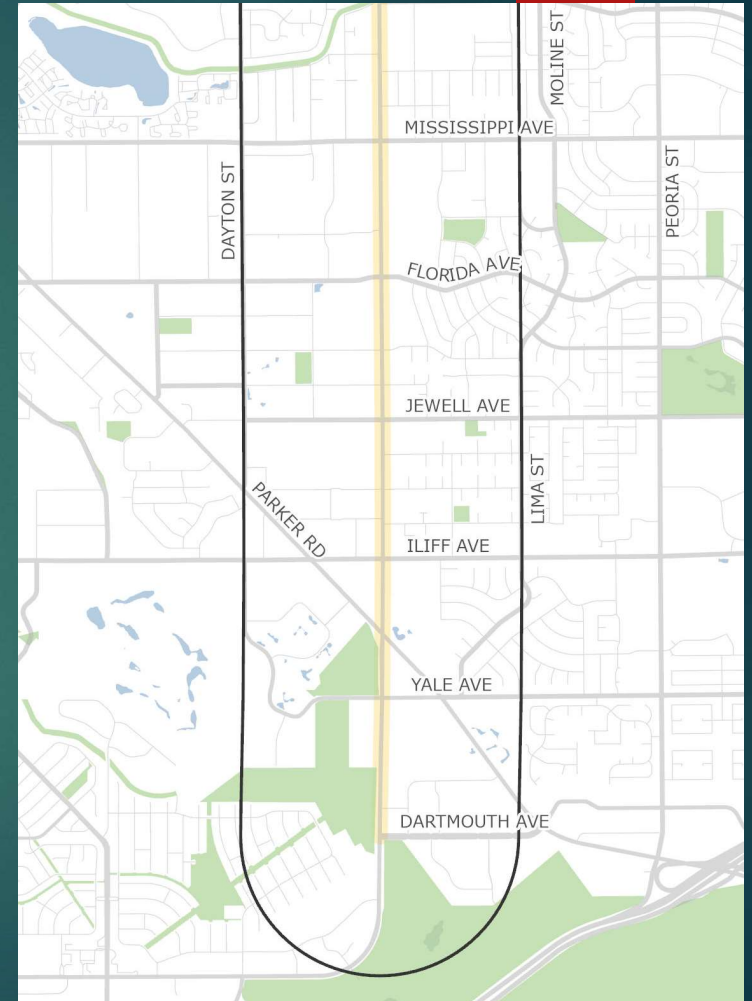
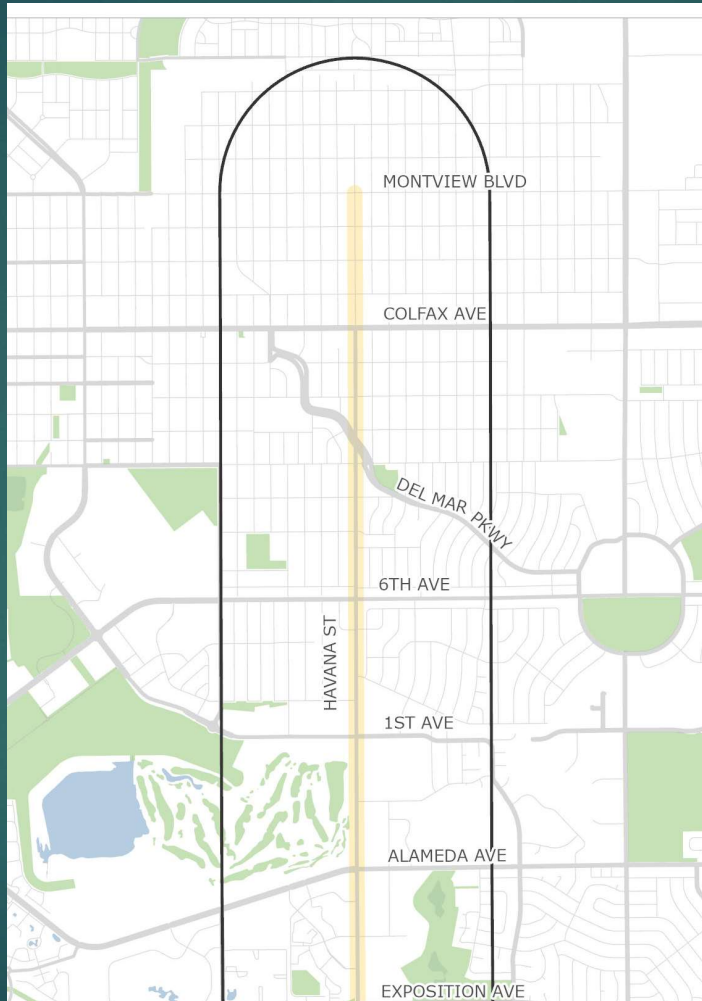
Havana Street Corridor Study Council Planning and Economic Development Committee Update

JUNE 9, 2021

Huiliang Liu
Principal Transportation Planner

Study Area

- ▶ ½ Mile Radius around Havana Street from Montview Boulevard, south to Dartmouth Avenue

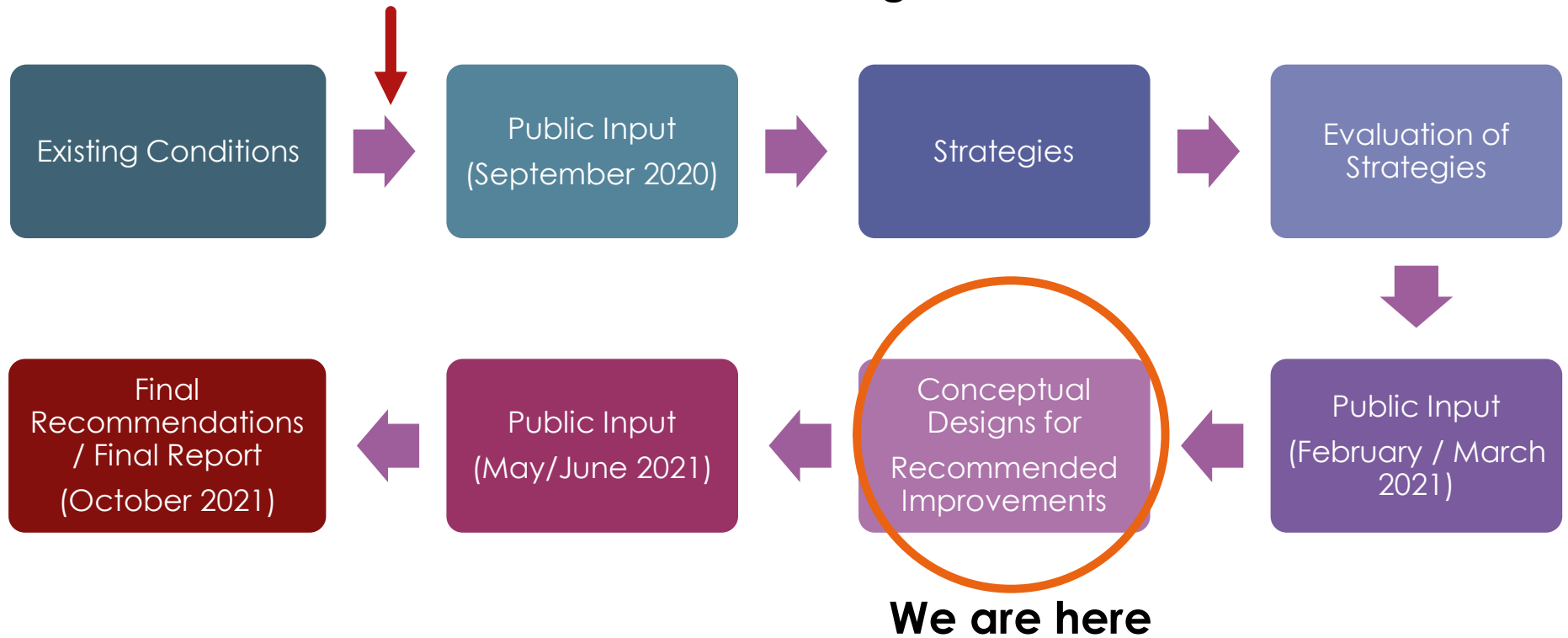


Project Goals

- ▶ Pedestrian and bicycle friendly corridor, with infrastructure that is efficient and safe for all travel modes
- ▶ Represents and promotes the needs of existing and future economic development and the community
- ▶ Maintains and enhances distinct characteristics in corridor subareas
- ▶ A diverse cultural hub
- ▶ Activated by arts and entertainment

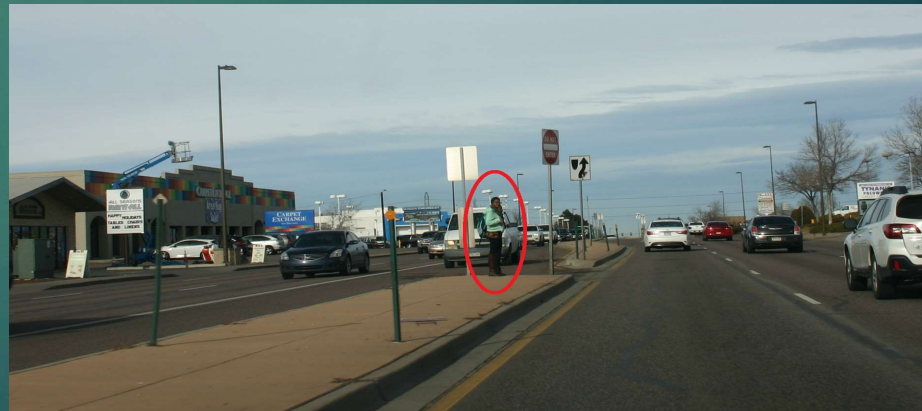
Process

PED, TAPS and PC Presentations in August 2020



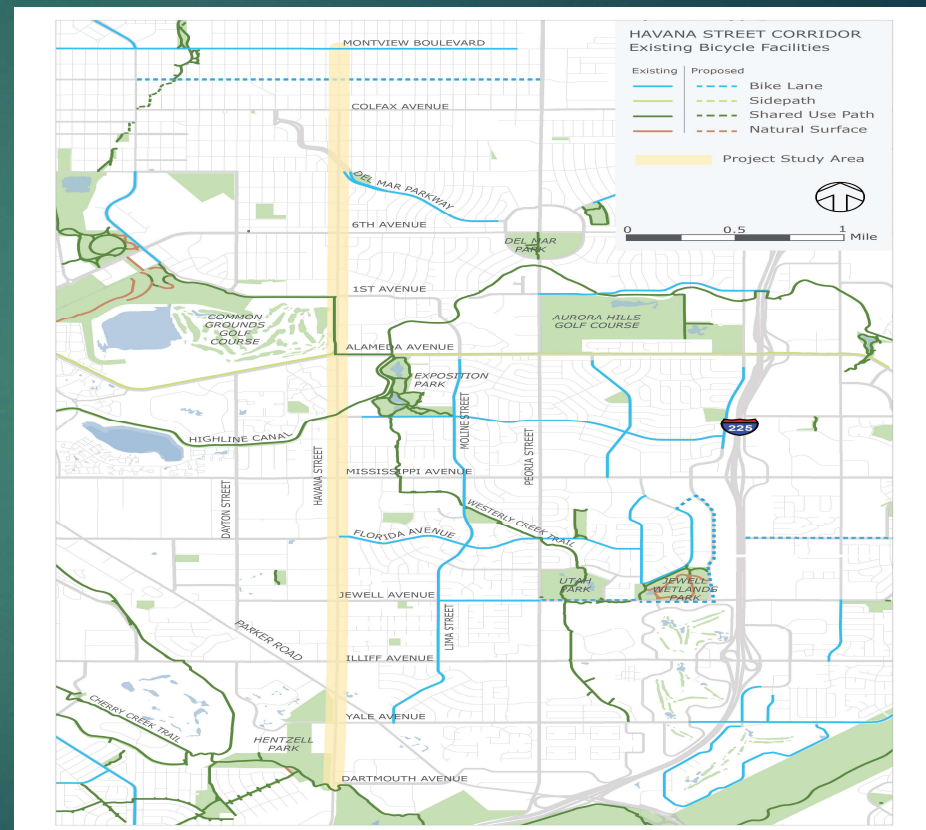
Pedestrian Conditions Key Takeaways

- **Stressful** pedestrian conditions
- **Inconsistent** sidewalk widths and separation from vehicle traffic
- **Dangerous**, approximately 50% of crashes were fatal or resulted in injury
- **Key connections** to shared use paths along the corridor



Bicyclist Key Takeaways

- **Dangerous**, approximately 50% of crashes resulted in injury
- **Inconsistent** sidewalk riding conditions
- No **bicycle-specific** facilities
- **Opportunities** for connections to adjacent facilities



Transit Key Takeaways

- High ridership
- Limited amenities
- Areas of poor lighting
- Low travel speed
- Long delays
- Overall average operations conditions
- Improvements to come



Vehicle Key Takeaways

- Success and Growth = Increased Traffic
- Limited right of way
- Creative solutions to address vehicle demand and congestion
- Consider multimodal improvements



EXISTING
CONDITIONS

FRAMEWORK MAP

STRATEGY MAP

RECOMMENDED
IMPROVEMENTS

Public and Stakeholder's Engagement

- ❑ First public meeting - 50 participants
- ❑ Agency Charette - 24 participants
- ❑ Stakeholder Charette - 25-30 participants
- ❑ Online mobility survey - 173 participants
- ❑ One-on-one calls - 10 businesses
- ❑ MetroQuest - 128 participants, 1,145 data points, 413 comments

EXISTING
CONDITIONS

FRAMEWORK MAP

STRATEGY MAP

RECOMMENDED
IMPROVEMENTS

Vision

“The Havana Corridor in 2040 is a destination for a broad range of activities and services that are **accessible by all modes**. People can **safely** and **comfortably** get to and around Havana walking, biking, and taking transit. Drivers drive safely, at a speed appropriate for surrounding land use and conditions and are more aware of the presence of pedestrians and bicyclists.”

