

TO: Fred Rollenhagen
FROM: SE Group
CC:
DATE: February 24, 2016
RE: Public Meeting #1

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Public meeting #1 was held at the Clear Creek Metropolitan Recreation Center in Idaho Springs on February 16, 2016. 45 community members provided contact information on the sign-in sheet at this meeting, although the public polling exercise indicates that there were over 50 people in attendance.

The meeting covered the following topics:

- What is a Community Master Plan?
 - Key Elements of a Plan
 - Why Update the Plan?
 - Who is Participating in this Update?
 - Project Process and Timeline
- Defining the “Baseline” Conditions
 - Community Profile
 - Community Survey Summary
 - Current Issues
- Key Pad Polling
 - Exploring the Vision for Clear Creek County
- Workshop Sessions – Economy/Housing/Recreation/Transportation/Land Use and Open Space

SE Group led the presentation, familiarizing community members with the planning process and the major elements to be included in Clear Creek County’s updated Master Plan. The baseline conditions for the different municipalities and sub-areas within the county as well as the county as a whole were then presented to community members. Included in the baseline conditions was data from the American Census Survey, the Colorado Department of Local Affairs, and the Clear Creek County Community Survey that was conducted for this project in 2016. While baseline conditions helped to identify current issues within the county, an audience polling exercise was done to elaborate on these

conditions. Keypad polling devices which had been distributed to audience members at the start of the presentation were utilized to record answers in real-time during this part of the presentation. The results of the polling exercise are attached.

The polling exercise highlighted notable information about the audience, including:

- The largest percentage of the audience was from the Evergreen area
- Adaptation and change should be the primary planning goals
- The largest percentage of the audience considered the economy to be the highest priority issue, followed by transportation and future land use.

After the polling exercise, the workshop session of the meeting began where community members moved throughout the room speaking with the team of consultants and community planners while viewing boards with data and prompts.

Prompts included:

Economy

- Is the regional population growing? Is it aging? How will demographic trends affect the long-term economic condition in Clear Creek County?
- What is the composition of the regional workforce? How is it structured now and how will it be influenced by ongoing trends?
- What is your Economic Vision for Clear Creek County?

Recreation and Lifestyle

- What elements of recreation in Clear Creek County are most important? What are missing?
- How do you stay active and healthy?

Transportation

- Where do the people of Clear Creek County work and how do they get there?
- What would improve transportation in your everyday life?

Housing

- What types of housing exists within the County? What is the age/quality of this housing? Does it meet the needs of Residents?
- How affordable is housing within the County? What are the barriers to afford-ability that the County Master Plan should address?

Land Use and Open Space

- What is the current pattern of growth and where should growth be encouraged/discouraged or shaped?
- Does the pattern of open space serve the community? What should be the priorities for acquisition of new or management of existing open spaces?

Comments generated during this exercise were compiled and are available in the attached document. Mirroring the keypad polling exercise which identified the economy as the highest priority issue, this sentiment was echoed throughout many of comments. In general, comments went a step further and tied the economy into other pertinent topics such as infrastructure, transportation, and growth. Others used this opportunity to elaborate on nuances or subtleties of the county's character that had not been previously discussed.

In preparation for the next public meeting, community members suggested that notification of the meeting should be published in the Firestarter, a free newspaper that the majority of citizens utilize for their information. Additionally, the recommendation of posting event details on the bulletin boards of the post offices was also provided. It was noted that the county website should not be relied on heavily for communicating the details of events to the public, however it will still be used while other methods of distributing information will be expanded.

Session Name
Current Session

Date Created
2/16/2016 1:53:26 PM

Average Score
0.00%

Active Participants
50

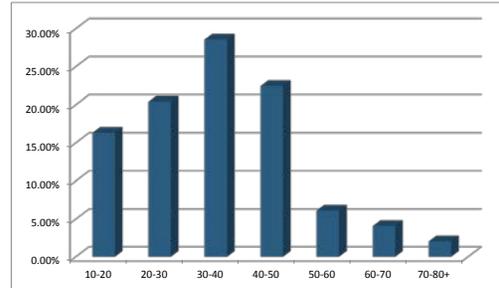
Questions
6

Total Participants
50

Results by Question

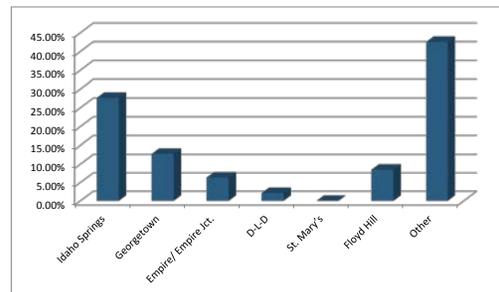
1. Q1 – WHAT IS YOUR AGE? (Multiple Choice)

