

BVCP Process Subcommittee Meeting #9
March 16, 2016 Noon-1:15
1777 West Conference Room Muni Building



Subcommittee Purpose

The Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan (BVCP) Process Subcommittee's Role is to monitor and provide input on the public process throughout the BVCP Update process. The BVCP Committee consists of 2 council members (Weaver, Brockett), 2 planning board members (Gerstle, May), a Boulder County Commissioner (Jones), and a County planning commission member (Gargano).

Attendees: Sam Weaver, Aaron Brockett, John Gerstle, Lieschen Gargano, Elise Jones

Staff: Jean Gatzka, Caitlin Zacharias, Sung Han, Michael Davidson, Steven Giang, Nicole Wobus, Lesli Ellis (by phone)

Public: (3 members)

***Comments by subcommittee** are the bullet points that begin with bold text.

****Staff responses are in italics.**

Proposed Agenda

1. Update on items from last meeting (15 mins)

- Provide feedback on website re-organization
 - **The re-organization is working well, and is a big improvement.**
 - **Have the minutes for the subcommittee meetings been posted on the BVCP website?** They should be frequently updated.

2. Approach and Discussion for Shaping Choices - BVCP Event (40 mins)

- Suggestions for getting the word out.
 - **Any thoughts on doing the keynote in the beginning?** Perhaps it's a better idea to get everyone together all at once in the beginning.
The keynote/ presentation is scheduled for 5:30, allowing for flexibility with breakout sessions and accommodation for people to attend after work.
 - **It's critical to clearly communicate to people about what the event will be like.**
This can be accomplished through the use of handouts or posters around the sign-in area, explaining the structure of the meeting. Make sure to clarify that participants can come for all or just part of the event.
 - **The subject on jobs/population balance deserves its own topic in the small group discussions.**
 - **The overall structure looks great.**
- Confer and share ideas for what Boulder should be like in the future. This session of "What ifs..." will inform scenarios or key choices for the analysis as we continue our work to shape Boulder's future – through 2030 and beyond.

- **Like the idea** – Think about having these small speeches be both choreographed and spontaneous.
 - **This should last only half an hour or less.** Perhaps Aaron does the introduction for the session involving quick “perspectives” from members of the community.
 - **Prefer to have more people doing 60-second “perspectives”, rather than fewer people doing 2-3 minute speeches.**
 - Provide a general list of topics to help structure these short presentations.
- Questions for the Subcommittee:
 - 1) Suggestions for getting the word out.
 - **Spread the word to the neighborhood groups around the community.** Contact Amanda to help forward emails to these groups, and look into using nextdoor.com.
 - 2) Input on breakout sessions.
 - **Provide handouts with information from the survey results, as well as other work products produced thus far.**
 - **Bring out the 3-d story maps that the staff has produced.**
 - 3) Input on parallel online versions.
 - **Experiment with the Periscope app to put the event live on social media.** Facebook has also released a similar application that can be used for the event.
 - 4) Thoughts on the “1-2 minute What If... perspectives” by community members with various community perspectives.
 - **Seek a variety of perspectives – Elders, youths, etc.**
YOAB (Youth Opportunities Advisory Board) has shown interest in helping out with the event. YOAB would like to adapt a similar outreach method and engage their peers.
 - **Perhaps we should include YOAB in the “What If” perspectives as well.**

3. Update on Twin Lakes Facilitated Process (5 mins)

- **It is important to have a neutral facilitator and ensure the process starts from a place of trust.** TLAG wants a neutral 3rd party facilitator for this process.

4. General Comment

- **When do you envision survey #2 getting started?**
Staff does not have a specific timeline but anticipates starting the survey after scenarios have been created, so that it can ask specific questions about preferences. The RFP for scenarios has been issued, and staff anticipates hiring a consultant by mid April if we receive quality proposals.
- **What is the contract time line for the consultants?**
About 6 months. They will specifically help with the scenario planning and team with staff and consultants from different departments to do the analysis.

- **In looking at the timeline, the survey will most likely take place in September or August. Is creating a draft of the plan feasible by December, considering all the time constraints?**

The time frame is going to be largely driven by the complexity of these scenarios, and other more straightforward aspects of the plan will occur more quickly. We are aiming to prepare a draft by the end of the year.

5. Public Comment (10 minutes)

- 1st comment- I had a terrible time finding the project website. I find it hard to navigate the homepage of the planning department. There should be an index on the main planning page with a list of names that people can navigate through.
- 2nd comment- For the break-out activities at the engagement event, should we assume that the questions we already have here are the key questions we are likely to use? Are these examples or are they the refined questions, such as the specifics and the numbers? Does the public have the opportunity to provide input in shaping these questions?

Response from staff: *The questions provided to the committee are draft and will be revised and refined as event planning proceeds.. The planning team is still drafting questions to have available at the event and online. If anyone has suggestions, please feel free to email any comments to staff.*

Response from Public: Who and how do I send my comments to? We need to build trust and have these different parties take part in shaping these questions. What is the real purpose for the upcoming meeting? I don't understand how you will know if this meeting was successful. What are the outcomes you want? It feels to me that this event is similar to what we have already done in the listening sessions. I would like to see the summary of the listening sessions, survey results, etc.

Response from Committee Member: What is one way we can measure success? How would you measure success if you were in charge of this event?

Response from Public: What I think is missing is we haven't yet allowed people of opposing views to be in dialogue with one another. Get people together with different points of views and narrow the place of disagreements. One way is creating a panel of experts to help with this community dialogue. Another idea would be to have a subcommittee made up of people with expertise in community engagement to advise staff. What I envision may not be appropriate for the comp plan update. This may be a piece of an issue, a larger issue, which needs to be addressed.

Response from Committee Member: It is true that the BVCP will not be able to resolve all the challenges behind ballot initiatives or other community disagreements.

Next meeting: April 20