EXISTING
CONDITIONS

FRAMEWORK MAP

STRATEGY MAP

RECOMMENDED
IMPROVEMENTS

Framework Map Inputs

- ❖ Existing Conditions Data
- ❖ Studies and Reports
- ❖ Network Connectivity/Systems
- ❖ Community and Stakeholder Input

Analysis

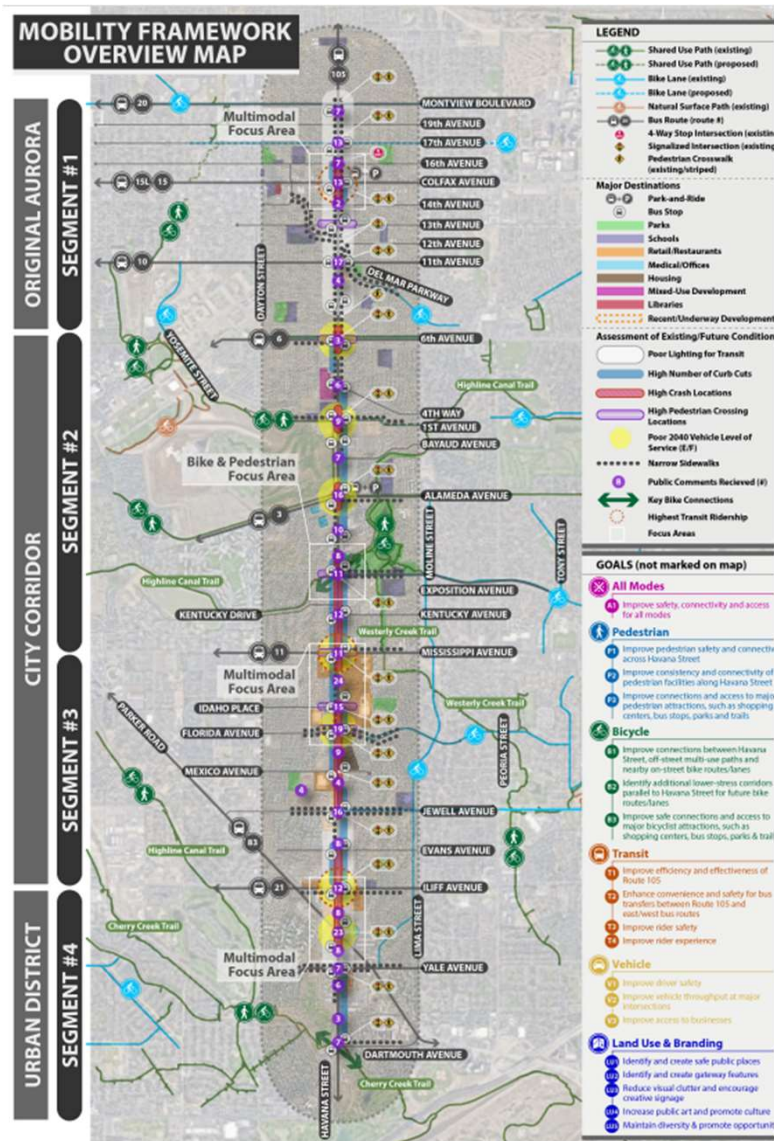
- ❖ Data
- ❖ Existing and future needs
- ❖ Public engagement and input

Results: **Goals** by mode of transportation, refined **focus areas**

Objectives

- ▶ Safe for all users
- ▶ Connectivity
- ▶ Access
- ▶ Safe and interesting public spaces
- ▶ Reduce visual clutter
- ▶ Distinctive characteristics activated by arts and entertainment elements
- ▶ Cultural diversity & economic development opportunity





Mobility Framework Map



Mobility Framework Map

	Shared Use Path (existing)
	Shared Use Path (proposed)
	Bike Lane (existing)
	Bike Lane (proposed)
	Natural Surface Path (existing)
	Bus Route (route #)
	4-Way Stop Intersection (existing)
	Signalized Intersection (existing)
	Pedestrian Crosswalk (existing/striped)



Major Destinations

-  **Park-and-Ride**
-  **Bus Stop**
-  **Parks**
-  **Schools**
-  **Retail/Restaurants**
-  **Medical/Offices**
-  **Housing**
-  **Mixed-Use Development**
-  **Libraries**
-  **Recent/Underway Development**

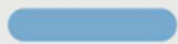
Mobility Framework Map



Assessment of Existing/Future Conditions



Poor Lighting for Transit



High Number of Curb Cuts



High Crash Locations



High Pedestrian Crossing Locations



Poor 2040 Vehicle Level of Service (E/F)



Narrow Sidewalks

8

Public Comments Recieved (#)



Key Bike Connections



Highest Transit Ridership



Focus Areas

Mobility Framework Map

All Modes

- A1 Improve safety, connectivity and access for all modes

Pedestrian

- P1 Improve pedestrian safety and connectivity across Havana Street
- P2 Improve consistency and connectivity of pedestrian facilities along Havana Street
- P3 Improve connections and access to major pedestrian attractions, such as shopping centers, bus stops, parks and trails

Bicycle

- B1 Improve connections between Havana Street, off-street multi-use paths and nearby on-street bike routes/lanes
- B2 Identify additional lower-stress corridors parallel to Havana Street for future bike routes/lanes
- B3 Improve safe connections and access to major bicyclist attractions, such as shopping centers, bus stops, parks & trails

Transit

- T1 Improve efficiency and effectiveness of Route 105
- T2 Enhance convenience and safety for bus transfers between Route 105 and east/west bus routes
- T3 Improve rider safety
- T4 Improve rider experience

Vehicle

- V1 Improve driver safety
- V2 Improve vehicle throughput at major intersections
- V3 Improve access to businesses

Land Use & Branding

- LU1 Identify and create safe public places
- LU2 Identify and create gateway features
- LU3 Reduce visual clutter and encourage creative signage
- LU4 Increase public art and promote culture
- LU5 Maintain diversity & promote opportunity

Goals by Mode/Category

EXISTING
CONDITIONS

FRAMEWORK MAP

STRATEGY MAP

RECOMMENDED
IMPROVEMENTS

Strategies

- ❖ Tied to the goals and vision
- ❖ Evaluated by segment
- ❖ Connected to Framework Map Inputs (data, studies, reports, system and network analysis, public engagement and input)
- ❖ Connection among strategies
- ❖ Existing and Future needs

Results: Strategies by mode, location and corridor-wide

Strategy Overview



All Modes (5 total)

- ▶ Mobility Hubs
- ▶ Intersection strategies



Pedestrian (21 total)

- ▶ Quality sidewalks with adequate width, minimal obstructions and pedestrian scaled lighting
- ▶ Protected mid-block and intersection crossings



Bicycle (7 total)

- ▶ Implement Neighborhood Bikeways on parallel routes east and west of Havana



Transit (12 total)

- ▶ Improve bus stop area with lighting, real time bus arrival information, shelters, benches, trash cans, bike racks, and ADA compliant connections from stop to curb



Vehicle (15 total)

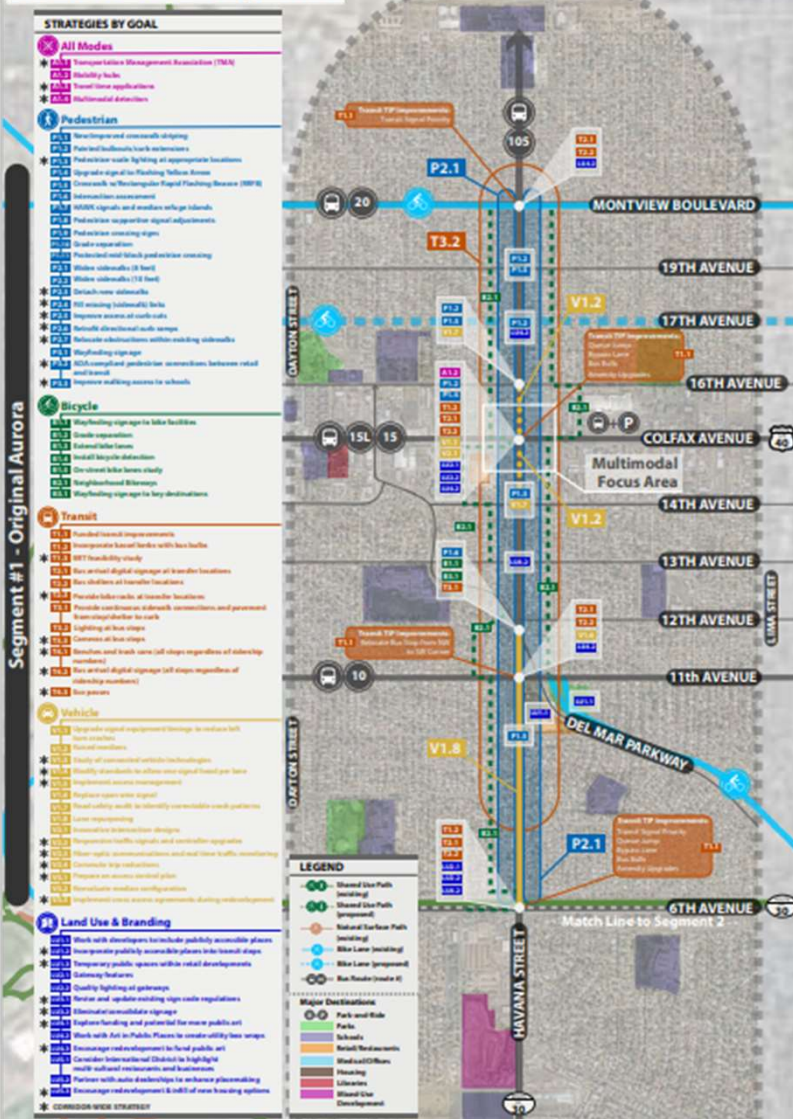
- ▶ Add raised medians to reduce conflict points and crashes and enhance corridor attractiveness



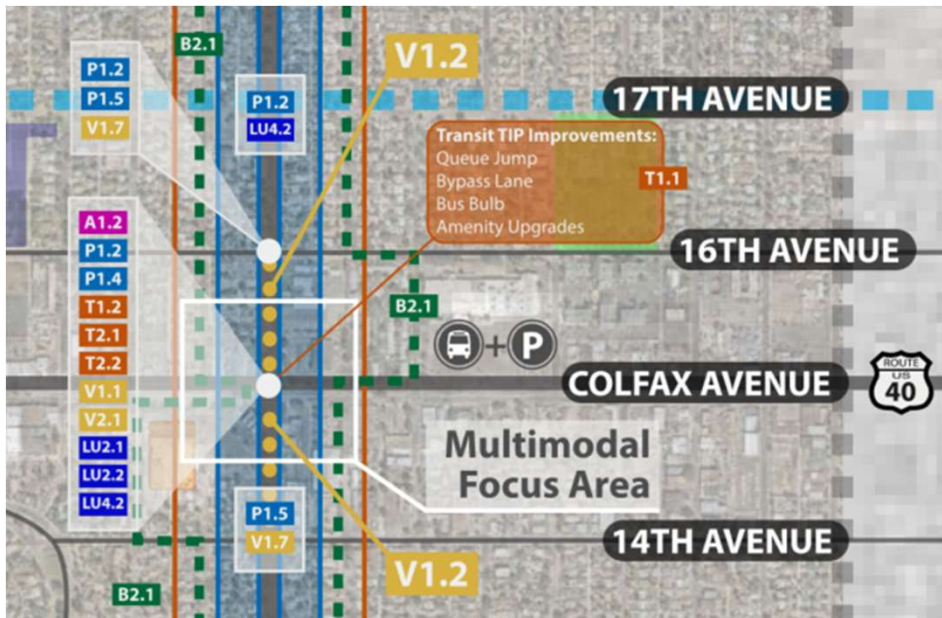
Land Use (13 total)

- ▶ Implement high quality lighting and vertical elements at gateways and around key destinations

