

MEETING NOTES

Project: Clear Creek Corridor Master Plan
Meeting Date: April 26, 2010
Re: Neighborhoods
Location: Golden Community Center

Date Issued: April 28, 2010

Present: Wenk Associates – Bill Wenk, Jess Clark, Jonah Weiss (indicated in red)
City of Golden – Rod Tarullo, Amber Speedy (indicated in red)
Members of the Public (indicated in black)

Topics Discussed:

How is the word getting out?

- Golden Transcript cover story and advertisements, other news papers, project website, City website, user group websites (i.e. mountain buzz), post cards mailed to city businesses, canvassing the neighborhoods door to door, all governmental channels are informed, postcards were posted on various bulletin boards .
- 5 meetings give opportunities to voice issues and opportunities at various times and regarding specific issues. www.clearcreekplan.net is also a valuable tool for commentary etc.

Library would be a good place for notices

- word of mouth is important
- larger “poster” sized at library and rec ctr and on bulletin boards

Who owns the RV park?

- City owns it

Does the RV park make money?

- Yes

Is it the best use of that space?

- The design team will be evaluating all areas including the RV park site for best use etc.as part of the Master Planning effort

Extend the Clear Creek Corridor project under the bridge into the county land (up the canyon)

Is there talk about extending the trail under /over 6th?

- we are looking at planned connections across 6th

Water play area could include a dirt play area / place for adults to watch from / maybe add “Castle Rock” climbing/play feature

Many areas within the corridor are not accessible –like water reservoir facility

- Per Public Works: the reservoir must be fenced for safety/security.

A goal is to plan the Clear Creek Corridor as one big park rather than several disconnected use areas.

Should think of the water park and other program elements to include year round activity –sledding hills/ice skating. One idea is a “skating trail”

Dog Park/off leash area is desired - West of 6th is used as an informal off leash area West of 10th

Tennis courts are well used, always busy

Skate park would be good to have in downtown Golden

Don’t want things to look manufactured “Disney” or “Belmar”, we like the unique identity of the corridor and the city..

Central Green (for events) is a challenge ... Parking and traffic issues

Do the ball fields need to be there?

- Like to see sports i.e recreation fields close to downtown Golden – but the current location could be moved elsewhere in the corridor. use could also be provided for in other parks.

The ball fields are important to the community– well used, provide good “local only” activities and recreation space close to downtown.

Fenced in field makes circulation challenging and limits the use of the largest “green space”.

Lots of places you can put ball fields...but only one creek through Golden

- The fence is an issue when you come up next to the ball field fence...pinch point
- Muddy trail/ice in winter is an issue on the trail along the ball fields
- Could the Ball Fields be integrated as part of a central green- Multi Functional? Some like the idea of more open format some don’t.

How will people access and park cars near the Library if the road were closed for events ...

- It is early in the process, therefore, all ideas are being explored at this point,
- Providing adequate parking and access is critical, and elemental to a successful plan... we are interested in how we can reduce asphalt while still providing adequate access and parking by exploring alternative strategies.
- How can we come up with different trail options ...for different uses?

Explore the option of removing Cheyenne & Illinois streets between 10th and the creek

Explore possibilities of integrating Universal Access into the design goals

Bikers should never ride on the trail...should find a different route along the Clear Creek Corridor

Given the investment how likely is it that the Fire/police move?

- This is a long term plan and all options are being explored at this time. There are safety and operational concerns with current locations. Eventually, regulations will require many types of facilities like this to be out of the 500yr flood plain rather than the 100 yr

Site up along 8th at 58 intersections could be a potential place for fire/police to relocate

- city has asked us to look at available locations for parks/municipal buildings.
- This site has been evaluated before and at the time was excused for high property cost

Need to continue the trail along 6th & Mines

- -this project is already under contract to extend the trail, waiting for Mines to do some work before construction commences.

Any water feature needs to be very aware and responsible about water consumption and waste... we don't want to waste water.. concern for operations and maintenance of mechanical water features...2-3 yrs down the line water features are shut down...

