

Community Engagement Events Overview

Community Forum - “Why Housing Matters” - Jan. 26, 2015

This community forum featured small groups for the 220 attendees to discuss the Housing Boulder goals and other housing topics, followed by a talk by architect Michael Pyatok about his experiences with planning affordable housing in other communities and reflecting on what he heard from the small group discussions. Common topics and themes from the small group discussions included:

- issues relating to affordable housing for renters and owners;
- scarcity of land opportunities;
- maintaining affordability for middle-income residents;
- impacts of higher density, especially parking impacts;
- diverse housing options need to serve individuals, families, and seniors with low and middle incomes, and housing options should include both attached and detached units;
- pressures on housing stock from University of Colorado Boulder (CU) students;
- advocacy for raising occupancy limits, reducing barriers to accessory dwelling units (ADUs) and owners’ accessory units, etc.;
- support for and concern about cooperative housing;
- imbalances between jobs and housing.

Speaker Panel - “Fresh Perspectives on Housing Boulder ” - April 27, 2015

Guest panelists David Doezema, Karen Chapple, Doug Engmann, and Molly Kaufman shared their insights, examples of best practices, and observations about Boulder's housing challenges, then answered questions from community members. The topics discussed included the:

- economics of development, including the impacts of job growth on housing demand;
- relationship between housing supply and housing costs;
- psychological effects of change in a community; and
- strategies to ensure that development benefits the community.

The 180 event attendees also [shared their demographics](#) by responding to a series of questions via keypad polling. In addition to the in-person attendees, 636 viewers watched all or part of the live video stream of the event, 76 percent of participants said it was a good use of their time.

Housing Boulder Neighborhood Workshops - May 11 through May 20, 2015

Five neighborhood workshops were held in different parts of the city to explore possible priorities for housing in Boulder and discuss what might be right (or not) for individual neighborhoods. The top 12 tools identified by the working groups provided a basis for the [participants’ discussions about which tools might work in each part of the city](#). Attendees participated in small group discussions, briefly reported back to the larger group and then [shared their demographics](#) via keypad polling.

- *Central Boulder* – May 11 with 75 attendees
- *East Boulder* – May 13 with 35 attendees
- *North Boulder* – May 14 with 55 attendees
- *South Boulder* – May 18 with 75 attendees
- *Boulder Employers and Employees* – May 20 with 35 attendees