STRATEGY MAP - Segment 1



Strategy Map



Strategy Map

Public and Stakeholder's Input on Strategies

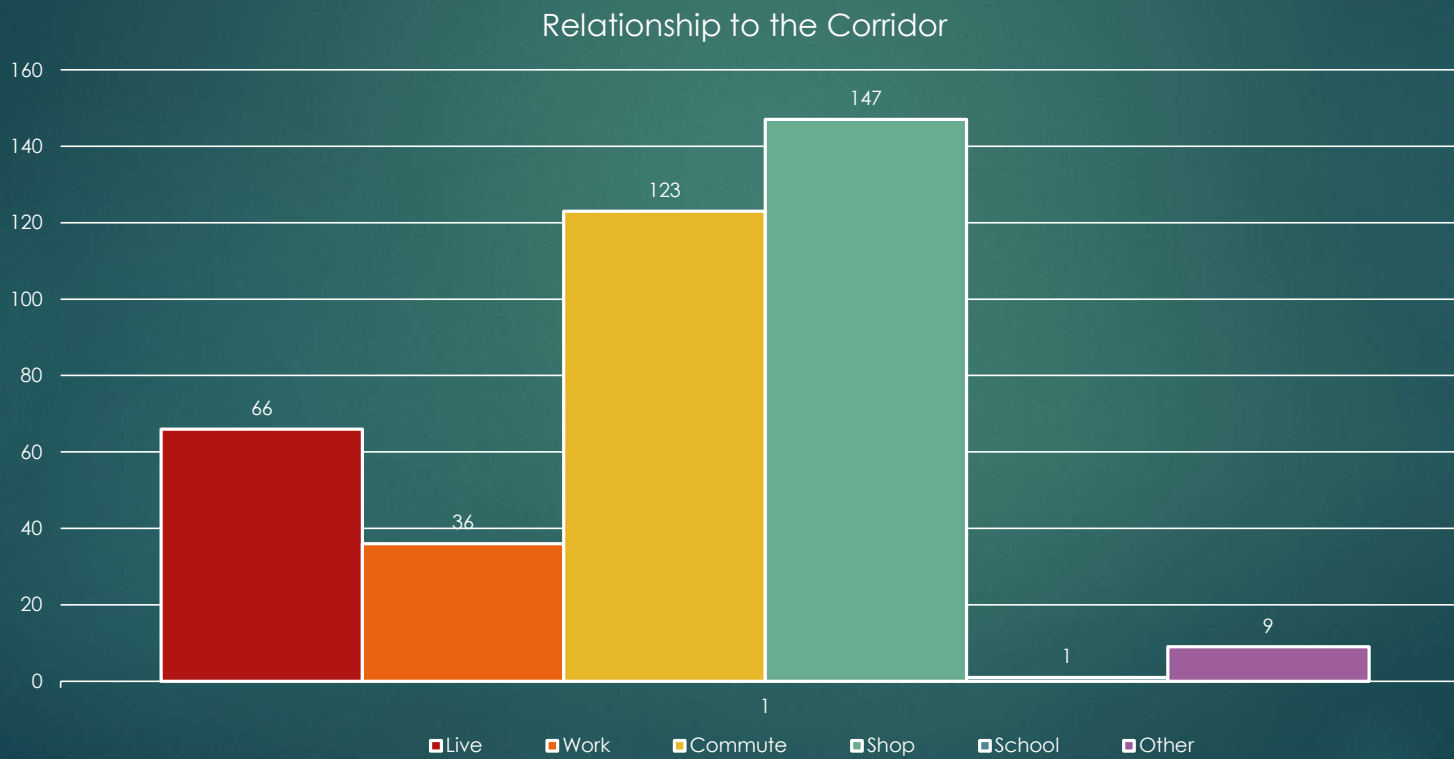
- ❑ 2nd Technical Advisory Committee Meeting on Jan 13, 2021
- ❑ 2nd Stakeholder's Meeting on Feb 11, 2021
- ❑ 2nd Public Meeting on Feb 17, 2021

An Online Survey on Key Strategies

- ▶ Feb 27 – Mar 19
- ▶ 192 Responses
- ▶ Relationship to the Corridor
- ▶ Home Zip codes
- ▶ Work Zip Codes
- ▶ Questions on Seven Key Strategies

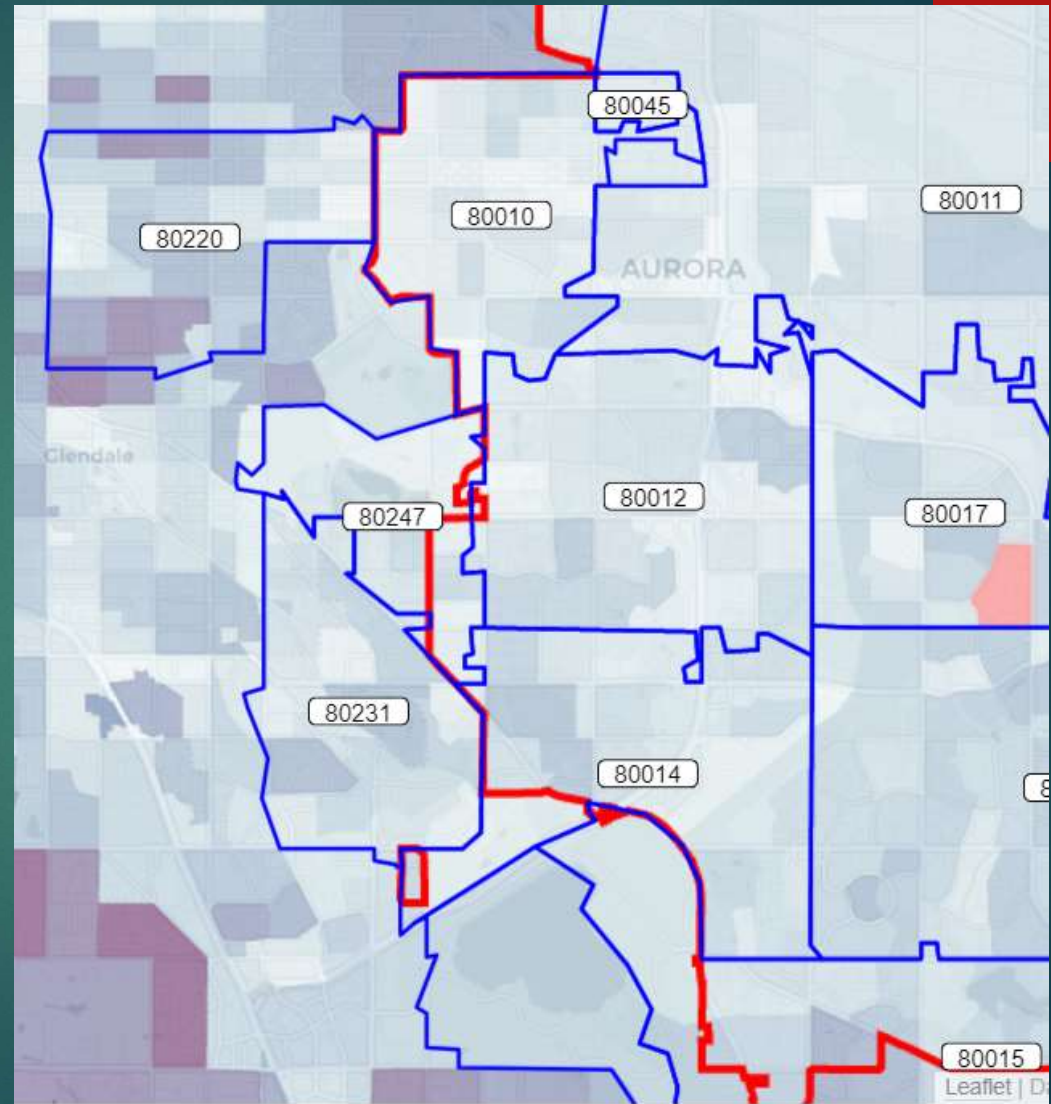
Survey Overview

Relationship to the Corridor



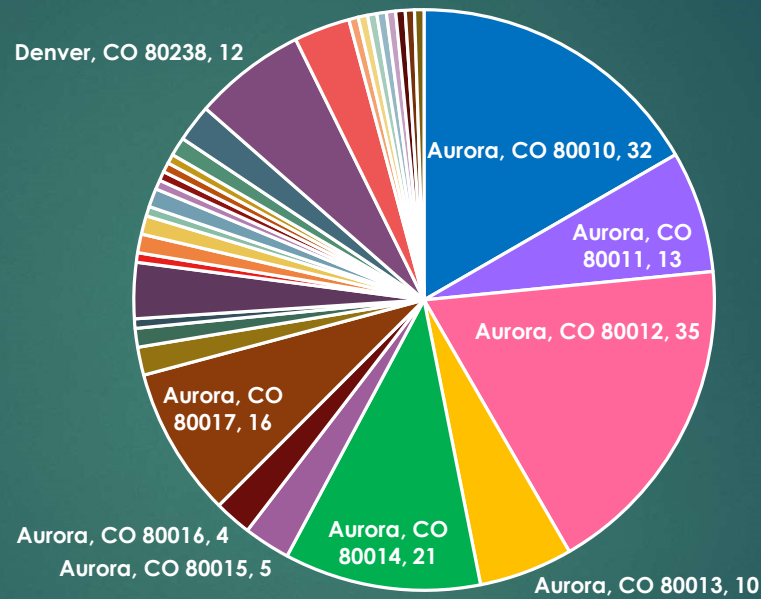
Survey Overview

Zip Code Map



Survey Overview

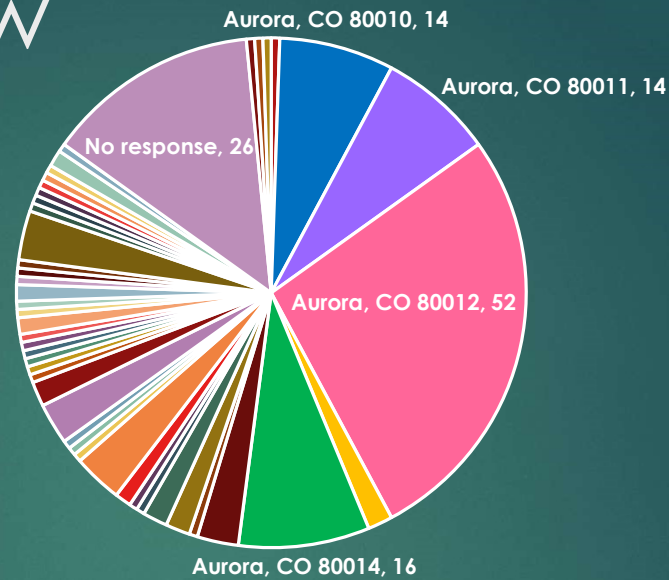
Home Zip Codes



- Aurora, CO 80010
- Aurora, CO 80011
- Aurora, CO 80012
- Aurora, CO 80013
- Aurora, CO 80014
- Aurora, CO 80015
- Aurora, CO 80016
- Aurora, CO 80017
- Aurora, CO 80018
- Aurora, CO 80220
- Aurora, CO 80231
- Aurora, CO 80247
- Bow Mar, CO 80123
- Castle Rock, CO 80108
- Centennial, CO 80015
- Denver, CO 80012
- Denver, CO 80203
- Denver, CO 80204
- Denver, CO 80218
- Denver, CO 80220
- Denver, CO 80221
- Denver, CO 80222
- Denver, CO 80231
- Denver, CO 80238
- Denver, CO 80247
- Denver, CO 80249
- Evergreen, CO 80439
- Hghlnds Ranch, CO 80129
- Lakewood, CO 80228
- Littleton, CO 80127
- Parker, CO 80134
- Thornton, CO 80602
- Westminster, CO 80031

Survey Overview

Work Zip Codes



- | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ■ Arvada, CO 80021 | ■ Aurora, CO 80010 | ■ Aurora, CO 80011 | ■ Aurora, CO 80012 |
| ■ Aurora, CO 80013 | ■ Aurora, CO 80014 | ■ Aurora, CO 80015 | ■ Aurora, CO 80016 |
| ■ Aurora, CO 80017 | ■ Aurora, CO 80018 | ■ Aurora, CO 80045 | ■ Aurora, CO 80047 |
| ■ Aurora, CO 80247 | ■ Centennial, CO 80111 | ■ Centennial, CO 80112 | ■ Cherry Hills, CO 80113 |
| ■ Denver Federal Center, CO 80225 | ■ Denver, CO 80202 | ■ Denver, CO 80203 | ■ Denver, CO 80204 |
| ■ Denver, CO 80206 | ■ Denver, CO 80209 | ■ Denver, CO 80210 | ■ Denver, CO 80211 |
| ■ Denver, CO 80212 | ■ Denver, CO 80216 | ■ Denver, CO 80221 | ■ Denver, CO 80222 |
| ■ Denver, CO 80224 | ■ Denver, CO 80231 | ■ Denver, CO 80235 | ■ Denver, CO 80237 |
| ■ Denver, CO 80238 | ■ Denver, CO 80239 | ■ Denver, CO 80246 | ■ Denver, CO 80247 |
| ■ Englewood, CO 80110 | ■ Englewood, CO 80111 | ■ Greenwood Village, CO 80111 | ■ Littleton, CO 80120 |
| ■ Lone Tree, CO 80124 | ■ No response | ■ Oakland, NE 68045 | ■ Seattle, WA 98188 |
| ■ Watkins, CO 80137 | | | |

Key Strategies

- ❑ Protected Mid-block Pedestrian Crossings
- ❑ Wider Sidewalks
- ❑ Bulb-outs / Curb Extensions
- ❑ Pedestrian Connections Between Retail & Transit
- ❑ Neighborhood Bikeways
- ❑ Raised Medians
- ❑ Branded Gateway Features with Lighting