Community garden is a great thing...what are your thoughts on moving it?

- The design team will be evaluating all areas including the site that the gardens currently are located on for best use etc.as part of the Master Planning effort
- Community Garden group has a master plan which serves as a guide if the gardens were to stay in the current location

farmers market needs to have an asphalt surface

- -what if 10th was closed down and used as a farmers market?
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The uses at the end would be limited need access to the recreation center

- -access would need to be provided to the recreation center maybe off of 8th or by a different road alignment and configuration

Like in Central Park...maybe 10th could be closed on the weekends

Local vs Regional users...on the weekends it is over run by visitors ... no longer feels like a part of Golden...need some focus on local activities

River users ... inexperience / problem users...maybe design a part of the river for kids

Retail near the creek is a concern

Retail near the creek may cause more trash problems in the creek.

permanent band shell in the creek corridor someplace is desired

library will need to be expanded at some point in the future and needs to be considered

Once the Trail is expanded the trail congestion may be improved

Playground / river users conflict kids want to play/touch the kayaks

Geese are a problem..waste issues, water quality issues

Dog waste cleanup issues along the corridor

Drainage near picnic benches is an issue

Community garden ... should be a hangout place ... not just exclusively for people planting

The community garden in history park promotes interaction

Lions Playground ..is the only one...need more playgrounds downtown

Use wood plays structures ... plastic structures get hot in the summer

Let's not have too many areas near the creek for kids should be for other users too

bronze sculptures could be diversified maybe use sandstone..etc

Is light rail coming downtown?

- -bus is being talked about to connect downtown Golden to the light rail.

What about Lions Park Pond?

Connect the pond to the creek to improve the water quality

Pond should be more safe and accessible for Kids

Not sure what the pond is for?

The Pond was used for fishing ... is it still stocked with fish?

- **-water quality is no longer good enough for fish**

The pond is a good place to practice rolling in a kayak..etc ... it there are not a lot of places like that in the park.

Using fresh water from the creek would improve water quality in the pond

Fishing would be great to have in the pond... with fishing pier (small arching structure ... etc)

Can we enhance the water quality & habitat of the creek?

Events destroy the grass in the park...what can we do about that

- **grass recovers well in parfet park after events**

Some place for events ...designed to accommodate users ..etc is desired

The “hangout” spots are important

Enhance the creek near Washington intersection...attract people from downtown, and people could make a day of it....beach activities across from Parfet Park?

Are there any wetlands near Mines ... someplace for kids to learn to fish ... maybe add wetland habitat?

South of the creek near History Park use the area for hangout/picnic area ...art festival

COMMENT CARDS

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PLEASE NOTE: THE IDEAS AND COMMENTS BELOW ARE OPINIONS EXPRESSED BY COMMUNITY MEMBERS WHO ARE NOT ON OR A PART OF THE DESIGN TEAM OR EMPLOYEES OF THE CITY OF GOLDEN. A BEST EFFORT HAS BEEN MADE TO INPUT COMMENTS EXACTLY AS THEY WERE WRITTEN ON COMMENT CARDS.

Comment Cards:

- I'd like to see natural vegetation preserved in the Clear Creek Corridor. Native vegetation vs. Exotic
 - I don't like the idea of more bridges across the creek. I'd preserve as much natural riparian vegetation as possible
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- Off-leash dog area is needed
 - Separate incompatible trail use (bikes/runners/small kids)
 - Community gardens with pedestrian, recreational circulation
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- Water quality -fish? Enhance the trout population.
 - Wild upstream-urban east of USC. Keep it this way
 - Hang Glider landing area. They have been chased out of Golden
 - Running surface adjacent to hard trails
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- One of your diagrams depicts a promenade along 10th Street adjacent to the City Hall/Library area. Parking spaces are very near the City Hall. People have to have access to the Government Center. Eliminating the existing parking spaces or relocating them would be a big mistake.
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- It looked like in one of the images that the parking and car access area from 58th was going to be where the community garden is. I would hate to see the community garden go away for a parking area.
- Having the community garden as a peaceful place for people to walk to and hand out would relieve pressure from the creek side.
- Look into a study on aquatic diversity-insect and fish in order to improve fishing.

