COMMUNITY MEETING

City of Colorado Springs,
Community Development
March 21, 2018
TONIGHT’S AGENDA

Greeting and Introduction 10 Minutes

Presentation of Initial Findings + Concepts 25 Minutes

Community Live Polling 15 Minutes

Community Feedback Open House 35 Minutes
Past Implementation Successes for the Neighborhood

Transportation Improvements since 2003 Neighborhood Plan

- Bike lane on Rio Grande Street
- Sidewalk installation on both sides of Sahwatch Street south of Mill Street
- Sidewalk installation on Cascade Avenue south of Mill Street
- Sidewalk installation on Las Vegas Street south of Mill Street
MEETING PURPOSE

• To provide context on the Mill Street neighborhood and this planning effort

• To share community input to date

• To discuss key themes and potential neighborhood strategies

• To gain community feedback on initial recommendations
NEIGHBORHOOD CONTEXT & CONDITIONS

[Map of neighborhood context and conditions with streets labeled, including Moreno Ave, Nevada Ave, Tejon St, Mill St, Rio Grande St, Conejos St, Sahwatch St, Cascade Ave, Tejon St, Nevada Ave, W Mill St, Las Vegas St, and Cascade Ave.]
NEIGHBORHOOD CONTEXT & CONDITIONS
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Median household income: $20,085
Median home price: $160,417
64% of Mill Street residents are renters compared with citywide in Colorado Springs.

Annual Growth of Median Household Income: +1.26%
Annual Growth of Median Home Price: +15.4%
43% of residents who rent citywide in Colorado Springs.
KEYPAD POLLING!

When the polling opens you will select a key and your keypad light should flash green.

If you want to change your answer: select the buttons all over again - the last keys you select will register.

0 key = option 10
Q1: What is your connection to the Mill Street Neighborhood? (select all that apply)

33% 1. I own a home
7% 2. I rent a home
6% 3. I sometimes visit or stay
10% 4. I own a business
10% 5. I work here
26% 6. I do not live or work here, but care about the neighborhood’s future
8% 7. Other
0% 8. None of the Above
Q2: How long have you lived or worked in the Mill Street Neighborhood? (select 1)

- 8% 1. Less than 2 years
- 18% 2. 2-5 years
- 5% 3. 6-10 years
- 18% 4. 11-20 years
- 10% 5. More than 21 years
- 41% 6. I do not live or work here
NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN PROCESS

2017 – 2018

PROJECT KICKOFF
INVENTORY & ANALYSIS
COMMUNITY LISTENING SESSIONS
COMMUNITY SURVEY
IMPLEMENTATION TEAM MEETING
PUBLIC MEETING
PLAN REPORT

We are here!
PUBLIC OUTREACH

- 78 Surveys completed, roughly 10% of the population
- 19 Attendees at holiday party open house
- 69 Participants in 6 small-group listening sessions
- 400 Postcards distributed
- 50 Homes & businesses surveyed by Christmas carolers
- 07 One-on-one interviews with key stakeholders
CAROLING FOR FEEDBACK!
What is your connection to the Mill Street neighborhood?

- I work in this neighborhood. 29%
- I own a home in this neighborhood. 29%
- I rent a home in this neighborhood. 17%
- I own a business in this neighborhood. 14%
- I sometimes visit this neighborhood 4%
- I care about the neighborhood. 4%
- Other 3%
How long have you lived or worked in the Mill Street neighborhood?

- Less than 2 years: 26%
- 2-5 years: 24%
- More than 21 years: 18%
- 6-10 years: 13%
- 11-20 years: 11%
- I do not live or work here: 8%
What amenities would make the greatest contribution to the sense of community if added?

- More small businesses: 38%
- Improved park: 34%
- Other: 31%
- Street trees and landscaping: 31%
- Outdoor gathering space: 28%
- Gateways and signage: 21%
- Indoor gathering space: 20%
- Public art: 16%
- More community gardens: 13%
What do you think are the most important outcomes for a successful neighborhood plan?

- Reduced Crime: 50%
- Housing Affordability Solutions: 45%
- Neighborhood Looks Better: 44%
- Improved Communication with City: 35%
- Support for Existing Businesses: 30%
- Improved transportation: 25%
- Awareness of resources & services: 20%
- Expanded recreation & activities: 18%
- Strengthened relationships: 18%
- More job opportunities: 15%
- Other: 5%
INITIAL PLAN THEMES

1. Enhance **Quality of Life** for Mill Street Residents
2. Cultivate the **Mill Street Character**
3. Re-connect Mill Street **People and Places**
4. Create a **Resilient Future**
PLAN THEMES

Enhance Quality of Life for Residents

- Improve community safety
- Improve environmental quality
- Increase opportunities for social engagement
Q3: In the survey, reduced crime and affordability were top priorities. What other improvements are needed in the neighborhood? (select up to 3)

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26%</td>
<td>1. Condition of infrastructure (roads, parks, rail, etc.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>8%</td>
<td>2. Mobility and transportation</td>
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<tr>
<td>7%</td>
<td>3. Employment opportunities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11%</td>
<td>4. Support for local businesses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15%</td>
<td>5. Housing conditions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19%</td>
<td>6. Environmental conditions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14%</td>
<td>7. Sense of community</td>
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<tr>
<td>0%</td>
<td>8. None of the above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1%</td>
<td>9. Other</td>
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</table>
Q4: What strategies would improve safety in the neighborhood? (select up to 3)