Protected Mid-block Pedestrian Crossings



Pros

- ▶ Reduce crossing distance for Pedestrians
- ▶ Safer crossing Havana Street
- ▶ Improves access to transit stops and businesses

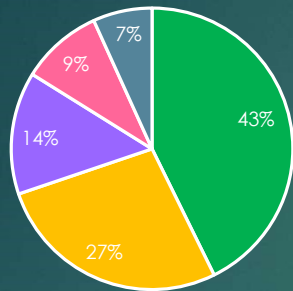
Cons

- ▶ Potential vehicle delays

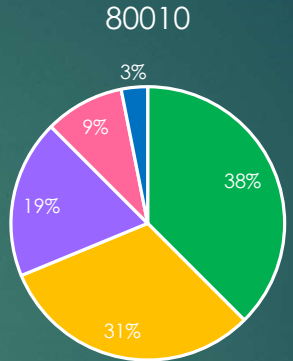
Improves safety, connectivity and/or access for these modes and uses:



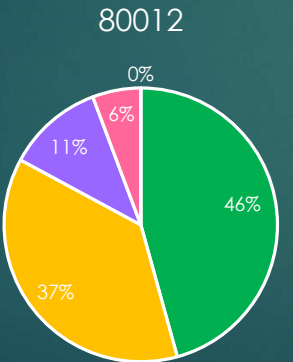
Protected Mid-block Pedestrian Crossings



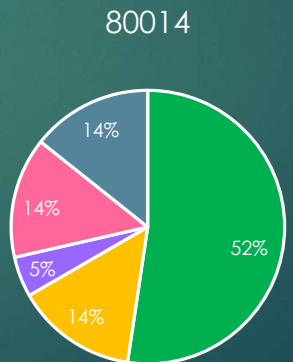
Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose



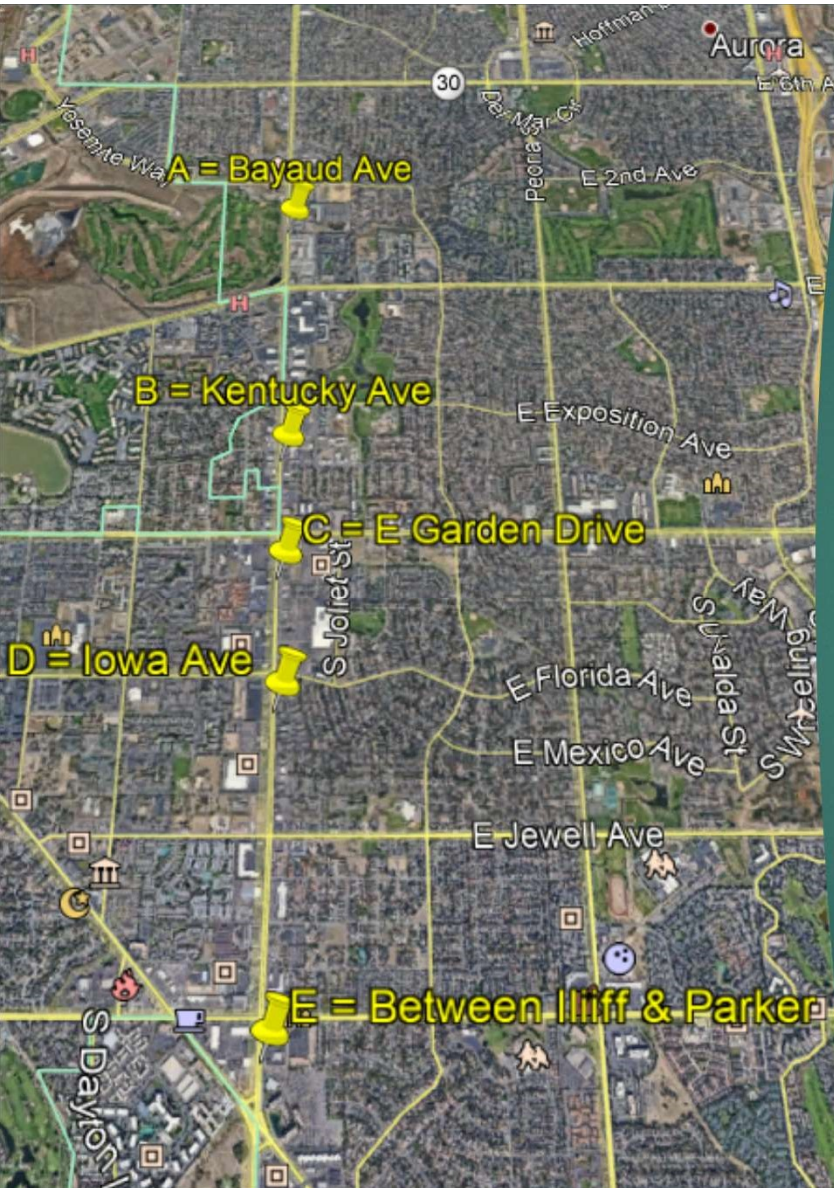
Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose



Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose



Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose



Map of potential Mid-block Pedestrian Crossing Locations

A = Bayaud Avenue

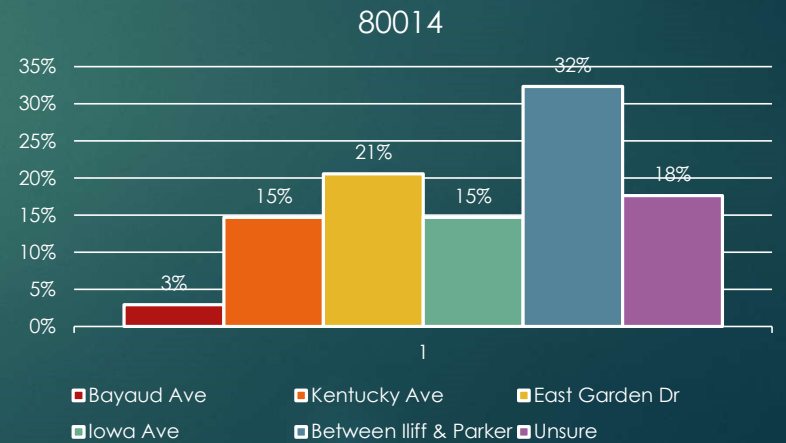
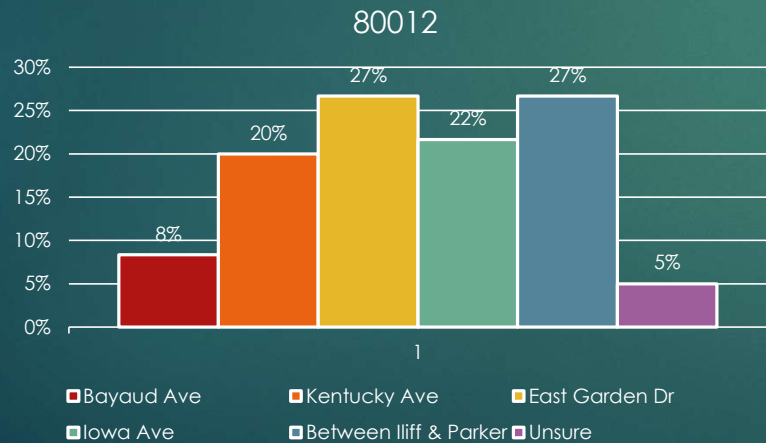
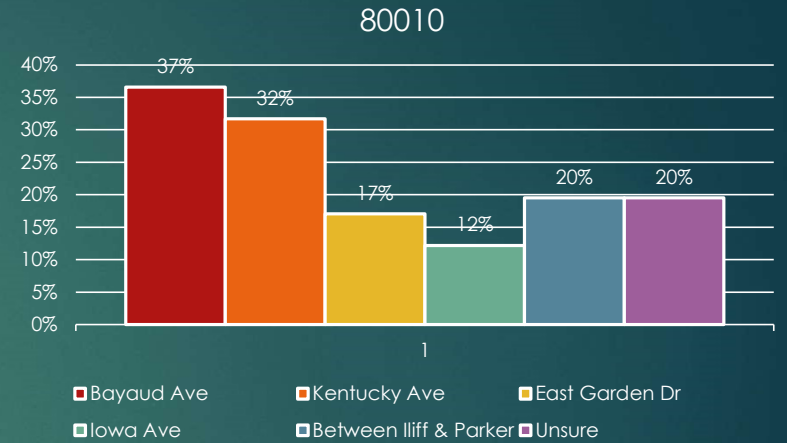
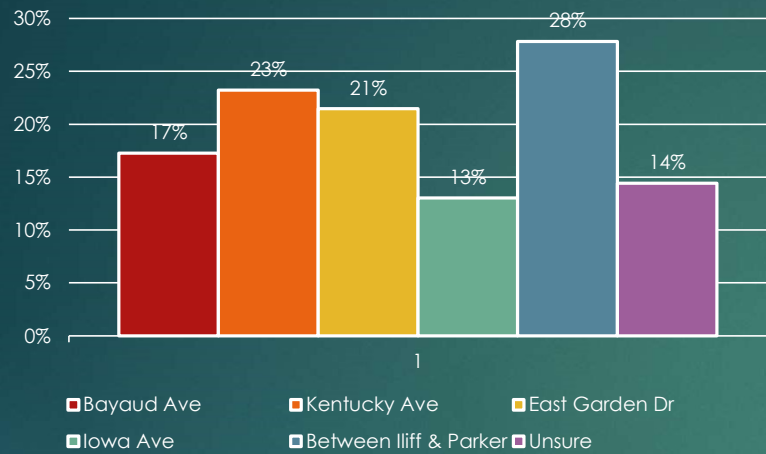
B = Kentucky Avenue

C = East Garden Drive

D = North of Iowa Avenue

E = Between Iliff & Parker

Potential Mid-block Pedestrian Crossing Locations



Bulbouts / Curb Extensions



Improves safety, connectivity and/or access for these modes and uses:



Pros

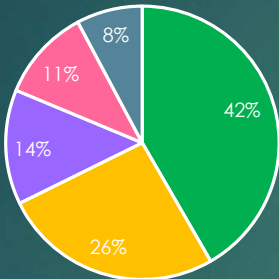
- ▶ Make pedestrians more visible to drivers
- ▶ Shortens pedestrian crossing distances
- ▶ Reduce vehicle turning speeds
- ▶ Improve ADA access

Cons

- ▶ Reduce vehicle speeds

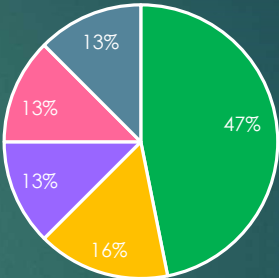
Bulb-outs / Curb Extensions

Bulb outs



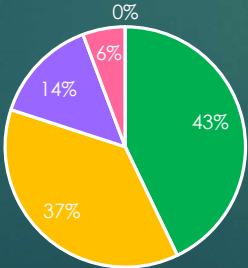
Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose

80010



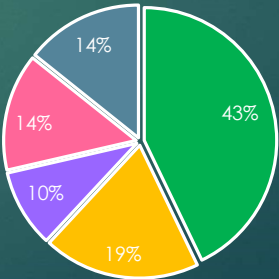
Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose

Bulb outs
80012



Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose

80014



Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose

Wider Sidewalks in Original Aurora



Improves safety, connectivity and/or access for these modes and uses:



Pros

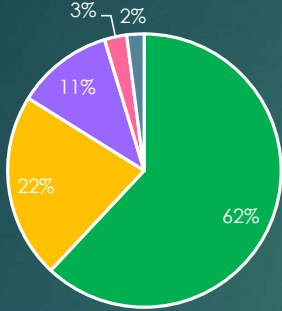
- ▶ Safer and more comfortable for people and children to walk, including with strollers, wheelchairs, or in groups
- ▶ Provide additional buffer space between pedestrians and vehicular traffic
- ▶ Improves access to businesses, homes and transit along the corridor

Cons

- ▶ May impact right of way or property frontages, parking, or vehicle lane width or number

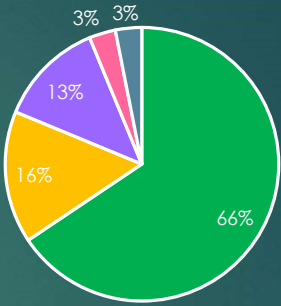
Wider Sidewalks in Original Aurora

Wider Sidewalk in Original Aurora



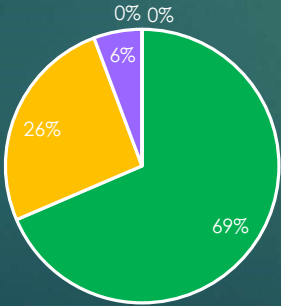
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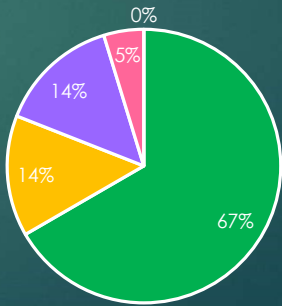
Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose

