

# CCEA Community Meeting Minutes

## Thursday, April 19, 2012 6:00 PM

[www.cherrycreekeast.org](http://www.cherrycreekeast.org)

Young American Center  
Brooks Waldman, CCEA President, Presiding

Brooks Waldman welcomed attendees and members present introduced themselves.

### **Election of 2011-2012 Board of Directors**

Ballots were handed out to all paid members for the board of director's election. Brooks announced that anyone may add their name to the bottom of the ballot if they were interested in joining the board as there are 2 vacant positions. Barbara Metzger & Jodi Addison collected the ballots. All board nominations received a majority of votes.

### **Street Paving & Storm Drainage Project**

All streets in Cherry Creek East will be paved starting in August. The streets that will be part of the storm drainage project will also be paved but with a different material. Exact start and end dates are not known at this time but an email will be sent out as soon as we get the schedule.

The storm drainage design plan will be announced soon and that will be posted on our website as soon as we receive it.

### **Cherry Creek Area Plan (CCAP) - Draft**

Chris Gleissner and Ellen Ittelson presented the draft of the Cherry Creek Area Plan that has been available since March 14, 2012 for public review. For full details of the draft plan please go to [www.denvergov.org/cherrycreek](http://www.denvergov.org/cherrycreek) . The public online survey will close on April 23, 2012 at 5 pm.

### **Update on Alameda Petition**

Barbara Metzger gave the following as an update on her petition regarding removing widening of Alameda from documents:

1. Alameda widening projects will be referenced in the Draft CCAP with language that identifies their existence in "previous planning efforts" as in "direct conflict with the newly defined vision."
2. The "widening of Alameda" project itemized in the Strategic Transportation Plan (page 45 – Transit and Roadway Improvements – "Widen Alameda from Steele Street to Colorado") will be removed or modified with the next update to that plan. If not removed, the modification of the project is to reflect "the concept as presented in the adopted 2012 Cherry Creek Area Plan."
3. The Alameda widening project ("Widen from 4 to 6 Lanes", Steele St. to Colorado Blvd. in order to "Add through lane(s)", scheduled for 2015-2019 Completion Staging on DRCOG's Metro Vision "Fiscally Constrained Roadway and Rapid Transit Capital Improvements, Appendix 4 ) will be "modified or removed". A schedule for confirming the correction for the 2040 Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) update was not included, but I have confidence that the correction will be made in time to meet the schedule for the updated RTP and that confirmation from RTP will be given and forwarded in a timely manner.

The concept for Alameda Parkway can be found on page 21 of the CCAP draft. Brooks thanked Barbara for all her hard work on this petition.

### **Cherry Creek Steering Committee's 5 Working Groups**

An update was given by Trish Beck Palamara who chairs the Cherry Creek Steering Committee, on her participation with the Cherry Creek Area Plan.

Cherry Creek Steering Committee (CCSC) is community-wide and has representatives from many locations and interests: shopping center, CCN BID, Chamber of Commerce, business interests at large, residents from CCN, CCE, Hilltop, south of the creek, Country Club, 7th Avenue Parkway, Capitol Hill and Transportations Solutions (non-profit). At CCSC, 5 areas were identified where current draft could present barriers to support from steering committee for adoption. Working groups were launched over last three weeks (with one exception where CCN BID group has been working for 6 weeks) Working groups and issues are as follows:

- Transit and Mobility -- stated opposition to light rail from Country Club; desire to make sure immediate transit solutions (e.g. circulator buses, dedicated bus lanes) are fully leveraged; recommendation to include regional maps and better definition of terms
- Alameda Parkway plan -- questions regarding need to expand Right of Way and move roadbed to south; current design could cause increased expense and delay implementation
- CCN BID -- challenges regarding current plans for increased height and density; negative implications for small land owners and retailers
- Shopping Center -- more detailed language and plans desired regarding Taubman's future plans for redevelopment
- Colorado/Harrison -- lack of agreed upon vision for this important eastern boundary; current Area of Change designation of mid-rise, mixed use is CCAP designation only; Blueprint Denver does not require mixed use. Questions regarding potential for uses beyond residential given Alliance's unsuccessful experience in leasing retail and commercial properties and decision to reallocate square footage to residential only. Another area of concern is the need for a complete vision from the creek to 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue and not just Cherry Creek East.

Working groups reported great progress at April 18 CCSC meeting. The committee is feeling at risk with the current draft plan and we need land owners to be involved

On May 16th, CCSC has the opportunity to decide if they want to adopt the plan.

### **Questions & Answers regarding CCAP**

Why are there still narrow sidewalks & how do we get them widened?

Unfortunately the city is not responsible for widening the remaining narrow sidewalks. The sidewalks will only be widened once development is completed.

What is the 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. vision?

The vision is in the plan (pg. 22) and includes bulb outs, shortening crossroads, removing one lane of traffic, improved sidewalks and trees.

Any discussion or improvements on Leetsdale going through Bayaud to the mall?

There have not been any discussions during this plan but will take it as a suggestion.

Is Harrison St considered for mix-use?

Right now the plan has Harrison St zoned as RH-3 (row house, 3 floors).

### **Alameda Triangle**

Last minute announcement from Marcus Pachner was the development of a multi-unit residential complex in conformant with the CCAP. He will come back to the next neighborhood meeting to present the project.

*Adjourned at 7:30. Next meeting July 19<sup>th</sup>, 6 pm.*