

Downtown Character Plan: Community Input

This document includes the public comments that were submitted as part of the Downtown Character planning process. These comments were submitted in response to three surveys that related to issues in Downtown Golden. Results from the Community Survey on Downtown Golden are listed first. This survey was conducted online during May and June of 2007. The survey received approximately 110 responses.

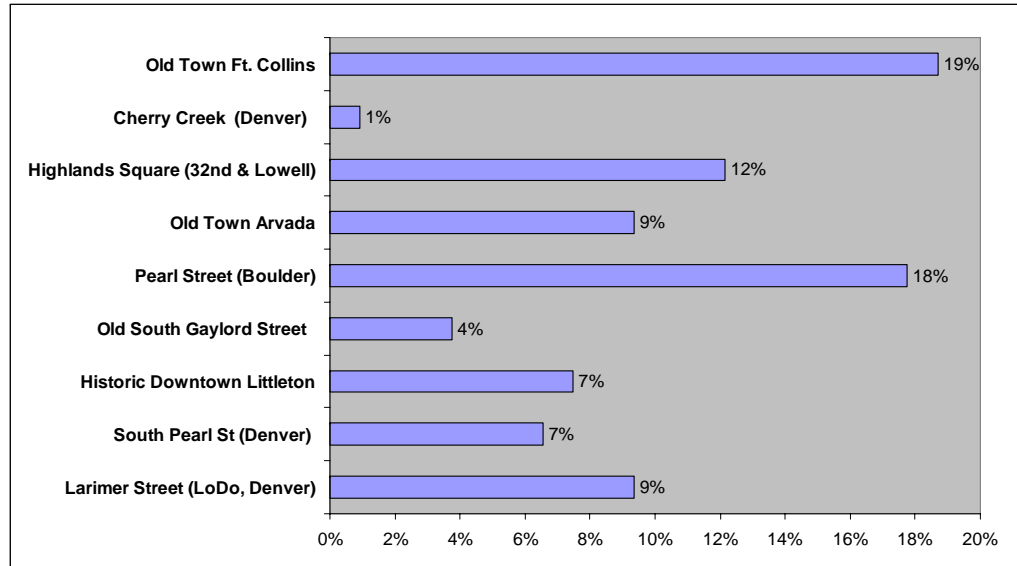
Following these results are the responses from a survey that was handed out to all attendees at the Open Houses on February 25th and 26th. This survey asked questions about the streetscape, signage, and retail services in Downtown Golden. Approximately 30 people completed this survey.

Also at the Open Houses, the Downtown Character Committee asked all attendants, "What do you want to see in Downtown Golden?" People who attended the Open Houses had the opportunity to write suggestions on post-it notes, and post them on a wall under the following categories: arts and entertainment, retail, environment, transportation, food, tourism, housing, and pedestrian amenities. There were 652 suggestions made during the two days, which are listed below.

Finally, the results from a survey of awning styles that would best fit in Downtown Golden are included. This survey was advertised during the Open Houses. It was conducted online between February and May 2007, and it received 32 responses.

Survey #1: Community Survey on Downtown Golden

1. When thinking about what Downtown Golden should be, which one of the following retail areas best captures your view?



Other
Downtown Golden
Just like it is, downtown Golden. Why do we have to resemble something else?
Have its OWN character!
Downtown Golden, good as is
see below
Olde Town Ft. Worth, TX
leave Golden as Golden
Denver's 16 th St Mall
Just as it is
Dwtm. Golden, Minus the UGLY G. hotel bldg.

Golden should do its own thing
None of the above
The best of all of the above.
Golden in the 1960's

2. Comments?

I was also tempted to choose Old Town Fort Collins, but Boulder is more pedestrian-friendly.
I personally think Golden has a character entirely its own.
I tend to think of Downtown Golden as unique unto itself....you would do well to be reminded of Golden if you were asked the same question about those other sites. It has a better setting than the others with a river and a mountain backdrop. It has more variety than the others. It has history and handsome buildings and street scape....and it's a whole town unto itself- not a district in another town like the others....They should be so lucky as to be like Golden...but they can't because there is none other like it.
A pedestrian mall, such as Pearl Street, would be somewhat impractical for Golden. I think we have too small a downtown to attract a lot of foot traffic as would be needed, and it would also obviate the need for our new Washington Avenue Bridge over Clear Creek just completed (if Washington Avenue was turned into a pedestrian mall).
The addition of "upscale" stores would be welcomed.
Why does GURA think we should resemble something other than we are?
Should be edgy and cool yet retain its original character and have real downtown shopping not just chains and eventually high end trinket shops. Must be able to still buy food, hardware and gas in the downtown area – unlike other upscale and trendy downtown areas.
It should be historic, quaint, but have some mainstream draw to bring in customers. Quizno's and the like are not always bad if the help bring in customers for other businesses.
I feel that several of these spots capture the same view: S. Pearl, Dntn Littleton, Old Town Arvada.
Don't copy other areas!
Definitely not Pearl St. Boulder, what a freak show.
As a note, I was able to find a website for most of these downtown areas. However, when I typed in "downtown Golden" I didn't come up with much. What I did come up with was a list of all of Golden's stores (even those not located in the downtown area). The other websites also had information on parking, etc in their downtown areas...maybe a website just dedicated to downtown Golden would be helpful.

<p>Golden should be unique...please don't make it like the upscale areas of Denver! I checked Pearl Street, Boulder, as it is intimate and on a smaller scale. Golden could still have traffic, of course, (unlike Boulder's Pearl St mall), but the intimate, "mom and pop" store feeling could still prevail....just as it is already doing!</p>
<p>The D-Note is a great venue in Old Town Arvada and attracts an increasing number of people into the town for music and community events. It would be incredible to have a place like that in downtown Golden. Suburbanites do want good music venues! Old Town also has a great Thai restaurant and several other shops and food/drink establishments that are attractive to locals and not just for tourists (in contrast to Golden).</p>
<p>Have been in most of these places, but probably need to refresh my memory. Definitely not like Cherry Creek. Keep small town character. Mix of restaurants and retail.</p>
<p>Fort Collins is not Boulder or Denver, it maintains its western character but gives a lot of room for the new- some pedestrian friendly – some car friendly.</p>
<p>Make it closed to cars... get updated shops...get good restaurants....</p>
<p>I think DG has positive elements (creek, close to rec center, library, etc) that Pearl St does not have but the appeal of Pearl St is having an area with no motorized vehicles. Washington would be tough, but possibly some side streets could be redesigned as combined restaurant/walking/park areas.</p>
<p>The stores with out awnings (Pickets, Baby Does, Paprika and Windy Saddle) look SO much more inviting—and you can actually see that they are open, and what the merchandise is.</p>
<p>Golden is unique. Why would you want it to be like something else?</p>
<p>Some aspects of all of those areas seem attractive, but I also like how Golden is different and unique from those places.</p>
<p>I feel that suddenly there are so many different styles of architecture springing up in Golden. Where is the planning to keep Golden looking as if it were in the same era??? Some buildings just don't fit in!</p>
<p>When I think about what Downtown Golden should be, I don't think "retail area". I think: "Man, I *still* miss the ol' Five & Dime." And Kenrows.</p>
<p>It has its own unique identity and we do not need to look like the others.</p>
<p>We need to retain the historic buildings and character of Golden.</p>
<p>I like the destination nature of Larimer. I feel like I can simply think, "Let's hit Larimer" and we'll find something to do down there.</p>
<p>Golden should be unique from and more inviting than any of these. We can do better.</p>
<p>Downtown Golden is a TRUE downtown. There are no other cities in the metro area that can still hold school parades (GHS or CSM) or Buffalo Bill's Day parades that run right through the middle of town. People see their neighbors and friends there. Downtown Golden is more than JUST a destination place and shouldn't be marketed as such.</p>

<p>The people who approved the design of the golden hotel should be examined to see if they have a shred of brains left, and how much money was deposited in their bank account after it was approved.</p>
<p>Golden should do its own thing, not try to replicate somewhere else.</p>
<p>Golden is unique. It doesn't "match" any of the above completely. Have you ever thought about blocking off the main street for two blocks beginning with Foss Drugs and having that be a walking area only?</p>
<p>I haven't visited all of these areas, but Highlands Square seems to cater well to the needs of its local residents while still being a place that is fun for people who don't live in the neighborhood to visit. I also think it is important for the city not to be overrun with chain stores that would make Golden just like every other character-less city in America. I would like downtown Golden to be a place for small business people to be able to succeed and I don't want to see local businesses run out because of skyrocketing rent.</p>
<p>Please fix the traffic lights so that you don't have to stop at every one if you're driving down Washington or ford.</p>
<p>Highlands is a great mix of retail and restaurants within a residential area, and is still supportive of the local merchant. We do spend a lot of time in Boulder, but I don't think replicating the Pearl Street Mall is a good fit for Golden.</p>
<p>It's already its own unique self! I would hate it to be a replication of any of the above. It's great already!</p>
<p>A mix of unique retail shops, high quality restaurants with downtown residences which will draw out of Golden visitors from the surrounding metro area.</p>
<p>Actually have only been to about half of the sites listed (and not sure about S. Pearl St.), but envision a small town with small shops. I think it is just fine the way it is. Hope to keep the Victorian style and small buildings. The Golden Hotel looks like the county jail. The developer wasted an excellent location. It is a shame that the city (GURA?) didn't insist on a more period structure that integrated the creek side and Washington St. frontage better. The condos and retail along Clear Creek, while a bit more stylish than the Golden Hotel, carry on the bare bones, semi-contemporary look which doesn't really fit with the "old" main street. In between these monstrosities, we have the overly ornate, semi-Victorian Wash. St. bridge??? Blah architecture also applies to the big retail bldg. across from the post office. Why do people keep building retail when there is so much vacant? The architectural renderings of the new bldg. across from Foss show more vision. I hope this mix of retail/residential turns out well. I think keeping the Victorian look as much as possible will set Golden apart.</p>
<p>I would like to see some nice public spaces with music like the D-Note, and some moderately priced restaurants with a wide variety of food. Some ethnic restaurants (e.g. Japanese, Thai) would be great.</p>
<p>I think a pedestrian friendly few blocks would be great.</p>
<p>Pearl St Denver works well due to the fact that it allows public transportation and bicycles, but not automobile traffic. This provides for a great downtown feel, without being completely cut off like Pearl St in Boulder.</p>

<p>It would be great to see more restaurants and roof top patios for outdoor dining choices. Also more variety in food would be wonderful.</p>
<p>Why does downtown Golden have to be a “tourist trap”??? Have you ever conducted a survey to see how often Golden residents actually frequent downtown merchants??? It would be nice to have the ability to purchase every day items in downtown Golden, not just gifts for birthdays or Christmas. Other than the Quilt Store and Meyer’s Hardware, our family does not shop at any of the other stores – they don’t carry what we need.</p>
<p>It’s important that stores and restaurants are independent, interesting, and unique, and it’s super important that Washington and Golden downtown be pedestrian and biker friendly.</p>
<p>I envision downtown Golden as a real hub of community activity–casual, welcoming, interesting, historical, friendly, and unique.</p>
<p>A pedestrian mall maintaining the old town flavor would be great</p>
<p>Pedestrian friendly, people sized, beautiful with trees and flowers.</p>
<p>I would like a combination of Highlands Square as well as other retail that addresses Golden citizens: a breakfast/lunch-type, low-to-medium cost restaurant (e.g. The Egg & I); a bread shop (e.g., Maggie’s of Ft Collins), shoe store (e.g., Dardanos), delicatessen, etc.</p>
<p>The reason I chose Pearl Street is for its amazing gardens, its rooftop seating and eclectic restaurants. There are many choices of restaurants including a majority of them being vegetarian and organic friendly.</p>
<p>Any of these would be great. First step....get rid of the Howdy Folks sign. It distracts from the Downtown street scape. It literally disguises the real old west town that it is.</p>
<p>A little bit Pearl St, little bit Gaylord</p>
<p>I think we should recapture the “Old West” that the town used to be. Embrace our history!</p>
<p>We would love to see music on the sidewalks, more walking space, fewer cars. Could we close Washington to cars between 13th and 10th? The “Howdy Folks” sign totally cheapens the high class western shopping district feel!</p>
<p>Please keep the small town old west feel</p>
<p>I love the idea of a pedestrian-friendly downtown, with cars kept a block off of the main street. People flock to Pearl St. mall in Boulder, and I haven’t seen the same kind of vitality on any other of the above listed locations.</p>
<p>Downtown was a mix of residential and commercial and had lots to offer and attract people there.</p>
<p>I moved to golden for the small town feel, it has slowly been taken away from golden with all the new development of high rise modern condos and office buildings</p>
<p>Downtown Golden has always been nice because of the mix of stores. It’s great that they are not chain stores, since I can go anywhere and get those. I can walk to downtown Golden.</p>