80012



Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose

80014



Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose

Wider Sidewalks in Remainder of Corridor



Pros

- ▶ Improved access and connections for bikes, peds, transit riders
- ▶ Safer two-way travel for people walking and biking
- ▶ More comfortable and less stressful for walking or biking next to heavy traffic

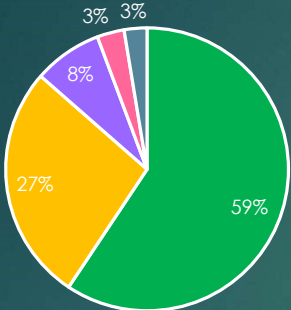
Cons

- ▶ Potential encroachment on private right-of-way

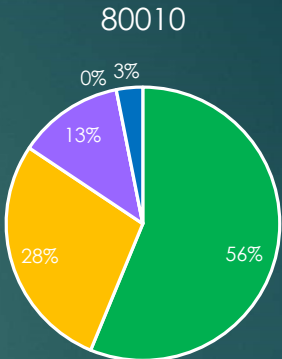
Improves safety, connectivity and/or access for these modes and uses:



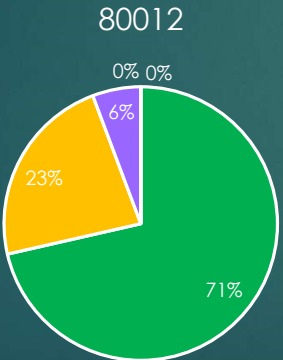
Wider Sidewalks in Remainder of Corridor



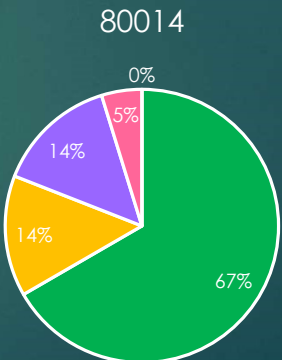
Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose



Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose



Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose



Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose

Pedestrian Connections Between Retail & Transit



Improves safety, connectivity and/or access for these modes and uses:



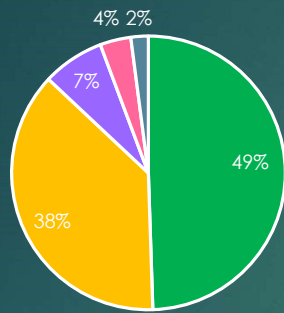
Pros

- ▶ Improves access to retail and businesses for customers and employees
- ▶ Reduce potential for bike/ ped – motorized vehicle crashes in parking lots
- ▶ Improves place making, beautification, and greening of the corridor

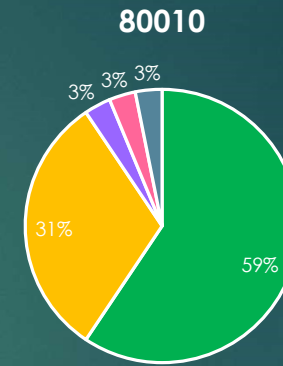
Cons

- ▶ Getting approvals for easements / acquiring right of way on private property

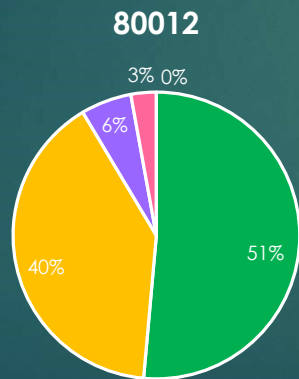
Pedestrian Connections Between Retail & Transit



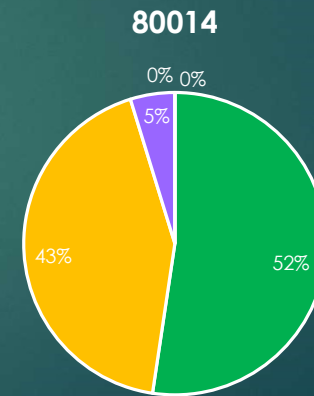
Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose



Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose



Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose



Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose

Neighborhood Bikeways



Improves safety, connectivity and/or access for these modes and uses:



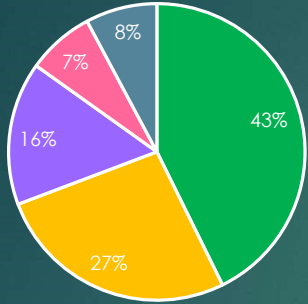
Pros

- ▶ An adjacent, lower stress option for bicyclists to travel parallel to Havana
- ▶ Reduced potential for bicyclist – motorist conflict and crashes
- ▶ Comparatively lower cost, less complicated improvements

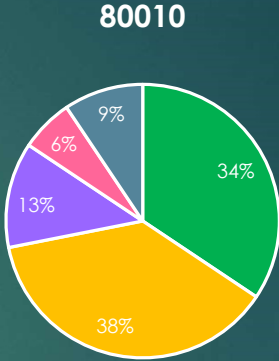
Cons

- ▶ Impacts other streets
- ▶ May cause bicyclists to travel longer distances, or out of their way
- ▶ Less intuitive route for bicyclists new to the corridor

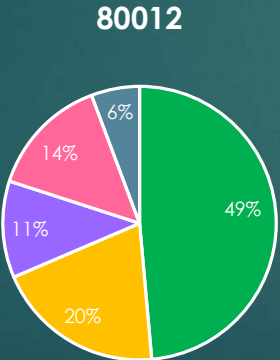
Neighborhood Bikeways



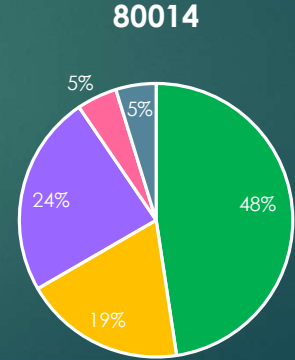
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Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose

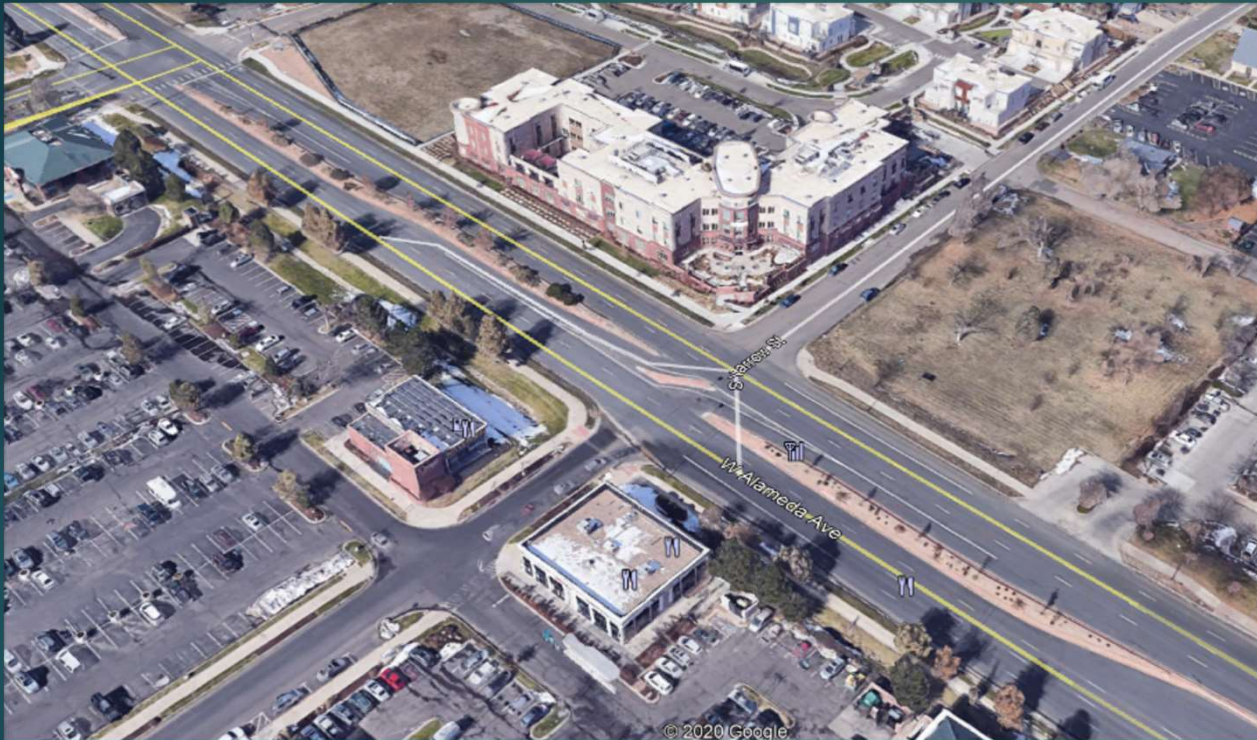


Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose



Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose

Raised Medians (6th Ave to Dartmouth Ave)



Improves safety, connectivity and/or access for these modes and uses:



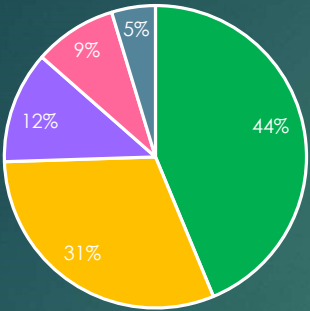
Pros

- ▶ Enhance the attractiveness of the corridor
- ▶ Reduces conflict points, and therefore crashes between bicycles / pedestrians and vehicles
- ▶ Reduces conflict points between vehicles
- ▶ Improves the number of vehicles getting thru the corridor
- ▶ Provides safer access to businesses

Cons

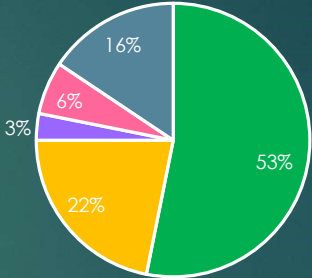
- ▶ Potential new or revised accesses

Raised Medians (6th Ave to Dartmouth Ave)



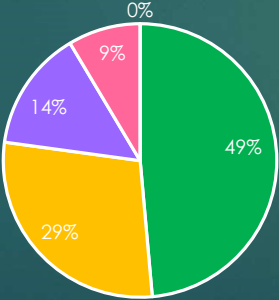
Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose

80010



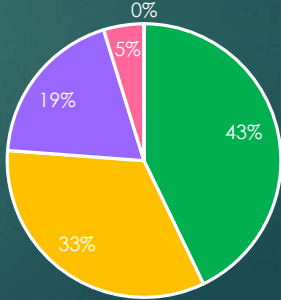
Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose

80012



Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose

80014



Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose

Branded Gateway Features with Lighting



Pros

- ▶ Improves safety and visibility for all users.
- ▶ Highlights a sense of place
- ▶ Boosts business and tourism

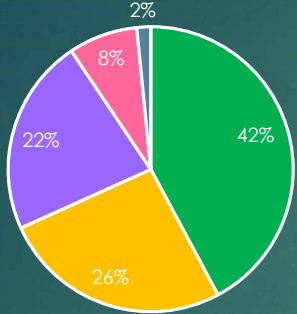
Cons

- ▶ Limited space in corridor

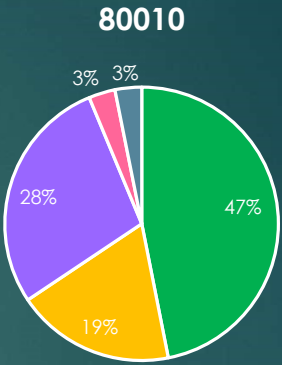
Improves safety, connectivity and/or access for these modes and uses:



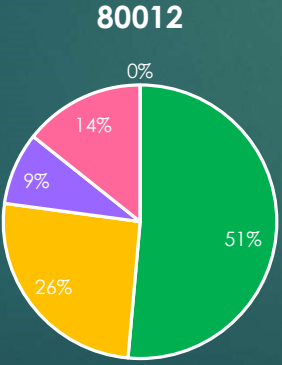
Branded Gateway Features with Lighting



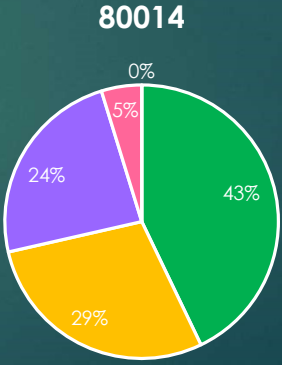
Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose



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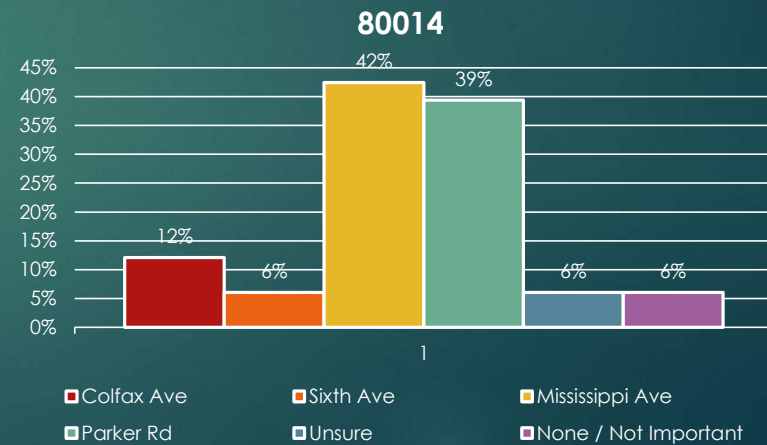
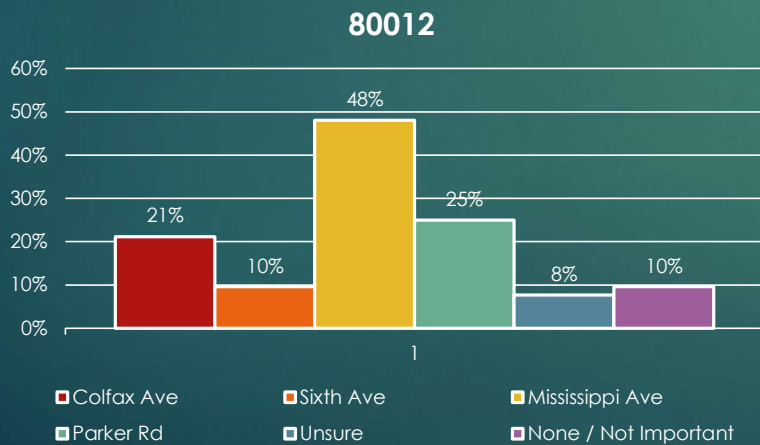
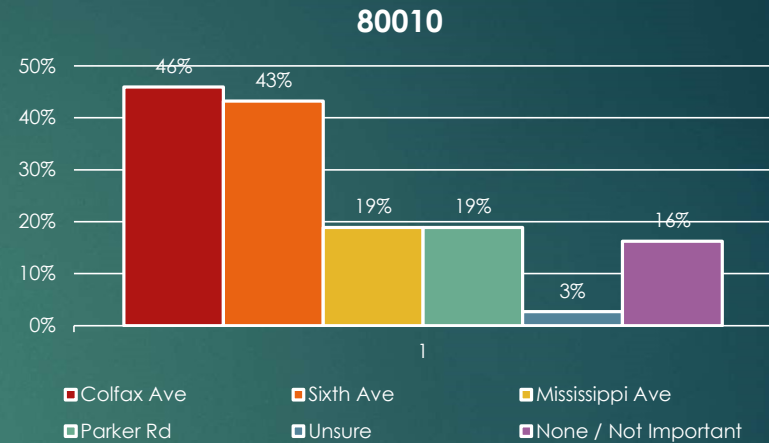
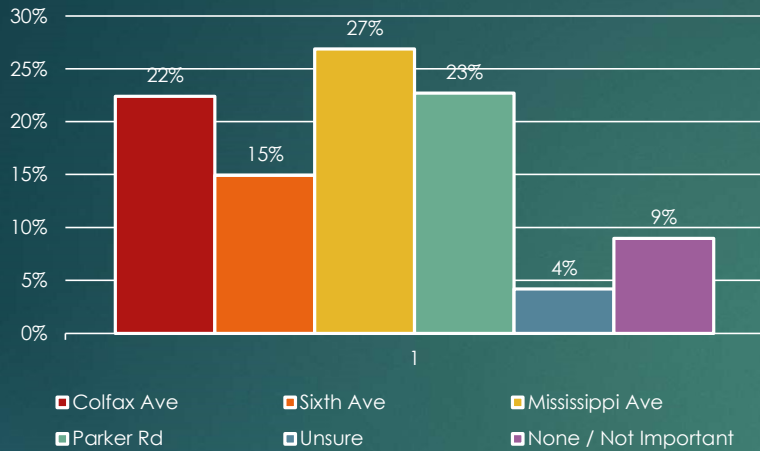


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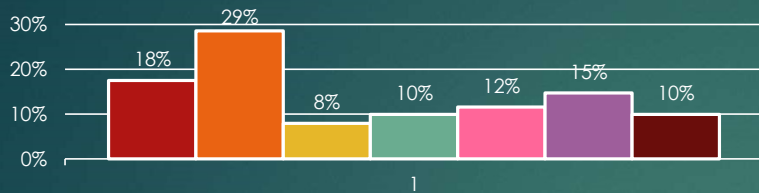


Strongly support Support Neutral Oppose Strongly oppose

potential Gateway Feature Locations

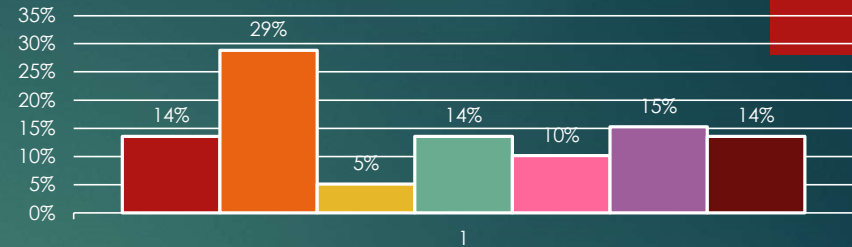


Top Two Strategies



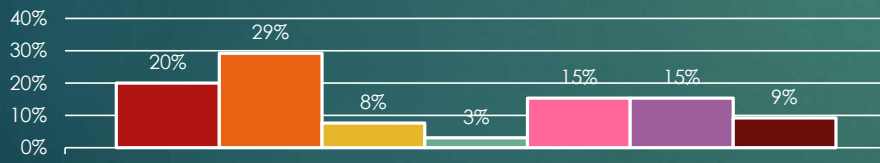
- Protected mid-block ped crossings
- Wider sidewalks
- Bulb-outs / Curb Extensions
- Ped connections between retail & transit
- Neighborhood bikeways
- Raised medians
- Branded gateway features & lighting

80010



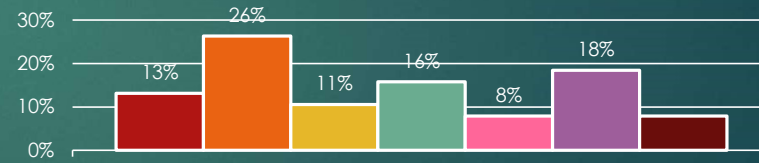
- Protected mid-block ped crossings
- Wider sidewalks
- Bulb-outs / Curb Extensions
- Ped connections between retail & transit
- Neighborhood bikeways
- Raised medians
- Branded gateway features & lighting

80012



- Protected mid-block ped crossings
- Wider sidewalks
- Bulb-outs / Curb Extensions
- Ped connections between retail & transit
- Neighborhood bikeways
- Raised medians
- Branded gateway features & lighting

80014



- Protected mid-block ped crossings
- Wider sidewalks
- Bulb-outs / Curb Extensions
- Ped connections between retail & transit
- Neighborhood bikeways
- Raised medians
- Branded gateway features & lighting

EXISTING
CONDITIONS

FRAMEWORK MAP

STRATEGY MAP

RECOMMENDED
IMPROVEMENTS

❖ Key Priorities

- ❖ Safety
- ❖ Improvement for multiple modes
- ❖ Access to key destinations
- ❖ Funding
- ❖ Implementation

❖ Results: Conceptual design of recommended improvements



❖ Key Design Focus

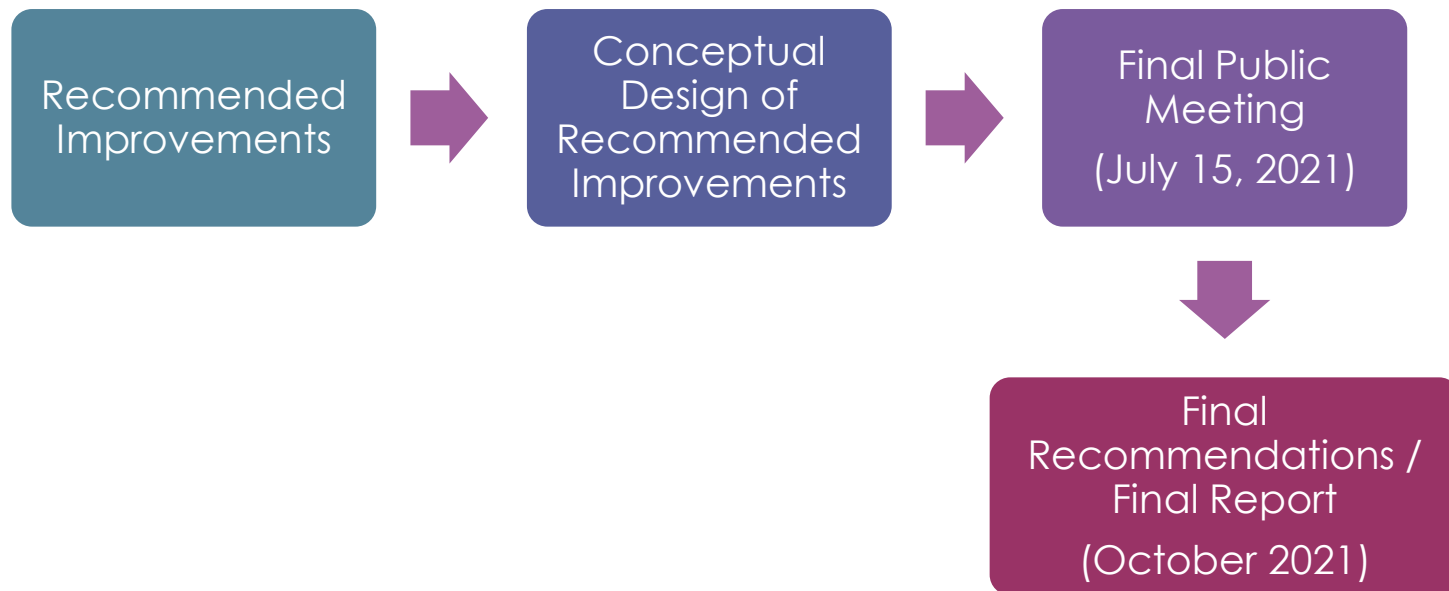
▶ Major Conceptual Design Elements

- Wider sidewalks
- Raised Medians
- Mid-Block Pedestrian Crossings
- Curb extensions
- Gateway Features

▶ Minor Conceptual Design Elements

- Transit Stop Improvements
- Wayfinding Signage
- Bike Connections to the Corridor

Next Steps



Questions

**PLANNING AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (PED)
POLICY COMMITTEE
TELECONFERENCE MEETING**
August 12, 2020

Members Present: Councilmember Francoise Bergan, Chair; Councilmember Crystal Murillo, Vice Chair; Councilmember Allison Hiltz

Others present: Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Johnston, Councilmember Marsha Berzins, Councilmember Dave Gruber, Andrea Amonick, Andrea Barnes, Becky Hogan, Bob Bengen, Brad Pierce, Chance Horiuchi, Daniel Money, Dennis Lyon, Elena Vasconez, Garrett Walls, Gayle Jetchick, George Adams, Hector Reynoso, Huiliang Liu, Ian Best, Jad Lanigan, Juliana Berry, Karen Hancock, Liz Fuselier, Mac Callison, Marcia McGilley, Margie Sobey, Mindy Parnes, Melvin Bush, Mike Dean, Mindy Parnes, Porter Ingram, Sarah Wile, Tod Kuntzelman, Victor Rachael Jr., Vinessa Irvin, Brandon Cammarata, Yuriy Gorlov, Tim Craft

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 8, 2020 minutes were approved.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE UNIFIED DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE (UDO)

Summary of Issue and Discussion:

Karen Hancock and Mayor Pro Tem Nicole Johnston gave a summary of proposed amendments to the city's Unified Development Ordinance. The proposed UDO amendments were initiated by MPT Johnston. Karen Hancock provided an overview of the proposed changes to the UDO proposed by MPT Johnston. The Draft Ordinance proposes changes to notice and public hearings required in Subarea C (Eastern Aurora). As proposed, changes in the UDO would reflect that projects in Subarea C require the same process as Subareas A and B. Major Site Plans, Major Subdivisions and Master Plans would require a public hearing at Planning and Zoning Commission. The other component of the proposal is to increase the mail notice requirement for registered neighborhood groups in Subarea C from 1 mile to 3 miles.

CM Bergan expressed concern over the 3-mile radius for notification, stating that this process could delay development and increase postage expenses. Karen Hancock clarified that notices only go to registered neighborhood groups. George Adams provided input on the effect of neighborhood meetings and Planning Commission hearings on timelines for development.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnston provided information on the intent of the ordinance, stating there were concerns from residents that there is no formal process for neighborhood input outside of the

APPROVED
August 12, 2020 PED Minutes

initial neighborhood meeting. She also said that she is open to discussion about the dimensions and that the proposed amendments are meant to generate discussion.

CM Hiltz stated her support for the proposed ordinance.

CM Gruber stated his opposition to the proposed ordinance, citing timelines as a major issue. CM Gruber stated that neighborhood groups are “clubs” and have no legal standing and should not increase development times and costs. The process of approving the original version of the UDO was inclusive and exhaustive.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnston provided a response to CM Gruber’s comments indicating that members of neighborhood groups should be consulted when a project is proposed because community input is valuable.

CM Bergan asked if the groups in question can attend the initial neighborhood meeting and reiterated concern over the notice range. CM Bergan suggested modifying some of the criteria listed in the ordinance.

CM Johnston stated that there was a desire in the community for more detailed and involved forms of input and stated support for consistency across sub-areas.

