



GOLDEN URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY

Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and City Council
From: Mark Heller, GURA Executive Director
Steve Glueck, Golden Planning and Development Director
Rod Tarullo, Golden Parks and Recreation Director
Date: April 17, 2006
RE: April 2006 Downtown Character Plan Report

At the April 12th meeting, the committee reviewed and discussed the 1989 Golden Urban Renewal Plan, focusing on the immediate, short, and long-term goals listed in the plan. This exercise was intended to solicit input from Parks & Rec, Planning, and HPB on how the missions of these boards could be accomplished through the current Urban Renewal Plan or revisions to it.

The committee also discussed the topics to be studied through a grant funded by the Colorado Community Revitalization Association, Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA), and GURA. This "Community Revitalization Plan" will bring in a team of experts to study and make recommendations on the following topics over a three day period:

1. Clear Creek Corridor Design Guidelines;
2. Appropriate mix of land use and businesses, including how Golden can respond to the phenomena of the digital economy and creative class; and
3. Resource Efficiency regulations and incentives.

The third substantive discussion was a preliminary review of an expanded boundary for the revised downtown design guidelines, including discussion of ten character zones within that expanded boundary.

These topics will continue to be discussed among the committee members, and when the CCRA report is concluded, all discussion will be synthesized for a report to Council. Following Council input, the information and discussion will form the basis of a broader public outreach process that will solicit comments on the work to date and new ideas. This process will extend through the year, and this committee will meet monthly.

At the May meeting, the committee will review a draft of the revised downtown design guidelines, and continue discussion of the character zones and the GURA Urban Renewal Plan.