C. What do you think makes (or would make) Downtown Golden unique, distinctive, or special?

<p>We have the creek right downtown, with great walking paths. That gives us an edge over the other downtowns mentioned in the last question. Musicians would be nice, if they had a place to perform where they wouldn't block sidewalk traffic (we already have the restaurant seating to do that).</p>
<p>The number and variety of galleries and museums.</p>
<p>It has the flavor of a mountain town within a short drive of Denver.</p>
<p>History, Mountain backdrop, Clear Creek Corridor complete with a bridge you can lounge around on, The many museums and points of interest, the looks of the town, an amazing spectrum of recreation...from Kayaking, climbing, biking, hiking trails, a fine community center, great parks, to being able to jump off a mountain with a parasail! A schedule of events that not only go on all summer – but at Christmas and other times as well. AND the fact it is a town with its own government and a wide variety of merchants –not an area or “cutesy” district. Where else can you sit comfortably at a table on the bridge across a river in the center of town and enjoy a mountain view, read a lesson in history and see children playing in a playground below and be entertained by kayakers in the water and hang gliders in the western sky while eating ice cream or a sandwich from a nearby restaurant? – and all for free (except the food). “NOW THAT’S ENTERTAINMENT”</p>
<p>more trees, less cars</p>
<p>The old buildings and general look of downtown is appealing, but it is not enough to bring a lot of people in. It seems to me we do not have a central theme that would really contribute to bringing a lot of people to downtown. We do not have a huge concentration of restaurants, or a ton of really interesting stores, etc., we have a little of a bunch of stuff. Maybe enough to build on, but having more of a focus, almost any focus, would be good, I think.</p>
<p>The downtown area has lots of gorgeous historic buildings that are too often hidden with non-historic add-ons. I wonder if bringing more of this character out would bring in more of the businesses that would benefit Golden, instead of more loud Harley's.</p>
<p>Extension of the walking path along Clear Creek, under Hwy 6 and to dead end. Then adding a pedestrian bridge at that point, and developing a walking path on the south side of Clear Creek. Developing the former Golden Ford location into some moderate and upscale housing.</p>
<p>Continue small town scale of buildings and architecture that complements the existing buildings</p>
<p>Stop tearing down the old buildings, such as the historic Mitchell School and Hesteds. Schools in the downtown keep the downtown viable because people come there to pick up their children and oftentimes shop and use other facilities.</p>

Creek and original downtown visually and physically separate from Denver and nearby suburbs
History. Also, the bike paths, and the fact that everything is within walking distance. It is terrific to be able to go to Meyer's Hardware, the library, Clear Creek Jewelry and the post office without getting in a car. Clear Creek is also very unique and makes running errands much more enjoyable.
The setting...don't need to change that!
Historic look and feel is unique and charming
Historical. We also need cultural facilities downtown, besides MAP and FAC. We need a Landmark-type theater.
Small town atmosphere. Minimal traffic, noise, congestion, etc.
Golden has a very diverse mix of socio-economic citizens. I think that downtown reflects that. I have lived here since 1972 and seen many changes, but places like the Ace remain. Although I don't go there, I like that it is still there.
Downtown Golden has a lot of history, and it should stand out in that way.
That it is small.
I like the variety of independently owned small businesses and restaurants, in addition to the "arts" offerings including the Clear Creek history museum, quilt museum, foothills gallery and Miners Theatre. I love the Clear Creek bike path.
Continued emphasis on the Western flavor of Golden along with the focus on Clear Creek as a focal point ... and the fact that we are truly "nestled" at the base of the foothills, specifically Lookout Mtn
Our Clear Creek walkway with Historic area, kayaking, and eateries along the creek is delightful! Expanding (carefully!) on this would be welcome. Also, I love the bronze artwork. Could the "Miner with Donkey" bronze be returned and given a place of distinction?
The lack or minimization of franchise stores and restaurants is essential to making Golden a unique destination. I would hate to see more chains open up particularly if they are direct competitors of existing businesses.
It's a beautiful setting and attracts outdoorsy people. The creek is perhaps the most unique and attractive part of town, but the historic buildings are a draw as well.
Keep out any further chain stores/cafes/restaurants/coffee shops. Further encourage hometown ownership.
Like the history, the West, beautiful creek, free Coors tour, have taken lots of visitors thru it. Like Foss Drug old fashioned feel
Golden has its own special charm. The park, the Chamber of Commerce area and of course the path along Clear Creek are very special and make you feel that you are in a small community.
Clear Creek, I gateway to the mountains... history- the mountains... mining history...

<p>I think the atmosphere of the cozy little restaurants and shops, the riverwalk, and the open attitudes of the tenants that run these businesses really makes Golden special already. I do think that there are a few shops that could use some updating, or a new business should replace what is there, but overall, Golden presents a relaxed, tranquil environment for people to unwind in.</p>
<p>The creek and nearby mountains make Golden distinctive. A no-vehicle area could complete the picture of a unique, pleasant area to stroll, dine and relax.</p>
<p>Clear creek</p>
<p>Its history.</p>
<p>Small</p>
<p>unique stores that serve both residents and visitors</p>
<p>It's natural setting, its accessibility, its unpretentiousness.</p>
<p>Clear Creek trail, great restaurants, Foss</p>
<p>Keeping the Old Town atmosphere. It makes a place unique and unlike "all the others".</p>
<p>How about bringing back the World Championships of Hackey-Sack? Ya gotta admit, that was pretty unique.</p>
<p>The bike path along Clear Creek in an excellent feature of Golden as it allows access to many features (historic park, kayak park, rec center, pioneer museum, etc).</p>
<p>More diversity in downtown housing. Too many "part-time" residents currently in Millstone project. Downtown needs a slightly larger and perhaps younger (more likely to spend) population to support additional downtown businesses.</p>
<p>Maintain the character and not building big buildings like the Hested parking building.</p>
<p>Really building up shops along the riverfront – having the walkway and parks along the riverfront and shops (retail, restaurants with patios and balconies, etc.) that you can visit as you walk along the path.</p>
<p>We have all the makings of a beautiful walking downtown, with a nice new bridge overlooking the superlative clear creek and mountain views, and going all the way past Table Mountain Inn. What would really make it special is to realize the goal of having an area we could truly walk, enjoy, relax, and sit at cafes out of doors and enjoy the historic downtown streetscape and the natural views and activities. Right now it feels too much simply a commuter link for cars blowing through downtown on Washington. Connecting the blocks together, making them safer for walking and biking, and creating more of a destination feel would realize the beauty and joy of our special downtown.</p>
<p>Great main street, small town feel, foothill setting.</p>
<p>An identity.</p>

<p>The fact that I can walk into businesses and see people I know working there. I like walking into Starbuck's and seeing kids working there that my daughter graduated with or walking into Foss and there's a former council member that works there. It's a community. I worked in downtown Denver for 10 years and it was depressing not having the friendly faces there that you have at the businesses in Golden.</p>
<p>I would organize some wild west events for the spring, summer and fall.</p>
<p>Restaurants/cafes. Festivals. Pedestrian friendly.</p>
<p>The emphasis on the Old West.</p>
<p>It's history. It's a real historic main street. It's walking distance to everything downtown and the clear creek amenities. It's very pretty.</p>
<p>What I just said – possibly blocking off a few blocks of downtown for walking only.</p>
<p>One of a kind establishments, the arts, great dining & fun cultural events. If we could get a light rail line into town, rather than only out to the Justice Center, that would be a huge plus. Golden has such unique geographical surroundings...another mark of distinction.</p>
<p>Clear Creek along side a nice small downtown area.</p>
<p>Clear Creek</p>
<p>The sign and the Buffalo Rose.</p>
<p>Maybe a small scale whole foods in the downtown area would be nice. Also, a place to rent bikes along the creek. A funky restaurant along the creek would be interesting too.</p>
<p>Keep the Victorian theme going as much as possible. The covered sidewalks and mixed storefronts add to the "old west" feel. Try to remember this is an historic town, not one built to someone's "vision" (i.e. the new Lakewood or Thornton "Town Centers"). We have a real downtown, let's not squander that by trying to emulate some other place. Build on what is already there.</p>
<p>Location between Denver and the Mountains, friendly, location next to Coors and CSM.</p>
<p>View of the mountains, Clear Creek, and close proximity to hiking, biking and outdoor activities.</p>
<p>It feels like Colorado. It definitely has a western feel to it.</p>
<p>The views and architecture</p>
<p>Downtown golden seems to focus on the Harley / Bar community, and like shops. Riding Harleys on the weekend (not to mention the noise pollution) does not coincide with the Sustainability initiatives of the City. It also does not promote business for local Golden Residents. Would like to see a more up-to-date, green, trend-setting atmosphere that attracts more of the outdoors oriented (bikers, runners, climbers, environmentalist) – like Ft. Collins is attempting to do.</p>
<p>Very small town feel, the creek, and the historic past</p>

<p>Providing services for the average Golden family. We would love to see a I come into downtown, that served affordable lunch and dinner meals.</p>
<p>Pedestrian and bike friendly. Get rid of the cars. Keep the historic character strong, and do not construct ugly buildings (e.g., Golden Hotel). Make as much as possible pedestrian. What makes Golden different from any of the other towns is that it is surrounded by mesas and such. Don't block the views with huge buildings (don't make exceptions for big investors). Recruit different types of restaurants (e.g., natural food, especially breakfast), and stay away from chains.</p>
<p>Its history, its location, and the fostering of a sense of community.</p>
<p>Pedestrian mall, LOW building in character with old buildings, keep parking structures hidden, KEEP IT QUAIN</p>
<p>Continue to have buildings which blend in, plus more shops (not the popcorn and T shirt kind) and more restaurants.</p>
<p>Being a leader in sustainability, predominantly locally owned shops that regular middle class folks utilize, not just tourist shops, ie book stores, family clothing, shoe stores, second hand clothing, book stores. Community events, walk/bikability, and building guidelines to create continuity and attractive buildings and entrances to the city.</p>
<p>Quality businesses that attract BOTH citizens (first) and tourists. I don't want us to turn into an Estes Park-type downtown that really focuses on tourism, that obviously tourism is important to Golden. When undertaking a sustainable living approach and desiring to minimize travel for residents, that suggests that businesses that address residents' regular needs should be considered as well as a good mix of business that draw tourists.</p>
<p>Keep the small retailers.</p>
<p>I think the amazing foothills backdrop, the creek and the active lifestyle make Golden an amazing city. It's small town feel and neighbor-centric attitude makes it a fabulous place to live. Capitalizing on our beautiful environment and eco-friendly nature is a sure way to make ourselves distinct and special.</p>
<p>The junction of the creek and the downtown area. It's a classic old west town, or could be anyway.</p>
<p>We love the way it looks. The Welcome to Golden sign, the creek, the restaurants, everything! Friends love to visit! I do wish there wasn't the Realtor Offices downtown they are ugly!! We need more little shops, Foss yes but more little fun shops. To add something for everyone. The one antique store needs a face lift or needs to be cleaned up to make it more appealing to the public.</p>
<p>The great architecture on the existing historic buildings.</p>

I would love to see more emphasis on Golden as a center of sustainable living and the arts and less on Buffalo Bill (who got his fame from shooting buffalo from trains and letting them suffer and parish for fun)! Golden was originally about mining and the territorial capital. If we want to honor our history, let's focus there.

Restoration of the historic buildings and making new buildings look more historic rather than modern

The "Howdy Folks" sign, and the various statues, the mural on the side of Foss

A balance of uses in downtown and the proximity to recreational areas, such as Clear Creek, the ball fields, rec center, kayak course and other parks.

I love the planters and the statues.

Capitalize on the historic character of the downtown area.

If the historic buildings are restored

Golden already is special. I wish we could keep all of the store fronts occupied. Right now I wonder what we will do without Foss.

4. Besides current construction projects, what is the biggest “hassle” you face in visiting, shopping, working, driving, biking or walking into Downtown Golden?

I object to skirting around the Ace Hi’s smoking section.
I would like vehicles moved off of Washington between 11 th and 14 th Streets, at least on holidays and weekends. Create easy flow through to Arapahoe south bound and Jackson northbound.
The construction projects are enough of a disruption that I’m unaware of any other real hassles.
I don’t find it to be a hassle to shop or go through downtown Golden....It is a bit disconcerting to try to drive through when the streets are blocked for a festival or the downtown is closed off for a parade....but those events are for peoples enjoyment and need to be tolerated. The incredible display of motorcycles around certain bars may put some tourists off, but they are tourists, too...and reasonably well behaved.
Too noisy
Sorry, I hear a lot about parking, etc., being a problem, but I have not experienced any particular “hassle” in visiting downtown Golden. The only time I have trouble finding a parking space is if some big event is going on – like Buffalo Bill days or CSM commencement. Maybe the issue is more signage to help folks from out of town figure out there is lots of parking a block off Washington – but there are some signs already.
All the loud Harley’s in the downtown area make me not want to spend time there, even where there are businesses I would like to patronize there. I’d like to see some enforcement of noise laws to minimize this, since I think it drives away others like me and does not create a family-friendly environment.
Getting to it via 19 th street and all its “traffic calming” that slows and backs up traffic. Dodging potholes almost everywhere. Sidewalks that disappear mid block, are too narrow or don’t exist.
Motorcycles – too many, too noisy, and travel too fast.
The noise.
Re: peds – sidewalks are fine but no pedestrian/bike focused entryway exists – blocked by Coors, Hiway6 and Mines. Re: auto – Once downtown, not really difficult except traffic timing improvements needed. 19 th St access from 6 th shared with Mines and Coors transcends chaotic.
It’s tough to safely get to a grocery store from downtown.
We need more quality eating and entertainment establishments.
If anything, it would be parking. Also the bottleneck going north on Washington by the Buffalo Bill statue.
Walkway over Hwy 58
My biggest gripe about Golden are the Harley riders who swarm there on the weekends. I have been walking on Washington and had my ears numbed by them as they leave the downtown area. We need to enforce a healthy noise level that protects my ears. More officers on duty weekend afternoons and decibel meters with photo tickets would be a good start.