CM Bergan asked for developer input. Tim Craft of Craft Companies LLC (representing the HBA) identified the need for public notice and its value to the development process. He expressed concerns regarding the changes in legal standing that may result from increased notification requirements and how this might impact potential litigation associated with development projects. Vinessa Irvin provided information about gathering development community feedback in a more formal way through the Joint Task Force. Karen Hancock stated that only adjacent property owners have standing for appeal and this requirement is already in the UDO.

CM Berzins stated that a range of one mile can already be problematic and the distance often results in residents from a different ward providing comment. A three-mile radius would be detrimental to the process. CM Berzins provided comment regarding the development process and cautioned against creating more red tape. CM Berzins stated that Aurora needs affordable homes and jobs that come with the development of projects.

CM Hiltz suggested bringing this item back to the committee, stating there was additional comment and discussion and that she did not have the opportunity to weigh in because of time constraints. Mayor Pro Tem Johnston supported this.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnston gave an overview of the Lowry Landfill Superfund site ordinance and explained there have been projects proposed in an area that may be subject to groundwater

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August 12, 2020 PED Minutes

contamination from the Superfund site, potential liability issues for the city, and the EPA has not determined the area's safety. Karen Hancock provided some details on the proposed buffers around the site.

CM Bergan asked the City Attorney's Office about the buffers and the possible impact on current and future development, asking if it could be considered a regulatory taking. Daniel Money stated that it could be considered a regulatory taking, as it prohibited development on private land, and provided a summary of direct and regulatory takings.

CM Bergan asked about the buffer and where it is measured. Karen Hancock stated that DADS landfill in Section 31 provides a little less than a mile of buffer from the Superfund site located directly south in Section 6. CM Bergan asked what measurement led to the specific buffer areas. Karen Hancock clarified that there are existing buffers in the UDO of ¼ mile on the east, west and south sides of the Superfund site but not to the north where the groundwater is flowing.

Mayor Pro Tem Johnston provided comment regarding regulatory takings and stated that this is the largest Superfund site in the country that has a containment but not a clean-up plan. The Mayor Pro Tem indicated there is likely precedent for these types of actions and asked if the city attorney's office could research the ability to buffer the site if it presents a hazard to the community. The EPA has not determined that the groundwater remedy is protective. Mayor Pro Tem Johnston stated that she would provide specific evidence and information at the next meeting.

CM Hiltz stated that she did not understand the problem with waiting to understand the full impact of the area surrounding the Superfund site.

CM Bergan stated that property buyers in the immediate area receive a disclaimer.

CM Hiltz reiterated her frustration with prioritizing the impact to the development community, stating that developers should stand by their product in a safe way.

CM Bergan stated that developers don't want to build in areas that will get them sued and follow the current law. CM Bergan agreed that further input from stakeholders would be needed.

CM Berzins made comments about the existing liability to the development community and agreed that more data needs to be presented.

CM Bergan asked Mayor Pro Tem Johnston if this item could be brought back to the September PED meeting. Mayor Pro Temp Johnston stated her support.

HAVANA STREET CORRIDOR STUDY

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Huiliang Liu, Principal Transportation Planner, gave a presentation on the Havana Street Corridor Study and discussed the next steps in the process.

The study area is the ½ mile radius around Havana street from Montview Blvd. to Dartmouth Avenue. The purpose of the study is to identify multimodal improvements that make the corridor safer and inviting to pedestrians, facilitate and enhance economic development, diversity, unique characteristics and art. The process began in February 2020. The project has recently completed existing and future conditions analyses. The next phase began in August, identifying the corridor vision, branding, and land use. The process has five phases and will run through June 2021.

Mr. Liu presented information on existing conditions and key takeaways for pedestrians, bicyclists, transit and vehicles. Corridor-wide strategies and detailed conceptual design and cost estimates for selected segments and intersections will be developed through the next phases of the project. Next steps include more public outreach and engagement to stakeholders in a variety of formats, such as one-on-one stakeholder interviews, online survey, newsletter distributions and meetings with the general public.

CM Bergan asked if there were any questions. George Adams stated that due to the short amount of time left, questions could be submitted to staff by email following the meeting.
(Hliu@auroragov.org)

AER/SBDC UPDATE

Andrea Amonick provided an update on the AER1 and AER2 programs:

Updated Report on the Aurora Business Grants Related to Covid-19:

Aurora Economic Relief Program (AER 1)

\$400,000 for Grants up to \$5,000

\$381,000 awarded in a total of 87 grants; distributed among all wards with the greatest number going to small businesses in Wards 3 and 4.

Of the grants awarded, 56% were provided to minority-owned companies. Three-quarters of the grants went to either minority- or female-owned business (or businesses that were both).

\$600,000 was set aside for loans of up to \$50,000 under AER 1;

These have taken longer to approve as there was significant underwriting that had to occur.

16 loans were approved of these 5 withdrew and 2 were converted to grants.

We reviewed a few more loans and expect the final total to be 10 loans, of these four have closed.

Aurora Economic Recovery Program (AER 2)

Program to provide grants up to \$15,000 to reimburse businesses for items that will help the business recover/pivot in response to Covid-19.

Non-profits were eligible for grants under this program.

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634 applications were received during the week long application period.
484 businesses are eligible – 416 for-profit and 68 non-profit entities
Grant agreements have been sent to 260 of the applicants thru August 7th of those 173 had been returned
Reimbursements are starting to go out the week of August 17th.

Miscellaneous Matters

AEDC

Yuriy Gorlov gave an update on AEDC activities. Mr. Gorlov summarized the new Majestic Subaru project and other projects across the city. Mr. Gorlov stated AEDC participated in the City Center Study recent meeting to help the community understand the city’s vision and how they are attracting new businesses. Mr. Gorlov provided some information on remote working and stated that he expects on-site work to return with some safety precautions instituted.

Havana Business District

Chance Horiuchi provided the following update:

- 14 business closures with 6 closed due to the State of Colorado Industry Specific Health Orders or By Choice

- 8 permanent business closures: Imone Korean Restaurant, La Pily #2, Windsor Dental Care, Powerhouse Nutrition and Fitness, Uncle Joe’s Hong Kong Style Bistro, R. Stafford, Queen of Angels Catholic Gift & Book Shoppe, El Jaripeo Sports Bar.

- New businesses: Hungry Wolf BBQ near Havana & Yale and Geico Insurance office coming to the Gardens On Havana.

- 100 + restaurants and all of the Havana Motor Mile (20+ auto dealers + 100 auto services) are re-opened, with majority offering dine-in services at 50% capacity, take-out, & delivery.

- We shared the Covid-19 Testing Site info and Round II of the Housing Assistance Program on Monday, 8/10/2020.

- Many businesses are concerned about the Winter months and surviving another possible shut down.

- On-Going construction: Argenta, Stinker Stores, and the Kum & Go are moving forward and in Progress. Safeway gas update/remodel complete

- Multi-Modal Study Collaboration continues, hosted the 1st stakeholder outreach in July, site plan updates on hold during study process

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- Have had many inquiries from other businesses wanting to relocate and open in Aurora on Havana Street. We have been connecting new leads to Frank Butz and Robert Oliva with the City. Many are looking for small square footage, drive-throughs, walk-ups and outdoor expansion spaces.
- The small businesses in Aurora are grateful to the city staff, leadership and council for the AER and looking forward to hearing an update from AER program. A few have reached out to share they have heard from city staff regarding the AER program.
- HMM Workforce program: 7 Pickens Tech students received their tools and tool boxes and are working at a HMM dealership
- BID is in constant communication with stakeholders and hosting direct phone calls, check in's & biz visits as needed
- Working on the 2021 Operations Plan and Budget, negotiating 2021 contracts & challenges with not receiving the AV report from the county until 10/13, but budget is due 9/15 to BID attorney, 9/30 to City, requested to extend our submission to the city on budget due to the state's extension on the AV assessments, waiting to hear back from city on process for extension request
- cancelled BID events, contacted vendors, updated comm., in 2021 plan to not host community events due to Covid and significant decrease in the event budget
- received Sales Tax report for Q2: 2020 as of 7/2020
Auto: \$2,910,678
Food: \$1,797,152
Total: \$11,538,268
In a comparison of 2019 and 2020 second quarter Total Sales Tax we were at \$94,782 in 2019 and \$91,982 in 2020.
3.0% down from Q2's 2019's total sales tax. Bill Levine with the city also shared that when comparing 2019 and 2020's YTD, as of the end of July 2020, our Total Sales Tax collected was at \$103,375, 6.7% down compared to the \$110,474 total sales tax collected as of July 2019.
- Discontinuing the news racks program along the corridor as request of the city
- Working with Visit Aurora on a marketing/advertising campaign for the BID with the proposed community funds
- Thank you for your continued support of the BID businesses

Aurora Chamber of Commerce Update

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Kevin Hogan gave an update on the Chamber of Commerce's projects.

Next week, Mr. Hogan will be touring the new Costco facility. Mr. Hogan was concerned about the reduction in RTD Services. There have been around 150 grants distributed by the chamber. Mr. Hogan stated his concern about the continued protests and news about the press the city is receiving, with some companies backing out of the area. Mr. Hogan also discussed concerns about the minimum wage increase and gave details about outreach effort. (contact the Chamber of Commerce for more information)

Planning Commission Update

Dennis Lyon stated that they would defer their report to the next PED meeting.

Oil & Gas Advisory Committee Update

Brad Pierce gave a brief update on the Oil and Gas Committee's work, specifically the review of the Oil and Gas Manual. Comments from the committee will be available by August 23.

Business Advisory Board of Aurora

Garrett Walls provided information about fees collected by AFD and suggested that they could be collecting upwards of \$1million a year, but do not have the infrastructure to do so at this point in terms of the logistical challenges of collecting the funds. Mr. Walls also discussed the proposed minimum wage increase and testimony to AFD from stakeholders. Mr. Walls will provide comments in writing to PED. Mr. Walls provided meeting information for a business town hall.

CM Bergan asked for clarification on the town hall's agenda.

Retail Development:

Bob Oliva gave a summary of the City Center Study public meeting. Mr. Oliva provided some statistics on small businesses being created in the area. also updated the statistic of restaurant closures nationally, at over 25%.

CM Bergan asked about communication with brokers in the absence of the ICSC conference. Mr. Oliva identified they are always in constant contact with local brokers. National brokers are less accessible under these circumstances. Mr. Oliva also identified there has been indications of increases in new businesses starting along with the increases in existing businesses closing and they will continue to observe this data.

SBDC Update – Marcia McGilley

CM Bergan asked Marcia McGilley if this item could be delayed to next month. Ms. McGilley indicated she would provide an update next month but provided a written summary of comments listed below.

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1. Continued assistance with financial relief assistance through grant/loan programs besides the AER programs; including:

a. Arapahoe County Cares

<https://www.arapahoegov.com/2110/Arapahoe-County-CARES>

b. Energize Colorado GAP Funding - State of Colorado

www.EnergizeColorado.com

2. Economic Impact: Aurora Businesses (Jan – Aug 10, 2020)

a. Questions answered by phone: Over 4,000 inquiries

b. 63% Existing Business Owners/37% Start-Ups

c. One-on-one Consulting: Over 700 individual businesses assisted

d. Business Workshops/Webinars:

- # Workshops/Webinars: YTD 75 (annual goal: 53)

- # Attendees: YTD over 1200 attendees (annual goal: 890)

3. New Partnerships/Programs:

a. Asian Pacific Development, SBDC, Office of International and Immigrant Affairs, Denver Metro SBDC – Entrepreneurial Programming assistance

b. Early Childhood Development program – Translation, consulting, guest speaker services; both Marcia McGilley and Elena Vasconez serve on SBDC Network statewide committee for the development of this new program

c. Business Conversations – new webinar series with experts - examples:

i. Are You Selling What your Customers Want?

ii. How to Increase Your Social Media Impact

iii. Management Strategies During Crisis

iv. Retail topics in collaboration with Retail Team (Bob Oliva)

The next PED meeting is September 9th, 2020.

Approved. _____

Francoise Bergan, PED Committee Chair

Next meeting date: September 9, 2020 at 8:30 a.m. Teleconference meeting.



CITY OF AURORA

Council Agenda Commentary

Item Title: Proposal for New Climate Action Committee
Item Initiator: Karen Hancock and Jeffrey Moore
Staff Source/Legal Source: Karen Hancock and Jeffrey Moore /Ian Best, Assistant City Attorney
Outside Speaker: N/A
Council Goal: 2012: 6.4--Provide appropriate stewardship of natural resources to ensure long-term sustainability for the city

COUNCIL MEETING DATES:

Study Session: N/A

Regular Meeting: N/A

ACTIONS(S) PROPOSED *(Check all appropriate actions)*

- Approve Item as proposed at Study Session
 - Information Only
 - Approve Item and Move Forward to Regular Meeting
 - Approve Item as proposed at Regular Meeting
 - Approve Item with Waiver of Reconsideration
- Why is a waiver needed?[Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

PREVIOUS ACTIONS OR REVIEWS:

Policy Committee Name: Planning & Economic Development

Policy Committee Date: 5/12/2021

Action Taken/Follow-up: *(Check all that apply)*

- Recommends Approval
 - Does Not Recommend Approval
 - Forwarded Without Recommendation
 - Recommendation Report Attached
 - Minutes Attached
 - Minutes Not Available
-

HISTORY (Dates reviewed by City council, Policy Committees, Boards and Commissions, or Staff. Summarize pertinent comments. ATTACH MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS, POLICY COMMITTEES AND BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS.)