- Make fly fishing specific stream improvements which improve use for non-white water rapid enthusiasts and trout habitat.
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- One of my concerns relates to the potential impacts on traffic in the adjacent neighborhoods. If 10th street is redesigned to reduce or slow traffic it is likely that traffic will be diverted (purposely or otherwise) to 8th or 9th Street. 8th St. already sees a significant amount of traffic from people going to Clear Creek. Traffic studies indicate much of this traffic exceeds the speed limit and the road lacks adequate sidewalks. Because of this the potential impact of traffic inadvertently being shifted to the other streets will have a significant impact on the adjacent residential neighborhoods.
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- The pond in Lions Park seems to be an underutilized piece of prime real estate in the park corridor. It seems like it might serve a much better purpose as something else. Perhaps we can get rid of it and use it as something else.
 - Can this history park be re-evaluated and either be reduced in scope or altered? It acts as a significant barrier and forms a disconnect with downtown. Washington St. is the obvious connection to the downtown but it doesn't have to be the only axis.
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- I like the RV Park option to remain-no bigger though.
 - Can we find ways to "get" SW corner of 10th & Ford included.
 - Keep some parking down by Lions Park, etc.
 - I like the concept of a landscape entrance on 6th near bridge
 - I don't want Parfet Park to look like a crayon-colored water park-if kid water features are planned they should be natural in look and not take away from the town/creek landscape
 - Keep the ball fields
 - NO SHOOTING WATER FOUNTAIN. It competes with the natural water feature and Mother Nature's design of natural water flow.
 - Cincinnati OH has a replica of the Ohio River at their Riverside Park. People can float little boats along.
 - Maybe we can have a mini foothill or Canyon feature (not sharp obviously) for kids to climb on.
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- Public involvement idea. Golden River sports has e-newsletters fishing, kayak
 - Concern: I don't want to lose "real" town activities in corridor and Central Golden-Softball fields, picnic shelters in Lions Park, library museum, REC center, City Hall to "new urbanism"
 - I support reduced car traffic but only with emphasis on corridor for pedestrian and bicycle connectivity (although too many pedestrians' bridges will hamper fishing)
 - Stop the spread of insipid bronze statues!!!!
 - Clear Creek is the heart and soul of Golden-Keep real functions & activities
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- Please take care of the geese. They take over the park.
 - Keep what makes our creek unique-the History Park, tubing for all, the tree swing, not busy (except on weekends) the farmers market next to the creek, the trail that is only partly paved ☺, the kayakers, different types of people and uses here.
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- Please add to the water feature-mini castle rock, dirt to play-important Golden landmark
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Things I'd like to see:

- Trolley from parking structure to kayak park-library
 - Skate park
 - Like the RV park
 - Band shell in Parfet Park
 - Close 10th Maple to Public Works
 - Keep baseball fields where they are
 - Keep library
 - Widen path to pressure points
 - Deal with geese poop..More fountains?
 - Children's creek "experience" tributary-keep it a dirt path other side of 6th
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- Consideration for Farmers Market access and blacktop surface
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- I'm of two minds on the RV Park. On one hand it is great that the city has such a facility; however many RVs are seemingly permanently housed there. On the other hand, the RV park is now located on valuable real estate which could be used for greater number of people.
- Who owns the land west of 6th 93 where the informal parking is located? Could the city (and state if they own it) make this a official paved parking lot. Additionally a stair case would access the trail system by the creek.
- Along the same vein...who owns the parking area where the paragliders and Chimney Gulch users park? This needs to be cleaned up and paved. Also pedestrian access under 6th to connect to trails.
- Definitely a skate park is needed. Location? West of History Park which is currently a dirt lot.