<p>Store hours!!! The local stores are never open during convenient hours. We are doing a lot of home improvements lately, and we would prefer to shop at a locally-owned small business (Meyers Hardware as an example). However, they are never open so we end up going to Home Depot about 95 percent of the time.</p>
<p>I don't have any complaints</p>
<p>parking behind Foss' could be better</p>
<p>It's dangerous to bike in downtown Golden, except on the Clear Creek path. We need bike lanes and education and/or penalties for drivers, who don't seem to care much about bicyclists or pedestrians.</p>
<p>Not a thing.</p>
<p>Parking not a problem. There aren't all the stores I need. No movie theater. Could be more restaurants, but like the ones that are here. I walk down all the time and bike sometimes. Make sure there are plenty of places to lock up bikes. Love Meyers Hardware, nice people and helpful.</p>
<p>I think the biggest hassle or what we like the least about Golden is all the motorcycles. We had guests and took them to lunch and the motorcycle noise was so loud it was embarrassing. Hard to feel the charm of a small town with so much noise. I realize that the bikers are also a very large contributor to the economy but the noise level does get really bad.</p>
<p>Biking can be scary with non-distinct bike lanes. The farmers market should not be a parking lot... shutting down part of Washington would be great... see Appleton Wisconsin Farmer's market or Madison – it attracts people from all over and is a huge attraction on Saturday's in the summer.</p>
<p>The only thing I can think of is parking issues during really big events (Fourth of July Fireworks comes to mind). Otherwise, no complaints.</p>
<p>Traffic</p>
<p>Sunday closures. It seems that even though a lot of tourists come into town all through the weekend, most of the shops are closed.</p>
<p>Parking</p>
<p>none</p>
<p>Poor sidewalks and missing links in the bike paths (such as the missing sidewalks on 8th street between the pedestrian overpass and the rec center, and at the intersection of Washington and 93) are a hassle.</p>
<p>New construction taking away parking (we don't think it's going to be replaced? Easy to find parking on the south end of town. Not so easy near Blue Canyon Grill and Tony Rigatoni's), going around bicyclists in the street / bicyclists well exceeding the 25 mph speed limit on Ford Street (hazardous when cars are pulling out of side streets)</p>
<p>I don't find any "hassles". I think there is very adequate parking, even if it isn't right in front of the store you wish to enter. There is plenty of off- site parking!.</p>
<p>Those @\$%\$&*! Traffic circles out on Old Golden Road. Get rid of 'em, for the love of all that's Holy.</p>
<p>None</p>

Poor customer service from a large percentage of the restaurants and shops. I have heard this repeatedly from both residents and, more distressingly, non-residents of Golden who come to visit. It is poor enough to make people not want to come back. By poor service I mean excessive waits for tables and generally poor "table side manner" of wait staffs.

None.

Instead of parking, we should have lots outside of town and a good local bus service like Estes Park has developed. And why not bring the train back to Golden especially when RTD implements service to west Denver.

Not much hassle ... sometimes hard to find parking, but it's never more than a couple blocks away

Both walking and biking in downtown is difficult. I'll only really walk there when Washington is shut down, and I won't bike there because it's too dangerous. That makes it difficult for me to get to downtown without driving, which just makes the problem worse and makes me not likely to go down as often. The worst bit, however, is the poor retailers downtown. The service quality is the worst I've seen anywhere. I can provide tales of a negative experience at nearly every retailer in town, perhaps barring Woody's, TMI, and Meyer's. Bent Gate? Yup. Picket's, Old Capitol Grille, Rhapsody's? Check. The flower shop? Yerp. Golden Hotel, most of the local coffee shops, the old bagel shop, hardcore bike shops, health food store, etc, etc, etc. It's all about service and our retailers have no clue how to create repeat business from golden residents or those who might like to visit again some time.

Parking? Not that big of a hassle, though.

Auto traffic.

None that I can think of at this point.

Too many people. The town is starting to look like Boulder. And the liberal lefties are in charge of the design, permitting, and development process. The town has lost it's "home town" feel and just looks like any other pinched, crowded city awash with poorly designed subdivisions. You could take a lesson from Ventura CA, among many other cities, who declared a moratorium on homebuilding. Their property values skyrocketed overnight, and their tax base, untouched, continued to grow. You have pretty much turned a lovely small town into just another Denver. The crime rates, homeless, litter and ghettos of the impoverished should begin to escalate soon.

Drivers being unaware of pedestrians and cyclists.

Nothing, really.

The merchants all close before I get off of work and can come down to shop.

None. It will be nice to have some of the roads repaired after this horrible winter.

I would do more of my shopping downtown if there were more shops offering a wider variety of goods. Other than that, I have no hassles with downtown Golden.

The traffic lights being red at every corner going down Washington or Ford. I understand that you are trying to keep speeds low or get tourists to stop, but the traffic lights are either excessive or very poorly timed? It seems every time I drive through downtown I have to stop at every single one...

Narrow sidewalks

Restaurants are limited – we need a good breakfast place – check out Udi's in the Stapleton area, a place along those lines would be great. Shopping is very limited – we have a choice of antiques, quilts (and I love quilts) and bars & a few women's shops.

Traffic I guess. Things will be better as the construction projects are complete.

Cars parked in the bicycle lanes.

What hassle?? In Golden I can usually park right in front of the store I want to visit, or at least within 100 feet. Try that at a mall. Most other "downtown" areas have parking meters. We have free, easy parking. More parking behind main street will probably be needed at some point (I assume the new bldg. across from Foss will have some public parking). I also bike through town. It is a little tricky getting from the bike path along 6th to the Clear Creek path. The "narrowing" of 19th really made that stretch treacherous for bikes. Most bikers don't really like riding on sidewalks because you have to dodge pedestrians. A better link between the trails would be good (i.e. continue north along 6th from 19th and drop down to Clear Creek through CSM property?) Also, will there be some sort of connection with light rail from downtown to the Taj? Now is the time to think about that as well. Has Golden approached RTD about extending the line to Golden? Even a shuttle would be good....get it in the budget...

Parking, especially on Friday and Saturday nights.

Store hours are not usually convenient, and some of the workers in the stores have been rude on a consistent basis.

There is little public seating/benches. There are a few, but they always seem to be taken. More seating would be nice.

Lack of places to eat

Limited (good) choices for food and drink. Being a vegetarian, and having vegetarian friends, the only places to really eat are Woodies (for Pizza) and 2 dishes at the Table Mtn Inn. The other restaurants have no selections for healthy, vegetarian food.

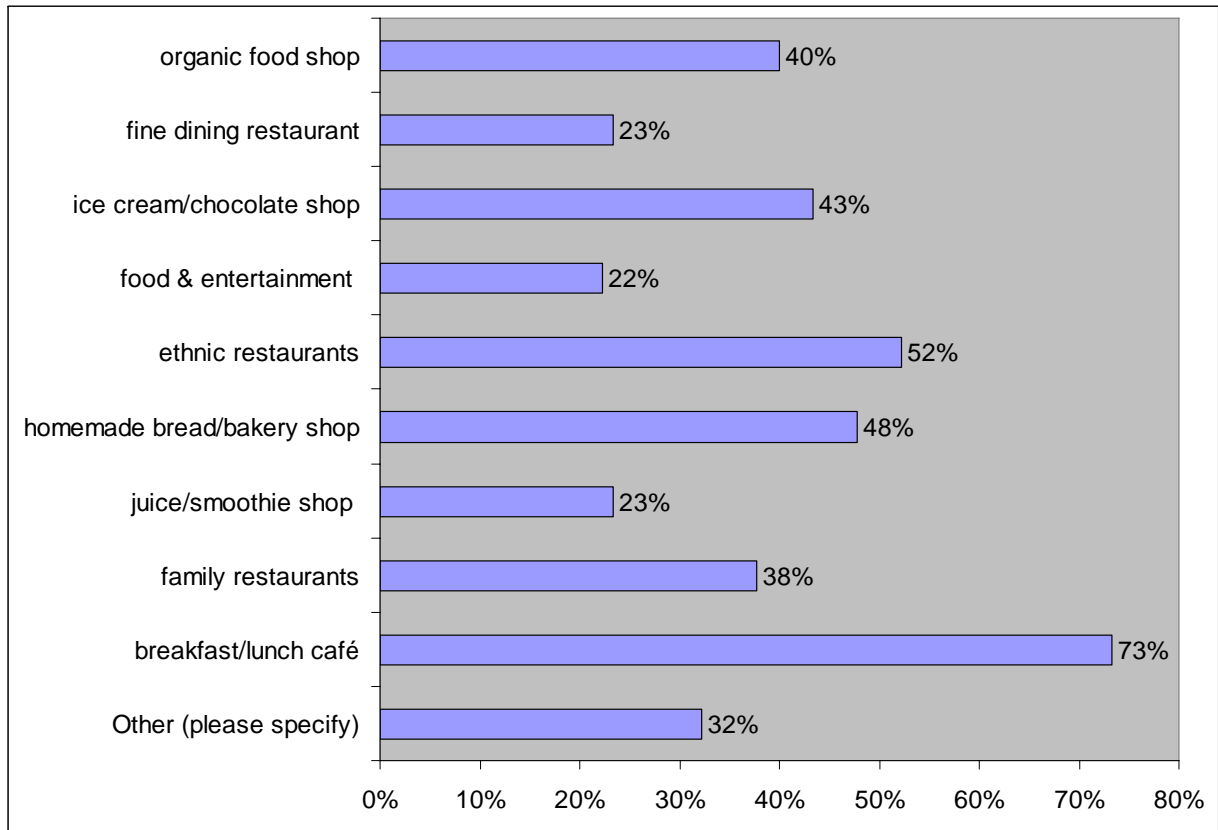
I (mostly) ride my bike into town, so parking is not an issue for me – and Golden has ample bike racks.

None. Other than the big hill back to the house to ride up after having a good time downtown.

Traffic – I work near School of Mines and have to traverse Washington Street on a daily basis. I shudder to think of what traffic will be once the old Hested site is finished. Cross traffic at 12th and 13th street often has to wait thru more than one light cycle to cross Washington St during the summer months. Driving through Golden on a Saturday afternoon when the horse carriages are in town is a huge hassle – if your goal is to get rid of auto traffic, you're close to succeeding!

Roads are not bike friendly! Make it car-free as much as possible. Crossing Washington St at 5 th and Washington is very hazardous; also dangerous at 9 th and Washington and 14 th and Washington. Also, tons of motorbikes in summer gives it a bad atmosphere.
A general lack of public places to sit, rest, relax.
None really
none
Too few bike lanes, uneven or discontinuous sidewalks, no local bus service, too few practical shops
Traffic calming. The traffic calming installed on 19 th has CREATED traffic flow problems that previously didn't exist. The reduction of lanes on the eastern side of the intersection of 10 th & Washington slows traffic unnecessarily. Traffic lights through town should be better coordinated to improve flow.
Too many stoplights.
It was a hassle biking, but Golden has made some great enhancements as far as bike paths and cross walks.
None
J walkers
I would love to be able to walk freely with my small children in their stroller on wide walkways and fewer or no cars after a certain point. I think the parking garages and open space on Washington would be dreamy. Maybe a fountain and more community space for gathering.
Biking isn't easy because of traffic – a bike lane would be handy.
Diversity of services/shops.
When the streets are blocked off so often in summer. I know it's wonderful for the economy to have all these activities but I tend to avoid downtown Golden a lot during the summer.
Motorcycle noise.
19 th st is the only way into downtown, this access point is always congested
It's not really a hassle, but on any busy day it can be tough to find a parking place close to a particular spot I'm going. It's easy enough to find another spot though.

5. Which types of food shops do you feel would work best in the historic downtown?



Other

Q-Doba
smallish grocery store such as Trader Joes
Deli, decks overlooking the Clear Creek Corridor, Something with a unique theme like maybe a place where the servers are dressed in Victorian or Western costumes... or an old mine shaft motif
sandwich shop
home delivery catered meals
Ethnic food shop
wine bar
Thai
Bookstore, craft supply store
Rubios
wine bar with acoustic entertainment
The Egg and I
Again, just bring back Kenrow's.
Greasy spoon restaurant, and a DONUT SHOP!!!!
All, if without traffic
Golden Ram/Kenrow's type
Bookstore, Coffee House
more low to moderately priced restaurants
Book store
Tapas bar; Vegetarian restaurant; Micro-brew (that serves food)
brew pub
music in coffee shops
book stores
Bistro type which has good food, smaller quantities and smaller prices. How about Trader Joes food stores.
Delicatessen
bagel shop
Having a local (and somewhat inexpensive) "Vitamin Cottage" type of shop would be spectacular. Again, restaurants that cater to vegetarians and organic would be wonderful.
Breakfast, bakery, ice cream, food and entertainment
non-chain, open Sundays

6. What type(s) of apparel stores would you like to see in downtown Golden?

Western wear would be handy—I have a daughter in Westernaires.
Casual clothes
Nice boutiques.
Outdoor apparel
Unique, non-chain stores.
I usually buy via catalogs, so this is not a priority for me. My wife would like some upscale womens clothing store.
Womens apparel Shoes – womens – good selection
A shoe store
upscale and specialized with purpose destination shoppers in mind. Tourists can buy their junk at Foss and clothes at WalMart.
Stuff that is unique – chains would be inappropriate. Shoes would be good too.
Outdoor clothing
Something like Penney's! Basics.
None
Western wear.
Running (shoes and clothes) store; baby/children clothes store; lingerie store (Victoria's Secret instead of the one that's there now).
I wouldn't bother. Most of the clothing stores I shop at are the bigger variety-to be found in large malls.
I like the current outdoor wear associated with the Bent Gate and the bicycle store and I like Baby Does. Casual woman's apparel is good. A shoe store would be good.
Unique clothing, even "clothing as art" type of shop, maybe a coop for fabric/jewelry artists
Please, let's not become another upscale Cherry Creek area.
Shoe store, children's clothing store
NO CHAIN STORES
The current women's clothing stores are very nice, but I consider them specialty and on expensive side. I have bought things at Baby Doe's and the one by Foss' I really like the window displays by Foss'. A more general purpose store would be nice where you could buy socks, underwear, basics, for women, men, boys.
Outdoor Clothing Jewelry

I think Golden would experience greater revenue if it worked in a few mainstream shopping retailers, while still keeping the unique specialty shops, to attract both younger local crowd, as well as the older generation tourists. I believe that the two would even feed off of each others business to some degree.
More outdoor clothing. Bent Gate is super, but a bit technical.
Unique boutiques, but not expensive. Affordable clothing would be nice, also ethnic styles.
Actual leather shoe store
kids apparel!!
A good shoe store.
None. We don't tend to shop at boutiques.
One which would appeal to a more moderate income.
Apparel...? This is Golden, right? Well, ya could bring back Steve's Corner. They had both country and western types of Apparel.
I think downtown has a sufficient and varied selection of apparel stores.
A mix of apparel choices is important. This would include both local shops and more widely recognized chains that you might see in a mall
Junk shops like Foss.
Children's, sports.
Western wear. Vintage clothing
Kids
childrens. Adult active.
How about something like Buffalo Exchange for the CSM students. I'd like to see a baby store. I like some of the stuff in downtown Golden but it's generally too expensive for me.
What we have is just right.
More affordable apparel for college students, young professionals.
Motorcycle or hiking/mtn biking.
Eddie Bauer
Women's & Men's clothing
quality apparel
Sports apparel.
Whatever can survive! I try to shop/eat/etc. in Golden to support the local economy. I don't know how loyal other Goldenites are. If the tourist trade is what supports local business, then that's what we need. I would prefer to keep the small town atmosphere over bringing in large retail.