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
10-20	16.33%	8
20-30	20.41%	10
30-40	28.57%	14
40-50	22.45%	11
50-60	6.12%	3
60-70	4.08%	2
70-80+	2.04%	1
Totals	100%	49



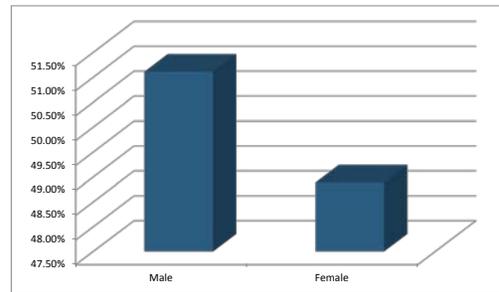
2. Q2 – WHERE IN THE COUNTY DO YOU LIVE? (Multiple Choice)

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
Idaho Springs	27.66%	13
Georgetown	12.77%	6
Empire/ Empire Jct.	6.38%	3
D-L-D	2.13%	1
St. Mary's	0.00%	0
Floyd Hill	8.51%	4
Other	42.55%	20
Totals	100%	47



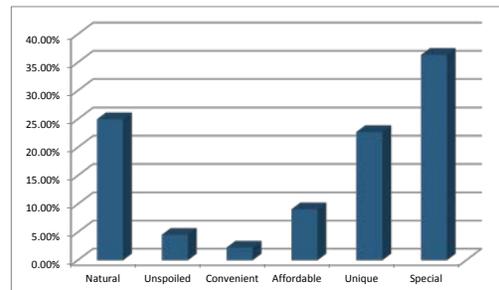
3. Q3 – WHAT IS YOUR GENDER? (Multiple Choice)

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
Male	51.11%	23
Female	48.89%	22
Totals	100%	45



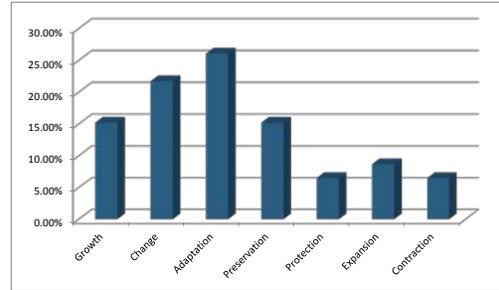
4. Q4 – WHICH WORD BEST CAPTURES YOUR ATTITUDE ABOUT LIVING IN CLEAR CREEK COUNTY? (Multiple Choice)

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
Natural	25.00%	11
Unspoiled	4.55%	2
Convenient	2.27%	1
Affordable	9.09%	4
Unique	22.73%	10
Special	36.36%	16
Totals	100%	44



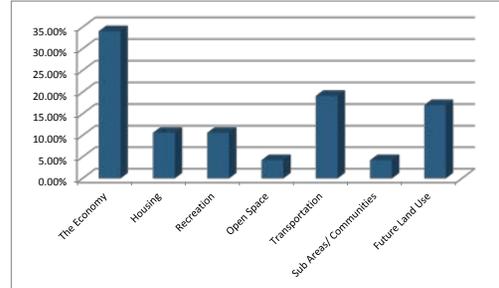
5. Q5 – WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING WORDS BEST DESCRIBES WHAT YOU THINK SHOULD BE THE PRIMARY PLANNING GOAL? (Multiple Choice)

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
Growth	15.22%	7
Change	21.74%	10
Adaptation	26.09%	12
Preservation	15.22%	7
Protection	6.52%	3
Expansion	8.70%	4
Contraction	6.52%	3
Totals	100%	46



6. Q6 – WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING ISSUES WOULD YOU CONSIDER THE HIGHEST PRIORITY FOR CLEAR CREEK COUNTY? (Multiple Choice)

	Responses	
	Percent	Count
The Economy	34.04%	16
Housing	10.64%	5
Recreation	10.64%	5
Open Space	4.26%	2
Transportation	19.15%	9
Sub Areas/ Communities	4.26%	2
Future Land Use	17.02%	8
Totals	100%	47



Public Meeting #1- 2/16/16

Notes and Comments – Workshop Session

General

“What is the demographic breakdown of respondents to the survey? Particularly-geographic income...”

“I think the 2004 vision statement needs a re-write. It reads more like a set of strategies or actions rather than a vision for the county.”

“1. Have county employees live in the county 2. Make planners be development friendly not place impediments to people/businesses that come to the county 3. When a business comes to planners the planners need to encourage business and not say we cannot let you do that... think outside the box!”

