



Land Use: Performance Space

Guiding Principle of Vision Plan:



Place for Community Activity & Arts - opportunity to expand cultural, arts or entertainment amenities that are otherwise lacking in the community.

As envisioned in the Civic Area Plan, any such facility "...must ensure active use throughout the week to avoid creating an inactive zone downtown when it is not in use."

What we've learned so far:

2013 Vision Plan presented two options:

- A mid-sized [800 – 1200 seat] performing arts center to be located on the East bookend between 13th and 15th Street on Canyon. This project was proposed and would be financed and operated by Boulder Center for Performing Arts group [BCPA].
- A redeveloped north side library site located on the West bookend to accommodate a smaller performing arts facility [300-500 seats] that would be flexible enough to allow for other uses. Proposed operation would be run under an as yet undefined public/private partnership.

Current Considerations:

- Early results of the City of Boulder's Community Cultural Plan, as well as an outside consultant's assessment completed in 2014 [contracted by BCPA] indicate a need for increased performance and rehearsal space in Boulder.
- The 2014 consultant's assessment indicates the highest use would be for a performance space with less than 500 seats.
- City staff has not yet seen a business plan that indicates the feasibility of sustainably operating a performing arts center.

Preliminary Staff Recommendation:

- The most feasible option suggests the City should fully analyze expanding or redeveloping the north wing of the main library to accommodate a 300-500 seat performing arts facility.
- Open to options for partnering on the planning, programming and operation of any such redeveloped facility.

We need your feedback...

What do you see as the key opportunities and constraints to further consider?