Council Member Johnston would like to bring this item to the Committee for review.

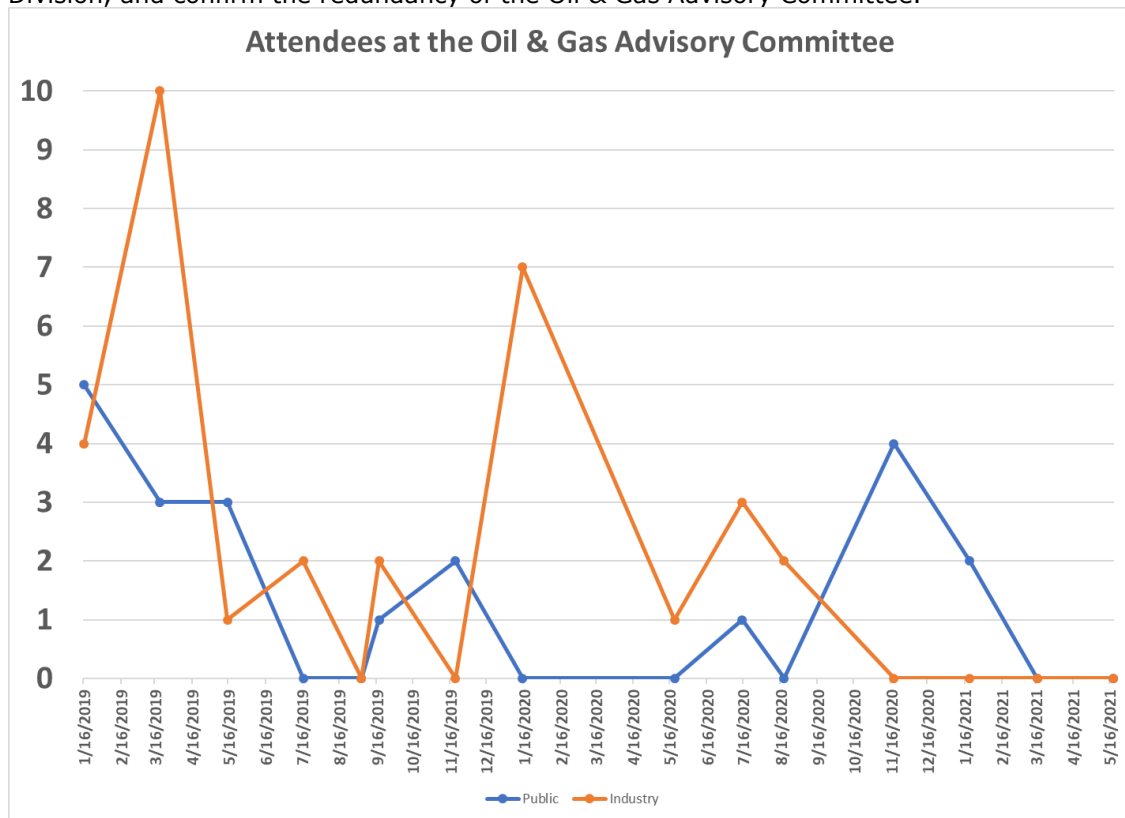
ITEM SUMMARY (Brief description of item, discussion, key points, recommendations, etc.)

Council Member Johnston will provide a presentation to the policy Committee about this proposal. This item creates a new Climate Action Committee and dissolves the Oil and Gas Advisory Committee.

The Oil and Gas Advisory Committee has served a crucial and timely role since its creation by Council in 2015. Since that time, it has provided a forum for citizens and industry to better understand different perspectives on oil and gas operations. The Committee has also provided insights and guidance to Council on oil and gas matters.

The creation of the Oil & Gas Division and hiring of the first Oil & Gas Manager in 2020, has created some redundancy with the Committee. The Oil & Gas Division is now available fulltime to receive and discuss citizen concerns, provide perspective and guidance to City Council on oil and gas matters, and answer industry questions about our regulations. The passing of the Oil & Gas Manual ordinance on May 24, 2021, further completed work in which the Oil & Gas Advisory Committee played a supporting role. Other jurisdictions such as Broomfield, canceled their citizen oil and gas committee once their regulations were updated.

A review of attendance at the Oil & Gas Advisory Committee meetings in 2019, 2020, and 2021 demonstrate very low attendance by members of the public. During that time, the average number of public attendees per meeting was 1.4 persons. This value ignores Committee members, City staff, and special guest speakers. During that time period, industry attendees averaged 2.1 persons. These values demonstrate that neither members of the public nor industry staff are deriving great value from attendance. I would add that this time period reviewed covered 8 in-person meetings and 7 virtual meetings. There is no discernable trend in the data, except attendance may be slightly less in the more recent meetings. We believe the data support the positive benefits of the Oil & Gas Division, and confirm the redundancy of the Oil & Gas Advisory Committee.



With these facts in mind, we believe the proper next step is the closing of the Oil & Gas Advisory Committee.

Climate change continues to be an increasingly important topic worldwide. In the United States, at the federal and state levels, new regulations and new climate-related goals are becoming more prevalent. In the past, City staff and departments have engaged at various levels in researching and participating in the climate change discussion.

We believe that a resident's Climate Action Committee would be valuable in the coming years, to research topics around climate change, including new state and federal regulations which may have an impact not only on City operations, but on our own regulations. Much like the Oil & Gas Advisory Committee, the Climate Action Committee would provide feedback to Council on these topics.

The Committee would have members from general residents, as well as from specific industries/groups.

QUESTIONS FOR COUNCIL

Does the Committee wish to forward this item to Study Session for review by the full Council?

LEGAL COMMENTS

City Charter Section 3-9 authorizes the City Council to enact ordinances necessary to protect life, health and property and to preserve and enforce good government, general welfare, order and security of the city and the inhabitants thereof. (Best)

PUBLIC FINANCIAL IMPACT

YES NO

If yes, explain:

PRIVATE FISCAL IMPACT

Not Applicable Significant Nominal

If Significant or Nominal, explain:

ORDINANCE NO. 2021- ____

A BILL

FOR AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO, ENACTING SECTIONS OF THE CITY CODE PERTAINING TO A CLIMATE ACTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND REPEALING SECTIONS OF THE CITY CODE PERTAINING TO OIL AND GAS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

WHEREAS, Aurora desires an environment that allows our community members to live an active lifestyle, with open spaces, clean air and water, walkable neighborhoods and commercial areas, and recreational programming that promotes physical and mental well-being; and

WHEREAS, there is a priority/tactical approach to develop a comprehensive environmental stewardship plan for the protection and sustainability of our natural resources and open spaces; and

WHEREAS, the Oil and Gas Advisory Committee has successfully assisted the City in developing appropriate City Code for the City and offered a forum to discuss community and industry issues which will now be administered by the Oil & Gas Division; and

WHEREAS, the new Climate Action Advisory Committee will address a range of policy considerations including oil and gas impacts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AURORA, COLORADO:

Section 1. The City Code of the City of Aurora, Colorado, Article IV and Sections 106-161, 106-162, 106-163, 106-164 and 106-165 are hereby amended as follows:

ARTICLE IV. CLIMATE ACTION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sec. 106-161 – Created.

(1) There is hereby created and established a Climate Action Advisory Committee for the purpose of advising City Council on policy matters.

Sec. 106-162 – Functions and Duties.

The Climate Action Advisory Committee shall serve the following functions and duties:

(a) The Committee shall review, as requested by Council or staff, and provide feedback on any ordinance, resolution, rule, regulation, or charter amendment, including any specific policy initiatives. The Committee may also make

recommendations regarding community engagement on sustainability and climate actions, state and federal regulations and compliance efforts, incentives and available programs, and communications regarding information about available programs, projects, and initiatives.

- (b) Provide an educational forum on the impact of policy initiatives.
- (c) As directed by Council, the Climate Action Advisory Committee will report to the appropriate Council Policy Committee.

Sec. 106-163 – Membership.

The Climate Action Advisory Committee shall be comprised of the following members all of whom shall be appointed by the City Council:

- (a) Five Residents. These members shall be residents of Aurora. Resident members shall be limited to those that don't meet criteria for any other category of membership under this section.
- (b) Advocacy Group. These members shall be employed (or volunteer) with relevant advocacy groups. There shall be at least one members but no more than two.
- (c) State Representation. These members shall be employed with state entities working on climate related issues. There shall be at least one members but no more than two.
- (d) Regional/Front Range Representation. These members shall be employed with regional or front range entities working on climate related issues. There shall be at least one members but no more than two.
- (e) Energy Industry. These members shall be employed in in the utilities, construction, energy efficiency, renewable energy, oil and gas, or related field. There shall be at least one member but no more than two.
- (f) Aurora Business Owner(s). There shall be at least one member but no more than two.

Sec. 106-164 – Terms.

The term of appointment for members of the Climate Action Advisory Committee shall be for three (3) years. Members can serve a maximum of three (3) consecutive terms.

Sec. 106-165 – Organization.

The Climate Action Advisory Committee shall be organized pursuant to Charter Section 9-1, and shall make rules of procedure and adopt bylaws to be consistent with the duties listed in this Article.

~~ARTICLE IV. OIL AND GAS ADVISORY COMMITTEE~~

~~Sec. 106-161 – Created.~~

~~There is created and established an oil and gas advisory committee for the purpose of advising city council on matters relating to oil and gas development in the city.~~

~~Sec. 106-162—Functions and duties.~~

~~The oil and gas advisory committee shall serve the following functions and duties:~~

~~(a)— Provide advice and recommendations to the city council and staff regarding oil and gas development within the city in matters that the city has legal authority to regulate.~~

~~This advice will focus on protecting the interest of the public, local business, property and mineral owners, and promote responsible and efficient exploration and development of oil and natural gas within the city's boundaries. The committee will seek to come to a consensus on the matters discussed that will be provided to council in the form of a majority and minority report.~~

~~(b)— Provide an educational forum for the oil and gas industry, citizens, surface owners, and other stakeholders, to discuss the benefits and impacts of industry activity within the city.~~

~~(c)— Consistent with these functions and duties, it is not within the committee's mission or mandate to pursue any ordinance, resolution, rule, regulation, or charter amendment that substantially impedes the efficient and equitable development and production of oil and gas within the city.~~

~~Sec. 106-163—Membership.~~

~~The oil and gas advisory committee shall be comprised of the following members:~~

~~(a)— *Five citizens.* These members shall be citizens of Aurora and shall be appointed by city council. Of these five citizens, every attempt shall be made to appoint two citizens from the areas most affected by oil and gas at the time of the appointment. Factors for consideration for being "most affected" may include the number of wells in an area, new applications being submitted for oil and gas drilling, early stages of drilling and construction of the well pad and oil and gas extraction, and any other factor city council deems relevant to the appointment; and~~

~~(b)— *Three industry representatives.* These representatives shall be registered Colorado electors, whose employer shall be registered with the Colorado Oil and Gas Conservation Commission. These representatives will be comprised of those who are actively exploring, drilling, and/or producing oil and/or gas within the city and may include oil and gas operators, pipeline companies, rig companies, and/or any other company actively engaged in the oil and gas industry within the city; and~~

~~(c)— *Three surface or property owners.* Surface or property owners are those individuals or companies that are either a surface owner of vacant land that holds minerals or a mineral owner of a vacant land parcel.~~

~~Sec. 106-164—Terms.~~

~~The term of appointment for members of the oil and gas advisory committee shall be for three years. Members can serve a maximum of three consecutive terms.~~

~~Sec. 106-165— Organization:~~

~~The oil and gas advisory committee shall be organized pursuant to Charter section 9-1, and shall make rules of procedure and adopt bylaws to be consistent with the duties listed in this article.~~

Section 2. Severability. The provisions of this Ordinance are hereby declared to be severable. If any section, paragraph, clause, or provision of this Ordinance shall, for any reason, be held to be invalid or unenforceable by a court of competent jurisdiction, the invalidity or unenforceability of such section, paragraph, clause, or provision shall not affect any of the remaining provisions of this Ordinance.

Section 3. City employees violating the terms, directives, or mandates of this Code are not subject to the general penalty provisions contained in Section 1-13 of this City Code.

Section 4. Pursuant to Section 5-5 of the Charter of the City of Aurora, Colorado, the second publication of this Ordinance shall be by reference, utilizing the ordinance title. Copies of this Ordinance are available at the Office of the City Clerk.

Section 5. All orders, resolutions, or ordinances in conflict with this Ordinance or with any of the documents hereby approved, are hereby repealed only to the extent of such conflict. This repealer shall not be construed as reviving any resolution, ordinance, or part thereof, heretofore repealed.

INTRODUCED, READ AND ORDERED PUBLISHED this ____ day of _____, 2021.

PASSED AND ORDERED PUBLISHED this ____ day of _____, 2021.

MIKE COFFMAN, Mayor

ATTEST:

KADEE RODRIGUEZ, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

IAN BEST, Assistant City Attorney