Mens clothing
no opinion
Baby clothing; workout clothing
don't know
NAU (www.nau.com)
Don't care
Affordable ones that offer clothes for the entire family. We loved HJ Foss clothing store and were sad to see it leave. Ptarmigan is just out of place in Golden – way too expensive!
Interesting, funky style
They do well now.
High quality second hand clothing, reasonably priced, quality kids/ adult clothing, shoes. (men's too)
shoes (e.g. Dardanos), moderately priced women's and men's casual and sports clothing
Outdoor, casual.
I am not excited for Golden to become even more of a touristy landmark with shops and such all over the place. That being said, if you are going to put stores in, I would prefer them to be more eclectic like Pearl Street in Boulder. Having some misses shops for the 20-30's crowd would be alright. Active wear shops such as Title nine, etc.
women's and childrens
I am a resident so I hope my name won't be shown. But the clothing stores in Golden are too "old lady" for me and I'm 45!!! They need fun, carefree clothes! The stuff you find on vacation clothes - but not too expensive!! Skirts, t-shirts, shorts
organic/sustainable fabrics for clothes of all kinds. And, locally designed/made clothing
family owned outdoor clothes store
AFFORDABLE!!!!
No opinion
no preference
Gap, boutiques, upscale men's clothing
Like Foss clothing store of a few years back.
More mens clothing would be nice.

7. What type(s) of retail stores would you like to see in downtown Golden?

Book store. Butcher shop, like Wally's Quality Meats.
Variety store; hardware and small appliance store; annex of major book dealer so that there can be fast acquisition of books not on the shelves; craft supplies;
The malls and other shopping centers are not far away...so I think an area like Golden is more ideally suited for boutiques, antiques, and uniques! Sports shops for boating, skiing, climbing. Rock shops. Gift shops of various kinds.
Ski shops
Unique, non-chain stores other than kitschy old west stores. The old west theme is no longer current and makes Golden look like it is living in the 1950's.
I am more concerned about keeping the really good ones like Meyer Hardware, all the nice restaurants, the theatre above Foss Drug etc. I do miss the "old format" Foss Drug. A book store would be nice, but I suppose not feasible.
Card shop additional galleries
Keep the hardware store alive
Retail has to be something special and the reason comes to Golden .. unsure of what but can't let it descend into tourist t-shirt shops like Brek
Keep Meyer's hardware. Bookstore – especially one that specializes in Colorado history.
Fresh food
Landmark-type movie theater. Students could WALK to it! I recommend this strongly!
Antiques, jeweler, etc.
No change necessary.
Book store; bath and body-type store; organic food co-op. I would like to see Golden get rid of the jewelry store (does anyone even shop there...they are NEVER open???)
I'm not a big shopper so I already like what is there.
Someplace where we can buy some basic office supplies without driving to the mall – Foss could carry more of this type of thing, I would think.
BOOK STORE...SIMILAR TO TATTERED COVER OR BOULDER BOOKSTORE. GEM AND MINERAL
shoe store, bookstore, camera shop
Outdoor Specialty Organic Foods or Co-ops Artists A small entertainment/concert venue!
Keep the hardware store, and I imagine that there is decent business for the crafts and nick-knack shops (but not from me). The appliance store, if it is still there, should go – how it can compete with the bigger chains is beyond me.

Bookstore
More artisan shops.
Book store, toy store
pennys macy dillards burlington furniture
kids apparel, books, shoes, small(ish) food stores, household goods.
Books and music (with a focus on western authors and artists)
I'd love to see an old fashioned five and dime!
An anarchist's book store. What is "retail", anyway? Is Wal*Mart retail? If yes, than I'd like to see no retail, please. But, really... this is all about sales tax, right? So any answer other than "retail" doesn't really count. But maybe you should rename this survey "retail survey" instead of "community survey" then.
Book store. Music store (i.e. Golden Music). Radio Shack.
Stores that appeal to tourists. Right now downtown has nothing to offer year round residents and probably never will.
Kid's toys store, german bakery – well, any good bakery, greasy spoon diner or breakfast/donut shop, nice cozy pub, butcher shop. Hot dog stand and other small eateries along the creek, the bridge, etc. I'd also like to see more outdoor I space!!!
Hallmark shop.
None.
Kitchen store.
Bookstore. Baby store. More fast-casual type restaurants like Noodles, Qdoba, etc. Maybe a funky or modern furniture store. Art (not just Western).
What we have is just right.
Running, books, cooking
motorcycle or hiking/mtn biking also maybe snow/skateboard
Art Gallery
We need a bookstore
A non-chain bookstore
My biggest trips are to get coffee (Village Roaster in Lakewood) and to get office supplies (Office Max at Denver West). I am very loyal to VR and would go there regardless because I love their coffee. Office supplies used to be handled by Foss, but apparently they couldn't make a go of it. My favorite liquor store (Golden Eagle Liquors) recently went out of business because of a large increase in local taxes. Maybe Golden should help out its small businesses with some tax relief!

Any type of store that can stay in business.
Convenience store like a 7-11, nice music store. Existing stores (Foss, Meyer's) are fine, but they are often closed when I need to shop there.
Outdoors sporting goods
Replace Bent Gate with REI. Sorry, but Bent Gate employees have bad attitudes, and they are over-priced. Would rather have a local store that tries to stay competitive and are friendly; or we should just get a n REI.
The guys are Peaks Cycle rock. Friendly, priced well, knowledgeable, and just all around the types of shops we need.
Unique stores with items not found everywhere are more likely to draw a crowd.
A 5 and Dime Store – we really miss the old store that was on Washington by the Arch. You could go in and get everyday items there and the kids loved the candy case. We used to shop Foss back in the day before it switched over to furniture and gas pumps! But there really isn't anything they offer that we need other than liquor!
Bookstore
only independent unique stores; NO big chain stores
Things are getting better with the new shops. Trader Joes again.
New used books, photography supplies/ photo processing, quality toy store (check out www.fairhaventoygarden.com (Bellingham WA), new/ used C.D.'s/ music
High quality card shop, art gallery featuring local artists in various media,
Artisan, art galleries
Eco-friendly retail stores which provide items from renewable resources and such.
Book store
Like I said above they need better clothes. More gift shop stuff, fun decorating, shabby chic, fun jewelry, cute shoes. Trendy stuff. I do like Foss but that's one market and we need more. Antique stores. The new store Picket Fence is cute.
Sustainable living products (think gaiam.com) or cruise the Pearl St. mall in Boulder
more gift shops that feature local artists and farmers. Gifts that represent colorado
A 5 and dime – I work with senior folks all over the metro area, and so many of them remember visiting that store.
Need to keep meyers; need a general goods store, like Foss used to be(maybe a small convenience store), also stuff attractive to tourists.
Some office supplies

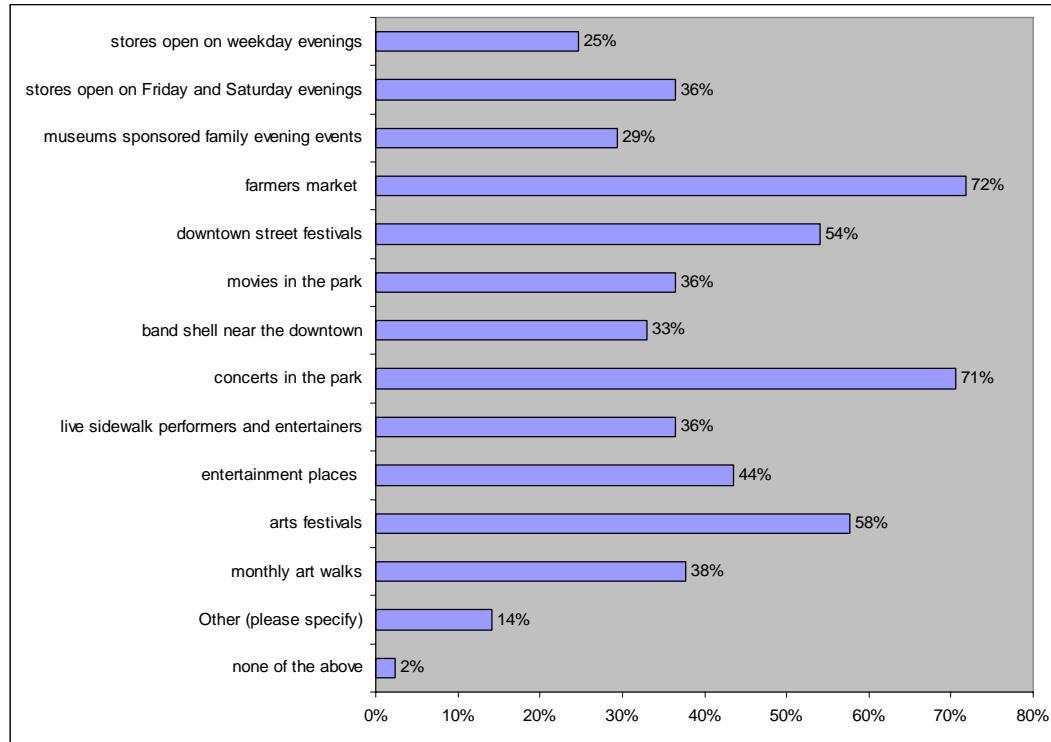
bookstore
Keep Meyers!!!

8. What type(s) of personal services stores would you like to see in downtown Golden?

A spa. A dressmaker.
The feed store is great for those of us with pets and other livestock. The hardware store is invaluable. Barber and Beauty shops. A twenty four hour drop-in Medical Clinic would be incredible.
Shoe repair
No suggestions.
Keep the Post Office
traditional still required – barber, laundry/cleaners, dentist, yoga, etc much as now.
Jewelry shop. Shoe repair.
None
No change necessary.
Massage and other body work services
SPA....WHAT HAPPENED I BEAUTY BAR?????
Massage Therapy Taylors Outfitters
I don't know if a bakery counts, but Golden needs one! Maybe a spa to some degree would bring in business.
Salons
I think we have enough barbers and hair salons.
I think we have enough.
Someplace where I can paint some pottery?
There are none for Golden residents. Downtown is just for the business owners to make money off the tourists.
Nice community bike shop. I know that's more retail, but I think more of the service side.
Mail, fax, copy center.
It's got a good balance right now.
Spa.
I don't think that services should be in the downtown storefronts.
We have an assortment now.
Day spa

how about a decent florist? The "florist"/antique shop doesn't have much to offer.
Day Spa, Shoe repair, Dentist,
Can't think of anything
See above. There are lots of shops we would like to see, but with high taxes and competition close by I don't see how small businesses survive in Golden. Only stores with a large local or tourist trade can survive. In this day and age, competing with WalMart and the other "bargain" stores is nearly impossible. My admiration for the stores in Golden which manage to stay in business. Golden needs to find out who is actually shopping in Golden (CSM students, residents, tourists, etc.) and then target those types of stores.
What we currently have, seems to be adequate.
Barber, dry cleaner.
High end spa/massage;
day spa
None
not sure
affordable barber, hair stylist, massage, yoga (other than Bikrams)
day spa
Can't think of any
classy Aveda salon
Barber shops.

9. Which of the following events/features would lead you to downtown Golden if there were more of these?



Other

a movie theater
Are you kidding? These are all great attractions...and don't forget that having a selection of good eating places would draw people to be downtown. Also places to "hang out" like coffee shops, parks
Historical walks
Stores open on Sunday
"Haunted Golden" walking tours?

Nice, open-air cafes to relax in
All, if without traffic
Outdoor cafes, Art Gallery
Family events
more food choices
restaurants open until 10 pm
parks, gardens, areas of seating

10. Comments

art walks should include stops in galleries
As I was saying when I ran out of room above....places to hang out downtown in the evenings like coffee shops, downtown parks on the main street, arcades, and places that are dog and children friendly....it would be nice to walk your dog downtown and window shop....but it would require a few grassy areas for the dogs to "rest" in.
I know there is a farmers market, but it needs more actual local farmers produce
The key to making the downtown area more profitable is to go with a Boulder Mall/Fort Collins Old Towne approach, and that means events that cater to younger audiences with more disposable income, not to the motorcycle types that hang around at the Buffalo Rose and occasionally indulge in ear-splitting displays of how high they can throttle their bikes.
Just leave Golden alone and get rid of GURA—they have cause so much damage over the years.
Nighttime makes other Denver local neighborhoods sizzle, Unless I Buffalo Rose/Woodys downtown golden went to bed at 7pm.
I love Golden!!!
Movies: have some that are not just for kids
What we have currently is a nice mix, I like the car shows in the summer.
Golden is a great place to live. Great location and innovative city staff and council.
Thanks you for this opportunity!
Since you asked, the farmers market is a really nice amenity but could focus more on the "farmers" part of it, with more organic and local produce stands and less stuff that has nothing to do with farms.
I wouldn't mind seeing the street blocked off and planted with trees, flowers, xeriscaped areas....picnic areas.
Again, the Farmers market could be HUGE... no other front range city that I know of has a good Farmer's Markey... Boulder doesn't hold a candle to those in the ctuall... I really want a place to go out and hear music in the evening... something unique that Denver/Boulder does not offer- bluegrass? Folk? World?