1. More police presence - 18%
2. Neighborhood / Business Watch group - 12%
3. Changes to Dorchester Park - 15%
4. Knowing my neighbors better - 12%
5. Better street lighting - 15%
6. More help for those experiencing homelessness - 27%
7. None of the above - 0%
8. Other - 2%
Q5: What environmental issues do you think negatively impact the neighborhood? (select up to 3)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Issue</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27%</td>
<td>1. Noise from the train</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7%</td>
<td>2. Noise from the highway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28%</td>
<td>3. Trash and debris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16%</td>
<td>4. Air pollution</td>
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<tr>
<td>2%</td>
<td>5. Flooding</td>
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<tr>
<td>4%</td>
<td>6. Drought</td>
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<tr>
<td>11%</td>
<td>7. Hazardous waste</td>
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<tr>
<td>2%</td>
<td>8. None of the above</td>
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<tr>
<td>3%</td>
<td>9. Other</td>
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</table>
Q6: What do you think should be done with Dorchester Park? (select 1)

26% 1. Repair features at the park and maintain it
23% 2. Give up the deed to the property for free market development
46% 3. Explore new park purposes (e.g. regional park, water storage)
4% 4. Other
2% 5. None of the Above
PLAN THEMES

Cultivate Mill Street Character

• Showcase the history of Mill Street
• Reinforce Mill Street’s Sense of Place
• Embrace the Neighborhood’s Unique Physical Attributes
Q7: What name do you think identifies the neighborhood? (select 1)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Mill Street Neighborhood</td>
<td>59%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Mill Neighborhood</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>South Town</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>South Downtown</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>New South End</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Different names within the area</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>I prefer no name</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Q8: What possible 20+ year changes do you think could be most beneficial to the neighborhood? (select up to 3)

25% 1. Decommissioning of the Drake Power Plant
16% 2. Replacing trains with a public transit line
9%  3. Removal or relocation of rail within the neighborhood
7%  4. More housing/greater density
8%  5. Expansion of uses similar to the downtown
19% 6. More neighborhood services like grocery stores
5%  7. Addition of a community or recreation center
10% 8. Connectivity to the Shooks Run improvements
1%  9. Other
0% 10. None of the above
PLAN THEMES

Re-connect Mill Street People & Places

• Improve neighborhood communication
• Enhance multi-modal capabilities of the neighborhood
Q9: What would make you feel more connected to the neighborhood? (select up to 3)

8% 1. More information / newsletter
19% 2. Community events
7% 3. Knowing my neighbors better
24% 4. Safer environment
22% 5. Clean-up efforts / community service
12% 6. Social gathering places
6% 7. Involvement in local or business group
3% 8. I already feel connected
0% 9. Not interested
1% 10. Other
Q10: What are the biggest connectivity / mobility challenges in the neighborhood? (select up to 3)

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18%</td>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Lack of sidewalks or disconnected sidewalks</td>
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<tr>
<td>12%</td>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Lack of parking for businesses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Lack of bike facilities and amenities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Dangerous intersections</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11%</td>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Poorly maintained sidewalks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12%</td>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Poorly maintained streets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10%</td>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Infrequent bus times</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7%</td>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Bus stops too far away</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7%</td>
<td>9.</td>
<td>ADA accessibility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3%</td>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Other</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Create a Resilient Future

• Strengthen local businesses
• Preserve neighborhood affordability
• Promote community ownership
Q11: Affordability was identified as a top priority. What building types would appropriate in Mill Street? (select up to 3)

- 26% 1. Single family homes
- 12% 2. Townhomes (attached homes)
- 9% 3. Apartments / condos
- 18% 4. Tiny homes
- 9% 5. Accessory Dwelling Units (In-Law Units)
- 4% 6. Transitional housing
- 4% 7. Public housing
- 17% 8. Mixed use development (apartments over retail)
- 1% 9. Other
Q12: The Drake Power Plan is slated to be decommissioned no later than 2035. What is your desire for the future of this site? (select all that apply)

1. Affordable / attainable housing 12%
2. A new park or recreational area 15%
3. Industrial uses 1%
4. Large retail, office or medical uses 5%
5. Small business district, similar to existing 16%
6. Residential neighborhood, similar to existing 10%
7. Public institutions or service providers (e.g. library, school) 11%
8. Entertainment district 16%
9. Relocate rail tracks 10%
10. Other 2%
Q13: Which of these initial key themes should be a part of the plan? (select all that apply)

30% 1. Enhance Quality of Life for Mill Street Residents
21% 2. Cultivate the Mill Street Character
20% 3. Re-connect Mill Street People and Places
24% 4. Create a Resilient Future
1% 5. None of the above
5% 6. Other
Q14: Thanks for your feedback! How did you learn about tonight’s meeting? (select all that apply)

1. Postcard - 24%
2. Flyer - 15%
3. Word-of-mouth - 16%
4. Newspaper - 7%
5. Mill Street Neighborhood Association - 6%
6. City of Colorado Springs website - 3%
7. Social Media (Facebook, Twitter) - 7%
8. Radio - 0%
9. Television - 0%
10. Other - 20%
ACTIVITY STATIONS – WE NEED YOUR INPUT!

1. Neighborhood areas of change
2. Reconsidering the street
3. Safety and security
4. Neighborhood activities and amenities
NEXT STEPS

1. Deliver Plan Report

2. Community Comment Period
   Copies of the plan will be available at:
   
   Penrose Library, 20 N Cascade Ave
   Hillside Community Center, 925 S Institute St
   Community Development Division Office, 30 S Nevada Suite 604

3. Final Plan Review

4. Neighborhood Plan Adoption

Next Mill Street Neighborhood Association Meeting:
April 12, 6:30pm, 119 W. Mill Street
THANK YOU!
environment

community

art

economics

PREPARED BY

DESIGNWORKSHOP