“Find a way to entice/encourage high-tech start-ups. Place for incubator-office space for startups. Our benefit is our location- 1 hour from airport, ½ hour away from skiing.”

“Need a high-tech innovation center. Broadband access is very important for high-tech.”

“I’d like to see a more inclusive look at the need for better housing. There is a huge homeless & hotel living population so the statistic showing 75%(ish) say there’s no housing issue us highly suspect to me. I realize it’s the total # & not specific to other demographics, but we need to find a way to make sure they are also sampled.”

“How many thousands of dollars did the county spend for these little key pads? How many planners like this are on the county payroll- they make nice fancy charts.”

“County’s values are congruent- Rural Mountain regardless of geographic location.”

“Has the business community been surveyed about specifics regarding improving the business climate?”

“Is the targeted industry study being incorporated in the master plan effort?”

“How can the master plan foster environmental stewardship and make Clear Creek County a model for sustainability?”

“The county should improve its image along the I-70 corridor to entice motorists off the road. Beautification and increase curb appeal!”

“Better mottos like: “Stay and play in Clear Creek County” “All your outdoor passions are here!” “How about a “Riverwalk” as in Salida”.

“The master plan needs to focus on economic growth. If the county is to survive it needs to be wide open to any and all growth. It will start with utilities and transportation, without these nothing else can be sustained. New business and employment growth cannot happen if they do not have water, electric, sewer, trash, etc. it also can’t happen without the ability to commute. Both a third lane on I-70 and a light rail must go through the county. Growth of new business and employment must be encouraged anywhere they want to build and grow. I understand the old structures are historical and people’s need to keep those structures intact. It is difficult to say we need to ignore that. Maybe we should not. It must stop there though. For growth and the

survival of the county to be achieved we must allow new big business to develop in any unused space. If we don't allow this then the untouched areas will remain. So due to the fact no one will be left here to do anything to those spaces anyway. Which brings me to my next point. New housing. Again developers must be allowed to develop anywhere if not housing will be unaffordable and unsustainable to support a new bigger workforce. Lower income affordable housing must be made and unimpeded development is the only way to achieve this. If you don't think this is serious watch the documentaries about the towns that had 1 mill or factory close and then a year later the town is gone. If you don't grow you die out!"

"Are recommendations or options being developed regarding business incentives? Has the business community been surveyed on this question?"

"How can job quality be improved?"

"Floyd Hill volunteered to buy the Williams property and commissioners vote it down. How can you go do that when the majority of people in the neighborhood wanted to keep that property as open space? CCC is like the Wild West-It does what it wants to do despite a master plan or zoning."

"If you allow recreation shooting in CCC you will scare off hiking, biking, horseback riding, 4WD, skiing, and rafting."

"Have next meeting somewhere with better acoustics. Cannot hear most of the conversations in the gym. Will there be a transcript available?"

"How can we assume CCC water quality is preserved and that residential and/or commercial development do not grow faster than the available water?"

Recreation

"Emphasis on road bike events"

"Let more people know about Floyd Hill playground and shelter and saddleback mountain trailhead"

Open Space

"No shooting in Beaver Brook Watershed- too highly used, too close to residences, too dangerous for potential accidents"

"So much land cannot be developed. OSC should be strategic and think about land uses"

"Preserve Floyd Hill meadow, the eastern gateway to CCC"

Where Should Growth Occur?

"Floyd Hill's commercial fails-Don't expand there! Leave it as open space"

"Growth ok in municipalities (such as Empire, Idaho Springs, Georgetown, and Dumont only)"

"Need mix of development and protection"

"Develop business environment for high-value creating businesses that desire to work with NREL and mines"

“Develop and re-develop in municipalities not rural areas with no infrastructure. Sprawl will hurt the county”

Transportation

“Emergency vehicle circulation”

“Monorail-expensive but it’s the ultimate vision”

“Shuttle service to DIA”

“Internal transit for employees without cars”

“What about Uber or facilitating carpooling online”

Housing

“Young and old can’t afford, want low income housing”

“Why not encourage work from home?”

“Want affordable housing to be apartments not trailers”

“Families can’t find affordable housing”

“How to house seasonal employees”

“2nd home, not rentals-want more info!”

“Dumont-Lawson is a good spot for affordable housing”

“Transit service to Denver”

Most Important

“Mountain recreation and hospital, need to be competitive with Grand and Summit counties. Need golf course to be competitive”

“Finishing the Greenway from Loveland to Golden will bring much \$ into CCC- Hotels, food, equipment rentals, souvenirs”

“Need infrastructure to be hand in hand with development”

“Maintain viewshed”

“More educational opportunities aka community college, events center, conference center”