<p>We come downtown a lot. We would enjoy more music events that catered to a slightly older (but not old) demo – like 35-60. We would enjoy farmers market more if there were organic produce. Farmers market would be better if it were downtown – maybe block off 12th or 13th on either side of Washington.</p>
<p>Please – no sidewalk performers.</p>
<p>I'd like to see the Farmers Market stay open a little longer.</p>
<p>Entertainment & Events: A classic, old-time Drive-In movie theater would be awesome. Or, like, any kind of (not porn) movie theater on main street. Give it a new-old I, like the Mayan. Have small (not Sundance-style) film festivals. Or you could have your very own "Corrido de Toros".</p>
<p>Something for residents as well as tourists.</p>
<p>The farmer's market is absolutely fantastic! I would love to see it expanded, with a couple of extra food vendors and perhaps a couple of kids activities. But even as is, it's wonderful, and gets us downtown every weekend when it's open. It also cuts down on trips to the store as we can get a lot of produce there. We enjoy the many parades through town, but there never seems to be much to do before and after the parades. The current mix downtown doesn't encourage us to stick around, unfortunately. There's never a hotdog or gyro stand around, or even a smoothie and drink stand. It's too bad. And unless Washington St is shut down, it's too hard to get around with kids.</p>
<p>Without an alternative plan to inviting cars, none of these suggestions appeal.</p>
<p>Please don't bring in a Mercury I or Dazzle type place. I live in Golden to get away from that. I don't want a Good. It's a family town. If you want to bring in more visitors or whatever, sponsor more sporting events for children. Use the Lion's Park, Ulysses, etc. more for tournaments and have specials at the downtown businesses that cater to them. Or have more kayaking/water events. Use the resources that we already have and build on them.</p>
<p>I'd rather see retailers open later and stay open later than be open early and close at 5 p.m. I'd love to shop in Golden more but all the retailers close too early.</p>
<p>Please no live sidewalk performers! How about some non-family activities, like museum sponsored adult evening events. I don't know if it is already offered, but how about some adult sports leagues (softball, soccer, lacrosse)</p>
<p>An independent movie house.</p>
<p>Don't be discouraged...we don't attend any of these types of activities. We live in Golden for the small town atmosphere and proximity to Denver (we go 2 to 4 times a month for dinner) and to the mountains where we go every weekend (usually both days) to hike or ski. We also eat in Golden about once a week. Basically, we don't attend "gatherings" except we usually go to the fireworks in Lions Park. We also like the bike paths.</p>
<p>More good live music would be great</p>

<p>Family events similar to those sponsored by the Children's museum...for example, watercoloring expo, etc. Also, a trick or treat street in the fall would be fun...as would hay rides.</p>
<p>Again – Golden does a good job on the Harley / Hot-rod crowd. More events focusing on the arts would be great.</p>
<p>More open patios for eating/drinking</p>
<p>When planning downtown events, I don't think that event organizers think a whole lot about the effect on the neighborhoods that are close to downtown. The 12th St historic district is really impacted by the art festival on 11th street – you can't leave and return to find parking near you house.</p>
<p>I really like the idea of a downtown garden!</p>
<p>No more big hotels. No more high rise office/residences. Don't make it look like "anywhere-ville" by putting in stores like Starbucks. DON'T continue to develop just to develop. Be selective in giving incentives only to stores, shops, services that keep the unique character of Golden. Keep with 1 percent growth—don't change allowances that were given for senior housing to regular housing. DON'T cave to developers who don't care about the character of Golden. We have something precious and unique which will attract people IF we preserve it.</p> <p>WE WOULD LOVE IT IF OUR OLDER NEIGHBORHOOD WERE CONNECTED TO GOLDEN WITH AN OVERPASS. IF IT WERE CONDUCIVE TO CROSS THE BIG INTERSECTION AT 19TH AND 6TH WE WOULD ALL RIDE OUR BIKES FROM HOME, THROUGH DOWNTOWN TO CLEAR CREEK, THE LIBRARY, ETC.</p>
<p>This survey is the beginning of going in the right direction</p>
<p>When thinking of increasing the number of events downtown or along the Clear Creek corridor, it's important to consider the impact on surrounding residential neighborhoods. Those of us choosing to live close to town or the Clear Creek corridor recognize that many festivals already occur and that's part of the "package" we bought into when buying a home close by. HOWEVER, an increased number of events puts an undue burden on residents as local streets become parking lots, make our own access difficult, if not problematic. So, some is good, more could be troublesome – at least in and around the Clear Creek corridor and CSM.</p>
<p>We usually travel to mountain towns on the weekend, so a Thursday night would be best</p>
<p>How about Golden Historic walks. There is a lot of history in Golden and great stories! I love the Train Man in the summer and the cars on Saturday nights. Oh and the horse carriage, cowboy not fancy.</p>

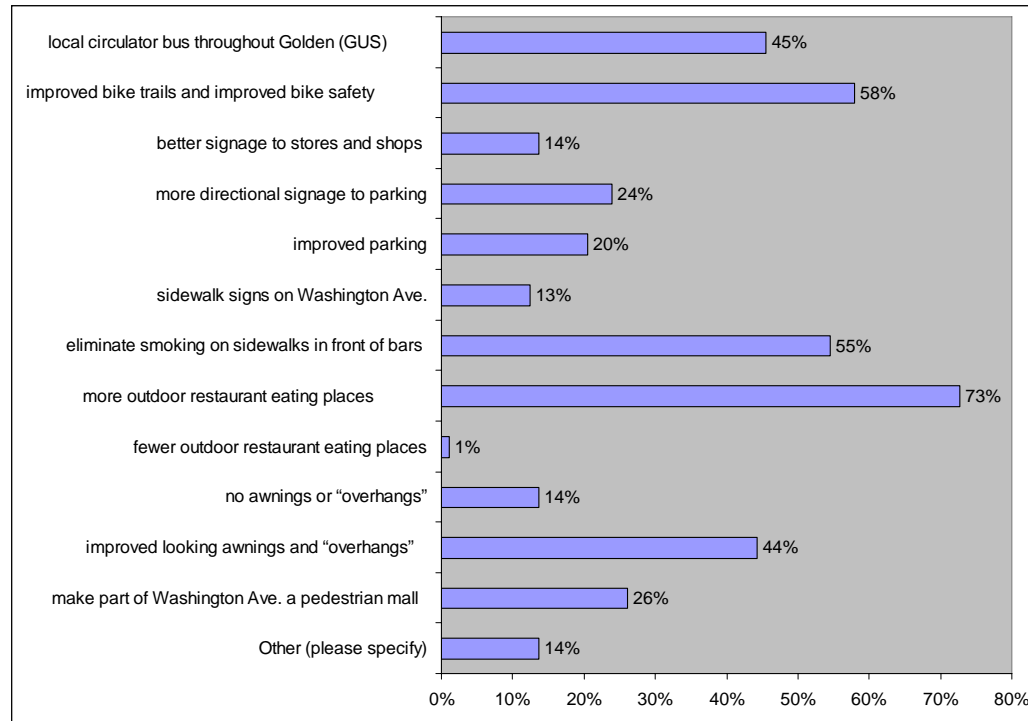
We think Buffalo Bill Days brings in a different crowd than we envision for Golden. Imagine "Days of Golden Sun" which celebrates our perfect sunny climate and all our potential for sustainability! We are the home of the NREL, after all, and Mines is moving strongly in this direction. Capitalizing on these incredible resources would support our progressive and culturally enriched community!

The buskers on Pearl St are a big draw – I watched a guy perform at 10pm a couple weeks ago, and he drew a large crowd. What if the shops stayed open til 9pm on the weekends during the summer to see if it works?

It would really be great if the Farmer's Market didn't use the library parking lot. I know people are supposed to park on the street but they don't, they even doublepark in the library lot.

Golden needs more events like buffalo bill days

11. Which of the following facilities do you think would be an improvement to Downtown Golden?



Other

More/improved walking trails
None of the above
Improved pedestrian safety to Safeway
A streetcar to link up to the Gold Line (whenever that's accomplished).
Noise ordinance for loud motorcycles
better retail hours
minimize the signage on Washington

Wider sidewalks, a fountain
more outdoor public seating areas
consistency is key
Well marked crosswalks.

12. Comments?

<p>At this time, the parking in Golden is pretty good. I like the awnings not only for the appearance, but they are practical protection from inclement weather as well as sun. Signs help people from out of town find places and things to do....but they also can be points of interest if they are informative or tell a story, like the historic signs on the Washington Avenue bridge...or why there is a bridge named after Billy Drew....or that the "M" on the mountain side is the largest illuminated letter in the world...or that the flowers in a given planter are of a given variety..or that at Christmas time we have 20 zillion lights in our trees. Reading signs like that is entertainment.</p>
<p>Just leave Golden alone. GURA is doing this to justify its existence. It was never needed and would have been abolished were it not for Jan Schenck changing his mind at the last minute during a City Council meeting.</p>
<p>Harley noise abatement through ticketing violators.</p>
<p>Personally, I don't find parking to be a problem. However, a lot of people feel they need to park right next to the store (and we wonder why American's are so large). So, it would probably be good to have some sort of underground parking (like Boulder, etc.). I would like to see the parking area behind Foss Drug be underground, and the current parking area be turned into more stores/restaurants.</p>
<p>Eliminate smoking in front of bars....Thanks you!</p>
<p>The smoking has got to go...the Ace High patio is completely gross and is a turnoff to locals and tourists who don't frequent the place. Please make the town more bike-friendly!</p>
<p>Keep the unique old time feel though. Keep building heights at a minimum so you don't feel closed in and claustrophobic.</p>
<p>Maybe circulator bus to Jeffco govt. center, neighborhoods, shopping center north of town, historic sites, art sites, Buffalo Bill's Grave, Mines, Old Golden Rd. groc. Stores</p>

Can we make Washington a historic district to tie together the look of businesses downtown?... like Fort Collins?

Please don't close off part of Washington Avenue – it's hard enough to drive through downtown as it is. A lot of cars have stopped me on my evening walks looking for directions because the signs for parking, pointing to downtown, and for the RV park are not well lit at night. The need to improve downtown is not driven by a lack of shops, more lack of demand for some of the things that are there. (e.g. croissant place. We miss the wine bar) A large number of the shops seem to be tourist-oriented and/or expensive boutiques, so they don't tend to be as large a draw for locals as the restaurants. Most of the rest of our shopping is done at places like Lowe's, Best Buy, and Target – all things that aren't really appropriate for downtown Golden. The restaurants are a big draw because they are reasonably priced, good quality, and much easier to get into than those in Lakewood and Arvada.

I find the different styles of signage disconcerting. I think that especially main street, meaning Washington, should have signs that are alike or at least compatible. Some of the present ones really clash. Makes for a feeling of competitiveness instead of togetherness.

Yep. A streetcar to link up to the end of the "Gold Line" FastTracks initiative. That will make downtown Golden more accessible. Yeah, there's buses, but a streetcar would be neater. Or a monorail. All the rest of those suggestions are pretty underwhelming.

We can't eliminate smoking in front of any business but the business fronts must remain clean from butts and trash!!

Bring the train back.

What are "sidewalk signs"?

I'm not necessarily advocating getting rid of all traffic on Washington (although I'd be happy if you did). But with something like 5 possible lanes going through downtown, it's very sad that two are used for a few parking spaces, one is a turn lane, and two are for driving. It would be fantastic to use some of that real estate for so many positive purposes: bicycle lane along Washington, and an accompanying walkway that's not blocked like today's narrow, object-strewn sidewalks. More purposes would include outdoor vendors, significantly expanded room for outdoor cafes, and room to add kids' play areas or a small strip park or gathering places for groups to hang out.

Please don't use GUS as a circulator reference, it failed. We can do better.

Trying not to be negative but it's Golden's differences from other metro area cities that give it its distinctiveness and charm. Not all the buildings look alike and they shouldn't. They stand out of their own accord and don't blend into one long block of blah. I don't want to see more signage. People will discover other places while blindly walking around and they'll go into those other places, too, if even just to ask directions.

Again, it's all about retail hours. Also types of retail.

It could be nice to make Washington Avenue a pedestrian mall, but I'm not sure where you would direct the traffic. There is already a lot of traffic on Ford Street.

Ace's high bar stinks from a block away! They need better ventilation or no smoking. Also the less is more approach to signage would be good. Washington ave is so crowded with signs, you can't see where you are going, or if cars are coming...Also the parking lots behind Foss drug and by Meyer hardware could use a big facelift which would make that area one block off of Washington a nice area for a potential pedestrian area.

The display signs in front of Foss need some help.

Prefer the Pearl St. Denver approach to mixed Ped-mall w/ public shuttle, along with benches, tables, trees, etc.

Please do not make any part of Washington St a pedestrian mall. Alternatives to get around downtown Golden just are not sufficient to handle the traffic!

An express RTD bus from Golden to Denver. Make buildings conform with historic style when being constructed or reconstructed.

Please do something about Harley Davidson noise. It is extremely annoying and detracts from the charm of downtown Golden.

DO NOT MAKE PART OF WASHINGTON A PEDESTRIAL MALL. Traffic is difficult enough through town as it is!!!!!!

ROOF TOP NON-SMOKING SEATING

Remove the out-dated sign. Let the streetscape and the retail offerings speak for themselves. It's a major turn off.

