

Colorado Smelter Revitalization Plan, presented by the City of Pueblo

Project Title: Colorado Smelter Revitalization Plan, a draft and public discussion

Public meeting: June 25, 2020, 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Virtual Meeting Location: City Planning & Community Development Department, 211 East D Street, Pueblo CO 81003

70-minute video: <https://youtu.be/zxBJA7TePNY>

Presenters

Alan Lamberg, senior planner, and Bart Mikitowicz, planner, for City Planning & Community Development Department. For twenty minutes they introduce the project and its purpose.

Alexis Romero, Health Promotions Planner for Pueblo Department of Health & Environment reminded that there are mini grants available to help start up projects.

Call to Action: Share your feedback about the draft plan before July 22.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CSRP2020>

Audience: Eight (8) audience members, including six (6) representatives from the Bessemer, Eiler's, Grove neighborhood Improvement Network (BEGIN), and two (2) affected property owners.

Public Meeting and Discussion

Theme: Connectivity and Cultural Heritage

Improve streetscape ... corridors:

Traffic speed is dangerous on Santa Fe Ave between Riverwalk and Interstate on ramp, there was a motorcycle racing death this month of June 2020, and how can there only be one crosswalk here? [Abbey A, Paul R, John L]. Traffic speed is dangerous on East Northern Avenue at Mahren and Egan [Rick R]. Traffic speed is dangerous on West Northern Avenue at Routt Ave, so much that almost every month the Pueblo Police request access to NeighborWorks' security camera that faces Routt [Ashleigh W]. Mitigate with signs, striping, signals [John L, Abbey A, Paul R, Rick R, Ashleigh W].

Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) maintenance of recent improvements of Santa Fe Avenue; the cul-de-sac at East D and Clark has recently installed landscaping that is not being maintained. [Abbey A.]

There are Streetscape Standards for Santa Fe Ave; incentivize new construction or remodeling to implement these public improvements [Paul R & Alan L]. Preservation and educational programs

Looking forward to the Historic Preservation Education Committee getting started. We should learn from other communities' committees, too. [Carla H.] This project was a great collaboration for research [Aaron R]. As new director of El Pueblo History Museum, this project will be a great resource [Alyssum S]. Focus on youth involvement (people under 40, and children under 18), programs available from National Trust for Historic Preservation, Watertower Place [Gregory H].

Designate a history trail ...:

Signs and monuments, sitting areas [John L].

A mural wall along East Northern Avenue [Rick R].

Theme: Thriving Neighborhoods

Increase sense of place ... I-25:

Does not recall buffer walls between I-25 and residences being discussed at the October 2018 visioning meeting; instead of hiding our neighborhoods, invest in streetscape or mural wall along Northern Avenue [Rick R].

Repairs and maintenance to ... streets, sidewalks:

How to make authorities more responsive to maintenance of public improvements and landscaping? [Ashleigh W].

Theme: Vibrant Commercial

Support development ... food co-ops:

Pueblo Food Council brings together producers and vendors to facilities and community; meets every 3rd Tuesday [Renee T].

Grove Neighborhood could use a co-op or market would be good in the Grove neighborhood [Abbey A]. Consider a European model for co-op, where capital provides infrastructure and there is a return on investment [Bart M].

Partner with ...:

Facade improvement program paid by Urban Renewal Authority [John L, Ashleigh W]. Improvements stabilize or increase property value, which positively affects comparative property values of neighborhood properties [Bart M].

Tax credit programs [John L].

Beautify through sponsorship [Ashleigh W].

Grove Area Partnership (GAP) is meeting every 2nd Thursday at 5:30 at Blo Back Gallery [Paul R].

NeighborWorks Southern Colorado is willing to partner [Ashleigh W].

Project Summary: Join us to improve our neighborhoods of Bessemer, Eilers Heights in Bojon Town, and the Grove, which surround the Colorado Smelter Superfund Site. The Colorado Smelter Revitalization Plan ("CSRP") proposes strategies in three themes: Connectivity and Cultural Heritage, Thriving Neighborhoods, and Vibrant Commercial. The City of Pueblo, partner agencies, and the neighborhood associations have been working with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on this plan since 2016. Please provide public comments before July 22. After the plan is complete, the Pueblo City Council will adopt the plan.

Contact: Visit the project portal at <https://Pueblo.us/CSRP>

or e-mail PlanningLandUse@Pueblo.us or call:

Public participation: Bart Mikitowicz, planner, 719-553-2321

Project management: Alan Lamberg, senior planner, 719-553-2241