I don't mind the smoking. A lot of people that smoke go to the Buffalo Rose and that's a great bar and fun on weekends. The Ace High that's another story.....maybe some flower baskets out front to change the look a little.

A GUS bus is a great idea! The less traffic downtown the better for everyone and the environment.

Flashing lights at the crosswalks might encourage cars to actually give the right of way to pedestrians.
Time/money put towards preserving the historic buildings, the new buildings should not be the focus of downtown

13. When thinking about Clear Creek, what makes this an important feature for you and for Golden?

Openness and green belt quality along the creek	82.76%
trails for walking and biking along the Clear Creek	96.55%
a water feature in the town to visit and take visitors to see	70.11%
a place to sit and enjoy quiet moments	73.56%
nearness to active city parks	56.32%
business attraction to downtown	36.78%
fishing	16.09%
kayaking	33.33%
Other (please specify)	10.34%

Other

I don't know about those
restaurants
Washington Ave. Bridge
Panning for gold!
Kids water playland/learning arena
tubing
tubing/rafting
nature study

14. Comments?

Great waterways have made great towns over the entire course of history and throughout the world...to be blessed with a waterway in your town and not take advantage of it as the town focus would be amazingly short sighted.
What a super place. Just extend the walking paths along Clear Creek. It is a gem!
The creek offers a unique attraction that makes us different than other area cities – PLAY IT UP!
This is the best part of downtown, CC can be all these things as long as designed, implemented and marketed properly
It's fun to watch the kayakers, and it's refreshing to walk past the 6 th Ave bridge and be in the woods. Concern: bikers pass without warning; people take their dogs off the leash west of 6 th Ave bridge. DO SOMETHING ABOUT THE GEESE! REVOLTING!
Keep commercial activity away from this park
The clear creek improvements with kayak park are well done.
I personally wouldn't mind if there were a few outdoor eating establishments right at the water's edge (preferably south of Washington), but I do not want to see the creek turned into a commercial or private space. If the path were commercialized, we'd definitely move out of town because that's one of the main reasons we're staying here in the first place right now!
It's a community gathering area....all along the creek. It's wonderful.
Go big with the kayaking... I best on the Front Range
The History park should be open all the time
Ready access to near-by facilities and attractions such as the Pioneer Museum and Visitors Center.
More places for families.
Love what you've done with the water front!!
Clear Creek can be so many great things to the residents of Golden. It's on the right path, but much more can be done. Where's the bike rental place for tourists? Where's the hot dog and drink stands? Where's the creek side I that isn't an expensive dinner place? Where's the ability to go FROM the Creek and to Downtown on a bike or safely with children?
The creek also helps clean and ionize our air which is good for our walking health and lifts spirits. However, those effects are negated the more we foul the air with vehicle fumes.
Somehow need to come up with more parking by the ball fields and park.
Clear Creek is my favorite area of Golden.
Clear Creek being nearby is one of the most enticing reasons to come to Golden to shop, even if I don't go there while I'm in town – it makes downtown feel alive with activity.

A good job on Clear Creek except the new condos. Too bad the condos and the Golden Hotel didn't integrate the creek into their facilities.
We walk along the creek everyday. The cleanliness and wide avenues are important to us.
The upgrades to Clear Creek are great. Definite in-line with how I vision the City should continue to improve.
the creek path by the RV parking gets a bit crowded though. It is really too narrow for the multi-use that it tries to support.
Hope that development is not coming to the creek area between Washington St and the campground. This is such a nice place to walk and sit as it is currently configured!
Clear Creek is really important to Golden's quality of life. Great job on the sculpture! Landscape with native plants; remove weeds. It's worth it to invest in this greenway. Also, invest in Tucker Gulch – remove weeds, and consider restoring greenway characteristics in downtown (e.g., remove concrete channel and replace with naturally functioning riparian system).
Extending the trails further up the canyon would be fantastic.
Please do not "urbanize" this gem. Boulder Creek is a good example. Minimize cement and increased commercial buildings.
Clear creek is a very important reason I live in golden, it is one of my favorite part of golden

15. Below are some recommendations that have been made for Clear Creek. Which ones are important to you?

Extend the dirt trails father up the Clear Creek	75.58%
build connecting trails on Colorado School of Mines side of Creek	67.44%
complete the north side trail between Washington and Jackson (Parfet to Vanover Parks)	56.98%
separate paths for walkers and kayakers	12.79%
better trail connections with adjacent neighborhoods	50.00%
Other (please specify)	11.63%

Other

mileage markers
attractive landscaping all the way along the creek. Diverse resting areas and recreation along the creek
Leave Clear Creek alone
I like the white xmas lights on the trailside trees, even in the summer.
More patio restaurants
I like it how it is.
Wider trail for multi use a congestive areas
Create a soft running path adjacent to concrete.
Second bridge near highway 6

16. Comments?

I think we'd get more pedestrian traffic if the mileage were marked along the creek-side paths, so people would know they were covering a specific distance (like counting laps around a track).
There may be possible places along the creek for casual dining. There should be some nice places to stop and enjoy the ambience, like seating areas, gardens, and decks to better view the stream....Landscaping to keep it a more beautiful and green area would be great...In winter, the lights of Christmas are magical and maybe they should be there for summer evening too....maybe colored in one season and white in another. Keeping changes like that going makes for an interesting area and those changes would draw people to the creek corridor to view the changes just like people travel out to see the changes of seasons.
Hey, who took all my good ideas?
Leave Clear Creek alone.
Do something wonderful with old CSMRI as well as make final connect to Hiway6 bike path. CC must be accessible from all directions, hub of the community and inviting to all (except 16LTD bums). Ped and bike connectiveness via CC and neighborhood paths makes Golden feel open and inviting while at the same time protecting from the heavy feeling of a large metro area.
Need to do something about off-leash dogs west of 6 th Ave bridge. More signs? More patrols?
When extending the dirt trail farther up Clear Creek, it would be good to cross the creek and come back down the other side of the river.
Separate paths for walkers and Kayakers?? That's part of the character of the area, being right there among the kayakers!

Making it possible to walk further west would be very nice!
It would be GREAT to connect the Clear Creek trail with other Jeffco open space areas up the canyon... its could make an interesting attraction for hikers.
It would be great for all concerned if a parking lot for the kayakers could be opened up on the south side of the creek. I think the kayakers would appreciate it, and it would make it easier for the walkers, bikers, dog walkers, baby strollers, etc.
We think it's pretty good as it is. Really like the Christmas lights along the creek!
I love it!
Well, you could tear down whatever that brick colossus is looming over the Creek downtown. What is that, a hotel or a hospital or something?
Again, I want to see Clear Creek better connect with downtown for people on foot and bicycling. Also, with so much traffic across the new bridge, it's difficult to create a great area in the triangle including the bridge, Parfet Park, and the Visitor's Center area leading down to the Creek.
Don't close off the trails if they flood a little. What's a little ankle deep water hurt?
Something needs to be done about the walkers and kayakers but I don't have a solution for that.
I live Clear Creek how it is. Maybe more of the city's entertainment at the creekside amphitheater.
Love the trails, keep up the great work!
See previous...need to connect 6 th and 19 th bike trail to Clear Creek which would help eliminate bike traffic down 19 th St. Having a trail on both sides of the creek (i.e. north side between Wash. And Jackson) isn't necessary. Anyway, there are buildings in the way.
All of these are great ideas!
Anything to increase continuity of trails
Better, larger??, signage about Golden's dog leash law. Also, more locales for dog poop bags. Still way too much doggie debris around.
Develop south side of creek, where the current mines reclamation project exists.
The trail on built on the school of mines side of creek could become the kayakers trail
OK, it is hard to walk your boat and dodge people. It's also sometimes hard to walk and dodge people carrying boats. We also don't have a lot of space along the trail by Lions Park to make it much bigger.

17. Affordable/Essential Housing is limited in Golden. Which of the following are the best places for affordable housing?

Throughout the city	63.16%
in outlying areas of the city	27.63%
along Clear Creek	7.89%
in Goosetown (north & west of Coors office Building)	25.00%
in the downtown	10.53%
Other (please specify)	5.26%

Other

Let the free market take care of itself
Not needed
south Golden

18. Comments?

The public schools have fairly high numbers on the free & reduced lunch program, so I question the assumption that we lack affordable housing.
Scattered on the streets along Clear Creek, north of CO 58, and elsewhere scattered throughout Golden this would avoid creating ghettos
If a few nice areas around the city could be set aside for that type of development they could be built and maintained as nice living areas and probably get good grants from HUD and other places to build and maintain. BUT do not allow any residential on or in the Clear Creek greenway...be it affordable or palatial...Use the creek and its environment for everyone's benefit.
Affordable housing works best when it is dispersed throughout an area, rather than "ghetto-ized" into areas no one wants to develop (probably because they are not attractive areas for development or housing).
I suppose supply and demand will always force prices upward. I would hate to see a segregated "economic ghetto".
Please redevelop Old Golden Road area! Affordable housing in this area may be considered as part of the overall redevelopment plan.
Let the free market take care of things.
This survey is too long...please use answers I've taken time to give. Thank you.

<p>We need to intermingle affordable housing throughout the city and not let the town turn into a bastion for the elite. People who work in town should be able to live there if they want to.</p>
<p>I have yet to find affordable housing in Golden.</p>
<p>We are in Fossil Trace Ct. Love being close to town, walk everywhere. No interest in living up north along 93. Big demand for townhomes like ours. Cars drive up our court all day and turn around at end. Lots of interest</p>
<p>My husband and I are both teachers in our late 20's and have master's degrees. As things stand right now, we can't buy a house in Golden on our current salaries. We love this place, it's our home- but we can't foot the bill of the housing market and we don't want to live in a crackerbox small condo or crappy HUD housing. A nice little cute golden rec center neighborhood will do- but we can't do 400,000! We are highly considering moving out of the area (and the front range) because of this...Honestly if a town can't have housing for public servants in the community there is something WRONG (Californians? Texans?)</p>
<p>Show me the evidence/proof that affordable housing is limited in Golden. I'm easily convinced that housing of all price levels are in short supply in Golden, but I'm not convinced that this is a particular problem with housing at the bottom end of the price spectrum. I also think that this issue needs to be evaluated on a regional basis—Golden surrounds Pleasant View on three sides yet I'd assume that affordable housing isn't a problem there.</p>
<p>We think you avoid having slums by integrating affordable housing in all areas. One of the problems Golden has is its just too expensive for people who work here in shops, services, city offices, Safeway, etc. to live here. We think the condos are a good part of smart growth downtown, but there needs to be a mixed price range.</p>
<p>Golden is growing and ever-spreading. I would like to see some of our poorest areas improved, updated, cleaned-up and beautified.</p>
<p>I lived in Golden until I got priced out of the market. I'd love to live there again. I'm glad that you included this question. My answer for "where are the best places to put affordable housing" would be ANYWHERE EXCEPT ON TOP OF EITHER NORTH OR SOUTH TABLE MOUNTAIN. Please!</p>
<p>Raising the total population in the near downtown is essential to support vitality of the area.</p>
<p>With good mass transit or bike trails for these people. The young families and young people have difficulty affording Golden and they are our future. My kids can not afford to live near me.</p>
<p>I think of creating greater density housing, as well as putting housing where people can live without needing multiple cars. The current projects downtown should be the gold standard for any new developments in Golden. Close to everything!</p>
<p>Affordable housing should be mixed into ALL new developments. I think Lowry and Stapleton did this.</p>

Integrating low cost housing throughout Golden is best. Lumping these together never works for obvious reasons.
With appropriate transportation availability, maybe a golden circular bus that incorporates south golden that would be a great place for affordable housing if it is necessary...
We don't need housing "projects" which concentrate low income families. They should be mixed into existing neighborhoods as much as possible. Goosetown is quite a ways from Safeway if you don't have a car and there is no transportation per se. Actually, Golden has a good mix of housing. There are plenty of small 1950's "bungalows" south of 19 th by the golf course and in north Golden. If city housing is an option, it should be a mix of small units and small apts scattered around town.
Visit Solar Village LLC (http://www.solarvillagelife.com/). Similar to what was done at Harmony Village, Solar Village builds Residential / Commercial mini-communities on small lots -- all in a sustainable fashion. It's a great way to tie in housing and the new sustainable direction Golden is heading.
It should be spread out, but done well so as to be pleasing to the eye
Don't build more along clear creek!
Once affordable housing permits or senior housing permits are issued, THEY SHOULD NOT BE RECINDED, because a developer or existing owner is having trouble selling. Affordable/senior housing should remain as designated.
Those new condos on the creek are priced crazy! And they have taken way to long to build.
The new condos across from Foss I would have rather had shops. They tore up that parking lot and took out all those tress. And their prices are crazy too! And now you can't get in and out of Starbucks!
Instead of allowing builders to construct homes in the mid 600's, have an incentive subsidized by the city for them to build homes in the low 200's
Is there affordable housing in Golden?
People who live in affordable housing need easy access to public transportation.
The city should support affordable housing by giving builders the same incentives as builders wanting to build luxury homes
Golden is expensive compared to neighboring cities. It would be nice to make it attractive to everyone. It's tough to do close to downtown where everything is built up already.

19. Please indicate your degree of agreement to the following statements relating to Downtown Golden:							
answer options	Low Agreement				High Agreement	Rating Average	Response Count
Downtown Golden should not become a museum.	9	10	17	14	34	3.64	84
Independent shops and stores are important.	1	1	12	20	50	4.39	84
National chains with name recognition should be welcomed	25	18	23	12	8	2.53	86
Expensive boutique shops should be sought out.	26	24	22	8	6	2.35	86
Lower priced shops should be sought out.	16	12	30	21	7	2.9	86
Shopping emphasis should be on visitors.	11	14	37	14	8	2.93	84
Shopping emphasis should be on residents.	4	5	32	28	17	3.57	86
More restaurants should be sought out.	4	6	15	26	32	3.92	83
Buildings should not restrict view of the Mesas.	5	3	8	20	49	4.24	85
More shops and amenities for high school and college ages.	10	6	29	22	17	3.36	84

20. Do you live in Golden?

Yes	94.19%
No	5.81%

21. Length of time living in Golden?

Under 1 year	5.95%
2 – 5 years	35.71%
6 – 10 years	16.67%
More than 10 years	41.67%

Survey #2: Open House Community Survey

This survey was distributed at the Downtown Character Plan open houses in February. Many respondents completed the survey while at the open house. Others mailed in or dropped off the surveys in the weeks following the open house. The survey asks questions about the streetscape, the signage, and the retail services in Downtown Golden.

STREETSCAPE QUESTIONS

A1. Do you like the sandstone and brick planters on Washington Ave.?	Yes	No
	30	0

Reasons for liking planters:

	Yes
Materials Used to Construct Them?	22
Planters / landscaping?	22
Seating?	22
Trash receptacles?	23

If you don't like the planters, for what reason?

	Yes
They are obstacles when I walk down the sidewalks	0
They block my view when I am turning my car	0
They are not functional enough – I'd like an actual bench installed	1
They block cars from crashing into people. I've seen a lot of cars hit them over the years	

Other reasons for liking or not liking planters?

Fresh flowers
Great idea, a little more tasteful and unique
They're pretty
They add a warmth to the downtown area.
They add character.

Trash receptacles need to be emptied more often
Aesthetics
Greening of downtown
Trees should be trimmed – out of control!
Keeps area tidy and simple.
The flowers are pretty and they add an upscale feel.
Living materials add seasonal color, shade, etc. Use native plants if possible.
The blooming flowers – although the selection could be better, as could the placement of flowers in the planter

A2. Is there enough room to walk down the sidewalks comfortably?	Yes	No
	20	11

Additional Comments:
most places
needs to be straighter line
People smoking outside restaurants now!
Lose the posts – awnings without poles
Except at Ace Hi. They need to move posts back
Ace Tavern
Except near the Ace High.

If you don't feel that there is enough room to walk on the sidewalks comfortably, for what reason?	
	Yes
Too much clutter from planters and trees	0
There is too much clutter from covered walkway posts	12
There is too much clutter from sidewalk signs / sandwich boards	4

Sidewalks are too narrow	3
Outdoor restaurant eating areas	6
Additional Comments:	
Too many posts	
With the removal of the posts, sandwich boards and eating areas should be less problematic.	
All of these things create some of downtown's character, but use in moderation.	
The Ace High's outdoor seating is awful and a clear example of what we don't want in Golden. Keep the bar off the street! And the smoke! All the other outside eating is very nice.	

A3. Shoud the "streetscape" found on Washington Ave. be extended to other areas of Golden to stimulate economic development?	Yes	No
	27	2

If so, which areas?		
Washington Ave, north across Hwy 58 and up to Hwy 93	10	
Washington Ave, south to 19 th Street	17	
On 13 th Street, east from Washington Ave. to the Coors plant (Ford St.)	17	
On Miner's and Prospector's Alleys	13	
Other suggested extensions?		
On 12 th East to Ford		
Along Ford from 12 th to 14 th		
Along Jackson from 14 th to 19 th		
Bandshell in Parfet Park		
South Golden Road		
I would like to see some movement south on Washington. I know it would be costly, but again the concrete walks need to be redesigned.		

Consider alley improvements careful and make sure merchants actually want them done.		
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A4. Do you feel that the street trees make it more difficult to notice or find businesses and signs downtown?	Yes	No
	2	13
If yes, which businesses?		
Bent Gate		
All the 1111 Washington Ave. signs (Quilt Museum)		
Baby Does		
Chelsea's of London		

A5. Do the covered walkways obscure / shade storefront merchandise in the windows?	Yes	No
	7	20
Other thoughts?		
Is it possible to make Washington Ave. only for pedestrians like Pearl Street in Boulder?		
We need plant life downtown. The best solution in my mind is to turn downtown Washington into a pedestrian mall from 11 th to 14 th and place plant life in the center		
Covered walkways need to be updated – historic flavor, but updated and consistent		
They make walking / shopping more comfortable		
Keep trees, we need all the shade we can get.		
I like the unique characteristics of more organic growth.		
Not obscured from pedestrians. People don't shop from cars.		
Make Washington Ave. even more pedestrian friendly.		
They protect from sun, rain, or snow. I like the coverings and like them to be different.		
Happy they are taking down the awning at the old Meyer's Hardware.		
I like covered walkways if all alike.		

If walking, it works ok!		
Trees will work as long as the size is maintained.		
Shoppers will be out of their cars, walking near the buildings, thereby seeing into the stores – if they are well lighted and clean.		
Removal of the poorly maintained awnings will give downtown a better appearance. Awning of some sort would be good as long as they		
maintained and they need not extend so far from the building. The store name could be on the awning facing the avenue.		
Downtown Golden is a destination shopping experience – not a spur of a moment stop. Signage is not a big problem.		
For example, Brekenridge & Steamboat – nice, successful, and not over-signed.		
But they provide shade in the summer and shelter in the winter!		
The shade around by the awnings and tress encourage walkers who more often		
become buyers than do drivers.		

A6. Regarding the covered walkways, what option would you prefer?	Yes
Leave the covered walkways just as they are	8
I would like to see all covered walkways redesigned	8
I would like to see all covered walkways remain but with no vertical columns	11
I would like to see all the covered walkways in Downtown Golden removed	4
Other options?	
Replace with modern, airy version of walkway	
Let's not use "all" for anything. Everything in moderation. Let's allow for a certain amount of individuality.	
First and foremost, they must be well maintained. If not, don't have them.	
Cloth covered awnings would be my preference. I like the protection from the weather.	
Too narrow in front of Ace High and Buffalo Rose. Wheelchairs have to wait and always icy.	

A7. Please answer whether you would like more, the same amount, or less of the following Downtown amenities:			
	More	Same Amount	Less
Outdoor seating (benches)	17	9	0
Outdoor restaurant seating	21	6	1
Merchandising on the sidewalks	5	10	8
Street performers	15	4	5
Public art	15	12	1
Flowers	20	6	0
Hanging flower baskets	18	7	1
Other Comments	Art walk on Fridays!		

A8. In which specific locations do you feel that new bike racks are needed?
Along, near restaurants; by Higher Grounds; every other intersection;
14 th and Washington
Coffee shops – currently using street signs at 13 th St. Bakery, Higher Grounds & Starbucks
The bike racks seem to be filling in nicely as projects are finished!
Bike lockers at 10 th and Washington would be great
In front of outdoor eating areas – restaurants
Bike racks need to be labeled as such.
The bike racks are ugly and people don't know what they are for.
Vicinity of Washington Ave. bridge over Clear Creek.
By public bathrooms, by parking lots, no more on Washington Ave.!

B. SIGNAGE QUESTIONS

B1. Once you are in town, are the blue “way finding” signs effective in helping you find your way around town?	Yes	No
	18	6
If they are not effective, why not?		
I did not even see them	5	
Text is too small to read while driving	2	
Parked cars were screening the signs	4	

Other Comments?

I would love to see the large sign out on Hwy 6 (approaching 19 th northbound) replaced – it is outdated and faded.	
Great in town. It’s the boundaries no one can figure out, especially 1-70 East/Golden & 470.	
Get a classic “library” sign to point to library.	
They shouldn’t be garish. However, they do blend in with the background in several locations.	
We need parking directions. Where is the parking garage we paid for?	

C. RETAIL QUESTIONS

C1. Would you shop in Downtown Golden on Sundays if most stores were open?	Yes	No	Maybe
	29	5	1

C2. Would you shop in Downtown Golden on weeknight evenings if most stores were open?	Yes	No	Maybe
	23	9	1

C3. Would you shop in Downtown Golden on holidays if most stores were open?	Yes	No	Maybe
	19	11	3

C4. What goods / services would you like to purchase in Downtown Golden that you currently cannot?	Responses
organic food	1
breakfast / affordable breakfast	8
books	15
music	1
paper	1
bread	1
Thai food	3
safe, well-planned housing options for a diverse population (variety of incomes)	1
more parking that is free (vs. 2 hours)	1
evening services	1

ice cream/gelato store open in evenings	3
Nepali / Indian goods store	1
bagel shop	1
bakery – fresh breads/pie	1
fine wine / liquor	2
green grocer	1
movie theater	1
kitchen store	3
butcher shop	1
better / upscale dining	1
more unique / specialty stores	1
outdoor stores	1
chains found on Larimer Street or Pearl Street OK if designs are tasteful	1
less expensive women's clothes	1
cigar bar	1
reasonable mixed clothing like the old Foss store at 12 th and Washington	1
computer / office supplies store	1
Aveda spa	1
natural food restaurant	1
Asian/Japanese restaurant	1
Tea – loose and prepared	1
knitting/sewing shop	1
tailor	1
good family restaurants	1

C4. What goods / services would you like to purchase in Downtown Golden that you currently cannot?	Responses
Jewish deli	1
underwear	1
good flower shop and fresh flowers	1
better quality restaurants	1
independent, local clothing store for 20-30 year olds	1
independent toy store	1
rock climbing gym (similar to The Spot)	1
corner grocery store	1
emergency care clinic	1
more diverse gifts other than Western	1
movie theater	1
Panera type shop	1
Wolfgang Puck Express	1
Tokyo Joe's	1
men's clothing	3
Coors logo items	1
art supplies store	1
ABC – Always Buy Colorado	1
wild bird feed store	1
Dairy Queen	1
funky gift stores	1
Shops like Pearl Street in Boulder	1
Kids store	3
Put seating outside 12 th and 11 th on Washington	1
Shoes	2

Survey #3: What do you want to see in Downtown Golden?

Below are the results from asking this question of those attending the Open Houses for the Downtown Character Plan on February 25th and 26th. There were over 650 suggestions made.

Art	1	More variety in public art - not all bronze, please.
Art	1	Organization and editing of bronze statues
Art	1	A fountain
Art	3	Art walk 1 time a month. Keep galleries open late.
Community	1	Community vegetable garden
Community	2	Food Co-op
Community	1	19th Street <u>needs</u> a bike lane, recently redone and they forgot about bikers.
Community	4	Please make downtown a pleasant and safe place to ride a bike. Washington St is hazardous.
Community	2	Bike Jump Park for 10-14 year olds. BMX
Community	15	Bike lanes/paths; Bike lanes on roads
Community	1	Preserve mountain / table views from Ford, Washington, etc. for the public.
Entertainment	2	Need a "Dazzle" - Jazz music
Entertainment	1	Include "news" in the transcript and other about wildlife sightings and info in Golden. (Great Horned Owls)
Entertainment	1	Music/poet's stage
Entertainment	32	Movie Theater; cinema; 'Elvis' theatre!; Like Chez Artiste; small foreign film theater
Entertainment	4	Live music on the sidewalks on specified evenings (Like Boulder's Pearl St)
Entertainment	1	Love the concerts in the park - but must clean up after the geese
Entertainment	5	The summer art show is great!
Entertainment	12	Weekend Concerts / Bands in park; More; Are Great!
Entertainment	7	Need small size permanent band shell; possible location: Parfet Park;
Entertainment	1	Concert Hall for Jeffco Symphony
Entertainment	2	Need Art House
Entertainment	4	Stage for music and open mic. (Like Mercury Café in Denver)
Entertainment	3	Music Variety to suit 3 generations. Jazz; Blues Club; Folk Music
Entertainment	4	Use of present amphitheater on creek; need amphitheater
Entertainment	1	Concerts and events at Clear Creek History Park
Entertainment	6	Ice skating rink - indoor/outdoor & tubing hill
Entertainment	4	Art Sport place (trampolines) See: www.artsportsworld.com

Entertainment	1	No movies - too much traffic
Entertainment	1	Parking ramp to help with traffic.
Entertainment	1	Movies in Park!
Entertainment	1	Arcade / game store
Entertainment	1	no smoking - the original ban
Entertainment	1	North end skate park BMX
Entertainment	2	Start the concerts in the park in July!
Entertainment	4	Brew Pub to help expand closer to Washington Ave
Entertainment	1	More family evening events and night places.
Entertainment	1	Have available movable expensive electronic equipment that different sources (non-profit) can share
Entertainment	2	Have an entertainment "hub" with good musical variety and food. Like D-note in Arvada
Entertainment	2	More entertainment close off Washington (i.e. Pearl St)
Entertainment	1	Use Playhouse to show "independent/political movies"
Entertainment	1	Invest funds into entertainment groups & non-profits. Can offer lots with more \$.
Entertainment	1	Recreation in town- a downtown park.
Environmental	1	Solar panels to run street lights (or wind turbines a la Belmar)
Environmental	2	Could the City of Golden sign a climate action plan
Environmental	2	Reduce CO2 emissions; Improve efficiency; purchase clean energy
Environmental	2	Wind Turbines on Lookout Mountain
Environmental	1	Leave Clear Creek corridor green and open with no development.
Environmental	1	Where did the recycling at the Golden Transcript go?
Environmental	1	Have recycling drop offs in several places- splash is too remote.
Environmental	1	More solar/renewable energy concentration.
Environmental	2	Curbside recycling? - Recycling/ compost pick-up at home?
Environmental	2	Have EDS advertise Curbside Recycling
Environmental	2	Move Green! The area around the creek is great but we need green in the other areas of town.
Environmental	1	Enhance landscape on Washington Ave entrances including bridge
Environmental	3	The dirt trail along Clear Creek should be extended.
Environmental	3	The dirt trail along Clear Creek floods easily. Possible added drainage w/o paving?
Environmental	2	Golden WANTS to see solar power.
Environmental	1	When street scape changed - plan for better trash can areas. Should empty easier.
Environmental	3	Where is the wind power?

Environmental	1	Goose Waste: Reduce the # of geese and have a method to clean up.
Environmental	3	Build Golden GREEN - Renewable energy now.
Environmental	1	Clean up parks: More trash cans; empty more often; cull the geese; clean goose waste
Environmental	1	Clean up trash on street. Need more gutters clean and sidewalk sweeping
Environmental	1	Renewable energy now!
Environmental	1	More collaboration with NREL
Environmental	1	More trash barrels along trails and all citizens pick up trash and put in barrel
Environmental	1	Clean up Clear Creek Corridor - North Side between Wash. Bridge & Ford Bridge
Environmental	1	Wall between Wash. Av Bridge and Ford Bridge is ugly. Have Perry's fix/plant or redo that wall.
Environmental	1	LED powered street lights. Would save \$ enormous.
Environmental	4	Please pick up trash; more trash barrels. Tucker Gulch.
Environmental	1	Replace all bulbs with fluorescent
Food	2	Thai Restaurant
Food	38	Breakfast Café/Diner, reasonably priced, w/healthy options; diner/café style non-chain; open Sundays; Family style by river
Food	27	More ethnic food - Japanese, Thai, Indian, Vietnamese, Less Mexican. - Classic
Food	8	Ice Cream Shop open til 10pm on summer nights. Can serve as a community gathering place!
Food	1	Modestly priced breakfast and Lunch
Food	1	Jumba Juice or Inta Juice
Food	1	No chain restaurants. Check Ask Rush in Boulder (they have great smoothies!)
Food	1	Locally Owned, Independent businesses
Food	7	Downtown café w/ sidewalk seating
Food	6	Keep Golden Natural Foods
Food	1	European Style shops like Café Touché; Chocolate/Bread/Fruit/ Organic Shops.
Food	3	Good and fun restaurants as in Highlands. Better Restaurants
Food	7	Natural food alternative café - no burgers/pizza/Mexican; 'Harvest Bakery'
Food	15	Suggested Restaurants: Burrito Shop;Shorty Lu's; Dozen's (downtown); Ali Baba; Milro; Qdoba; DQ;Ted's Montana Grill
Food	4	Good B.B.Q.: like Rib City
Food	1	Upscale dining; Tasteful but successful chains.
Food	11	Suggested Restaurants: Noodles; Chipolte;Mercury Café; Dot's Diner; Einstein Bros.;Village Roaster; El fornio
Food	1	Smoothie Store- not chain
Food	5	Coffee and Tea House; Bagel Shop: Home made bread, bagels and pastries, locally owned.

Food	1	No more chains like Starbucks or Quiznos.
Housing	2	Affordable apartments and condos. Please let's not price the School of Mines students out of Golden
Housing	1	Organic growth
Housing	1	If we wanted to live in Stapleton, we would. Please keep Golden's growth <u>Organic</u>
Housing	3	No more dense housing
Housing	1	More essential (affordable) housing.
Housing	2	Affordable Housing- People who grew up in Golden shouldn't have to leave 'till they make a million.
Other	1	Less Brick
Other	1	Have the banks redo the architecture to that they fit in with Downtown.
Other	2	No Traffic!
Other	1	Plan for built in areas for blocking streets off - removable barriers.
Other	1	Close main streets; 13th -11th
Other	2	Old Towne Arvada is doing a good job.
Other	1	No smoking - the original ban
Other	1	Play off active/historic aspects of Golden
Other	5	Watercourse
Other	1	Signage laws: keep Golden looking nice, not like a strip mall. No A-frame signs; no Billboards; no giant corporate signage.
Other	1	Economic development at a priority, forget sustainability.
Pedestrian Amenities	1	Continue to link downtown with neighborhoods - to encourage shopping
Pedestrian Amenities	2	Keep free parking!!
Pedestrian Amenities	1	Better paved streets
Pedestrian Amenities	2	Dog Park - within walking distance of downtown - poss. South of Clear Creek or SW corner of Hwy 6 and Hwy 58
Pedestrian Amenities	2	More urban / community gardens. Beautify. Call Steve Lengenfelder
Pedestrian Amenities	2	Designate city lot west of History Park as historic / cultural use for future exhibits, bldg for public use of facilities
Pedestrian Amenities	1	Fix sidewalk on 8th St; Complete from Clear Creek trail to Bike Trail S; fix sidewall on N side by Canyon Pt
Pedestrian	4	Smoking area in front of ACE High forces ped. Awkwardly toward street; ugly and inconvenient

Amenities		
Pedestrian Amenities	1	Path to 6th AV on both sides of creek- fix
Pedestrian Amenities	1	Fix pedestrian path down the Dry Welch Ditch
Pedestrian Amenities	1	Arapaho between 13th & 11th is ugly and unsafe for 3000 school kids that visit & walk between Astor Hs and History Park
Pedestrian Amenities	1	More access points for bike/ped paths.
Pedestrian Amenities	1	Like the existing flower beds! Keep!
Pedestrian Amenities	1	Smoking area in front of ACE High is an obstruction.
Pedestrian Amenities	1	Lower the speed limit.
Pedestrian Amenities	1	Need mileage markers along the Clear Creek trails to encourage walkers.
Pedestrian Amenities	1	Connect Mines Park and Beverly Heights w/ safe crossing over Hwy 6
Pedestrian Amenities	2	Need a 'green' bus that would run down Washington from Iowa to Colfax
Pedestrian Amenities	1	Beautify and encourage people to come down side streets to Clear Creek Corridor
Pedestrian Amenities	1	We love the trails! Keep up the good work!
Pedestrian Amenities	1	Clear Creek Trail: Clear snow on underpasses and Maintain sump pumps
Pedestrian Amenities	1	Need water fountains for people and dogs.
Pedestrian Amenities	1	Fewer Statues. More live people.
Pedestrian Amenities	1	A golden circulator bus similar to the HOP in Boulder
Pedestrian Amenities	1	Double sidewalk on 13th St. More patio seating.
Pedestrian	1	More waste signs for pets. Have more citizens patrol creek area. Give out warnings for police

Amenities		
Pedestrian Amenities	1	More parks and Trails along Clear Creek. - Southside of Clear Creek
Pedestrian Amenities	1	Extend the Clear Creek trails further west on the south side and between Parfet & Vanover Parks.
Pedestrian Amenities	2	Trail both sides creek needs attention.
Pedestrian Amenities	3	Pedestrian Bridge from 19th to 6th Av <i>over</i> 6th Av
Pedestrian Amenities	1	Need sidewalks and a light at 8th Av & Washington Av
Pedestrian Amenities	3	Fix Sidewalks. No more curbing extensions or silly doo-dads.
Pedestrian Amenities	5	Maintenance of the Kayak Park - Dredging, rebuilding failed drops.
Pedestrian Amenities	2	Bike lanes on 19th
Pedestrian Amenities	1	Enforce Pedestrian Cross Walks.
Pedestrian Amenities	1	Close Washington to n/s traffic from 11th to 14th. Make Pedestrian w/cross shuttle.
Pedestrian Amenities	2	Fix what we have first; Better pedestrian walkway form 14th to 19th
Pedestrian Amenities	1	Fix 14th & Ford so Pedestrians can pass.
Pedestrian Amenities	2	Need a local circulator
Pedestrian Amenities	1	Re-align Clear Creek - too narrow near Ford to allow trail on North side; Get further from "wall" on south side.
Retail	1	Foss looked better in 1990
Retail	2	Cool, Fun, Unique Shops like Pear Street Boulder or 32nd Highlands, <u>without</u> in attitude
Retail	1	Respect property rights i.e.: let owners choose awnings rather than enforced uniformity.
Retail	1	Broader types of businesses and restaurants (too many/much bikes, beer and baubles)
Retail	1	Golden residents who shop the shops in <u>Town</u>
Retail	1	Keep building height on Washington St. Two or Three stories (3rd story set back further) Don't become Lodi

Retail	1	Require historic "period" architecture to maintain and enhance Golden's character esp. along Washington and 11-13th St
Retail	3	Restaurants other than pizza and bars
Retail	1	Small movie house or show them at the current playhouse.
Retail	1	Unique retail ideas & store fronts (like the Highlands or Bozeman,MO)
Retail	1	More unique shops. More options so it will be a destination. Like Cherry creek without the attitude!
Retail	2	<i>A little</i> modern architecture.
Retail	1	Is it possible to make rent affordable for non-chain restaurants?
Retail	1	Have more reasonable rental rates. Too many empty bldgs.
Retail	1	Possible Modern awnings, not cloth. Perhaps glass and metal.
Retail	1	Quit putting up LoDo type fake historic bldgs. Keep the real historic bldgs
Retail	1	Browns Shoe Fit stores are often located in towns approx. the size of Golden
Retail	1	Larimer St: Preserve the history but bring/attract boutique specialty stores.
Retail	1	Develop the corner of 19th and 6th Ave - with small coffee shop, deli, gifts
Retail	1	Lots of downtown shops are "precious" Nice products, but better for gifts. Seems like on big gift shop.
Retail	1	More functional / practical businesses: an inexpensive drycleaner, a tailor like Carleens, shoe store.
Retail	1	New bldgs should blend in with the historic character of the existing bldgs.
Retail	4	Absolutely no more strip malls.
Retail	1	Old Arvada excellent/diverse retailers: Penzy's, Charlies, Fly Box, book store, meat butcher, kids clothing, wine bar
Retail	1	Think more upscale stores with something unique to draw folks.
Retail	1	Think tasteful but successful chains (Noodles) Include fine dining
Retail	1	Upscale pet store
Retail	1	Outdoor specialty stores - like Pearl St in Boulder.
Retail	32	Book Store; Like Bookends in Boulder; With Coffee
Retail	3	Keep hardware store!
Retail	5	Dance Lessons
Retail	7	Another Educational toy store & Kids clothing
Retail	1	Tea- Loose bulk by the cup
Retail	2	We Miss Hatch's small book store
Retail	1	Computer Items and Office Supplies Store
Retail	4	CD Music Store; CD/DVD/used book exchange
Retail	2	Shoes/ Footwear Store

Retail	5	Butcher Shop
Retail	13	Practical Clothing Store; Mens Clothing: Outdoor Sport Apparel; Women's in Tall sizes!; Western Wear; Indian Clothes
Retail	3	Co-op Groceries
Retail	4	Bead Shop; Crafts; Yarn and hobby
Retail	45	Natural Food Stores Suggested: Vitamin Cottage; Golden Natural Market; Sunflower Market; Green Grocer?
Retail	2	No more Car or Bike Stores
Retail	2	Antique Stores
Retail	3	No Shirt Shops; No Craft shops; No Knick-Knack Shops
Retail	1	Solar/PV businesses- promote energy reduction.
Retail	5	Keep Bent Gate!
Retail	3	Suggested Shops: PB's Head Shop
Retail	1	Card shop
Retail	7	Wine Shop
Retail	4	No more real estate store fronts
Retail	1	Gifts Store
Retail	1	Need more Artisan shops
Retail	3	REI -Boo! Needs more weekend movies.
Retail	3	No more art stores.
Retail	2	Garden Shop
Retail	4	Keep Shops open past 6pm on Fri and Sat. (dawn to dusk)
Retail	2	Have a pedestrian shopping mall between 13th to 11th on Washington AV
Retail?	1	Noodles (call it Goodles) No chains.
Tourism	1	Many people shopping, eating, walking, having a good time!
Tourism	1	Continue regular public celebrations - art fair, farmers market, etc.
Tourism	1	Historic park is so inviting, unique and informative. Keep I running all summer and fall
Tourism	1	Bring Arts Festival Downtown - close two blocks - middle of Washington Ave
Tourism	1	Bike "Stop" with food, commendations for cyclists.
Tourism	2	Customer upset. No signs in Golden boundaries. Got lost getting to Golden.
Tourism	1	Make sure it is easy to find parking. Ok now but don't lose it.
Transportation	5	Light Rail Station w/in walking distance of downtown.
Transportation	2	GUS Bus
Transportation	1	Can we try GUS again? Local Transportation.

Transportation	1	Revive the GUS bus and make it electric in keeping with the sustainability initiative
Transportation	2	Bring Business to Golden with Inter-Modal Transportation - More buses; light rail; help poor get to work; more sustainability
Transportation	4	Lets connect to light rail with local bus. CSM students say they will help pay for it!
Transportation	3	Light rail downtown for School of Mines.
Transportation	1	Need Public Transit!
Total Comment Input:	652	

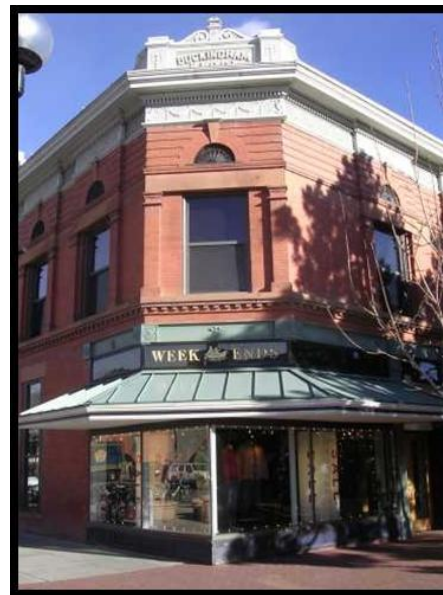
Survey #4: Awning Survey

In February and March 2007, the Downtown Character Committee conducted an online survey of awning styles. Survey respondents were asked which of the following best described the awning in a photo: 1) A great fit for Golden; 2) Perhaps appropriate for Golden; 3) Neutral or unsure; 4) Not a great fit for Golden; or 5) Inappropriate for Golden.

Below are the three photos that received the highest percentage of positive responses on the online awning survey. Positive responses were either "A Great Fit for Golden" or "Perhaps Appropriate for Golden."



Positive Responses: 56%



Positive Responses: 68%



Positive Responses: 62.5%