Boulder City Council
STUDY SESSION
Study Session is Televised

Tuesday
June 9, 2015

6-7:30 PM
Housing Boulder

7:30-9 PM
Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan Foundations Work and Community Engagement Plan

Council Chambers
Municipal Building
1777 Broadway

Submit Comments to City Council
Email: council@bouldercolorado.gov or
Attention: Alisa Lewis, City Clerk
PO Box 791, Boulder, CO 80306
Fax: 303-441-4478

BOULDER VALLEY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

Update on the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan, Foundations Work and Community Engagement Plan

June 9, 2015

Study Session
MEMORANDUM

To: Members of City Council

From: Jane S. Brautigam, City Manager
David Driskell, Executive Director of Community Planning & Sustainability (CP&S)
Susan Richstone, Deputy Director of CP&S
Lesli Ellis, Comprehensive Planning Manager, CP&S
Courtland Hyser, Senior Planner, CP&S
Jean Gatza, Sustainability Planner II, CP&S
Sean Metrick, Senior GIS Specialist, CP&S
Jeff Hirt, Planner II, CP&S
Sloane Walbert, Planner I, CP&S

Date: June 9, 2015

Subject: Update on Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan Foundations Work and Community Engagement Plan

STUDY SESSION PURPOSE

The purpose of the study session is to provide an update to City Council on the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan (BVCP) 2015 Update – Foundations Work and Community Engagement Plan and to receive feedback on these subjects and topics for focus for the 2015 plan update.

QUESTIONS FOR CITY COUNCIL

Does City Council have questions or feedback on the following topics:

1. **Upcoming Community Engagement** (see pages 6 to 7 and **Attachment A for background and B for the upcoming schedule**):
    a. Updated timeline, including "kick off" and "Planning 101," and
    b. Statistical survey(s).

2. **Foundations work in progress** (see pages 8 to 11 and **Attachments C and D**):
    a. Residential Growth Management analysis, and
    b. Trends Report and Subcommunity/Neighborhood Fact Sheets.

3. **Focused Topics** for the BVCP update (see page 12).

BACKGROUND AND APPROACH

Brief Introduction

Plan Purpose and Joint Adoption

The BVCP is the community's plan for the future. Its policies are intended to guide decisions about growth, development, preservation, environmental protection, economic development, affordable housing, culture and the arts, urban design, neighborhood character and transportation for the next 15 years. The Land Use and Area I, II, III Maps define the desired land-use pattern and location, type, and intensity of development.

Despite its 15 year horizon, the BVCP is updated every five years to respond to changed circumstances or evolving community needs and priorities.

Since the 1970s, the City of Boulder ("city") (Planning Board and City Council) and Boulder County "county" (County Commissioners and Planning Commission) have adopted the plan jointly. The ongoing collaboration to address issues of shared concern is relatively unique among communities.

2015 Update

The webpage for the 2015 update and portal for interested participants to sign up for project updates is: **www.bouldervalleycompplan.net**. The webpage also includes a link to the 2010 plan and maps. The 2015 BVCP update will carry forward long-standing core values, as noted (to the right). Additionally, an updated plan will be able to more clearly and graphically convey the community's vision; better align the city organization and its services; provide clear guidance and tools for implementation; and include metrics to monitor progress, among other goals for the update.

BVCP Core Values (p. 9, 2010 Plan)

1. Sustainability as a unifying framework to meet environmental, economic, and social goals
2. A welcoming and inclusive community
3. Culture of creativity and innovation
4. Strong city and county cooperation
5. A unique community identity and sense of place
6. Compact, contiguous development and infill that supports evolution to a more sustainable urban form
7. Open space preservation
8. Great neighborhoods and public spaces
9. Environmental stewardship and climate action
10. A vibrant economy based on Boulder's quality of life and economic strengths
11. A diversity of housing types and price ranges
12. An all-mode transportation system to make getting around without a car easy and accessible to everyone
13. Physical health and well-being

Applying a sustainability framework to decision-making in Boulder means considering the issues of environment, economy, and social equity together… At the intersection of all these areas is the community's ability to meet its needs now and in the future.

Plan Implementation

The plan is the overarching policy guide for the community. As such, its policies tend to be less detailed than those that are found in the city's 20+ master plans. The BVCP is implemented through many means as shown in the graphic to the right. The BVCP's land use map sets parameters around future growth. The regulations in the Boulder Land Use Code are largely instrumental in guiding development to achieve plan goals consistent with the land use

map. The city and county closely adhere to the BVCP as guided by an intergovernmental agreement. When the plan is amended, it is done so according to procedures established in the plan.

Consultant Assessment

In fall 2014, a consultant team (Clarion and Godschalk) assessed the 2010 BVCP, invited input and ideas from the four city and county review bodies and others, and framed ideas for the 2015 update. The final consultant Assessment report is located online.

Feedback and Input to date

Public Webinars, Meeting, and Online Poll (April 2015): Two short webinars, a public meeting, and an online poll in early April (through Apr. 17) enabled the community to learn a bit more about the planning process and share additional ideas to inform the Community Engagement Plan.

Board of County Commissioners (BOCC), Joint Boards, City Council: Staff presented the BVCP work program, community engagement ideas, and an update on the current Phase 1 foundations work. A more detailed summary of all the feedback is located in **Attachment A**.

- **BOCC Study Session (April 30, 2015):** BOCC encouraged thinking regionally as well as at the neighborhood level, engaging underrepresented community members, acknowledging great city/county collaboration, incorporating parallel efforts, partnering with organizations, and including county subdivisions.

- **Planning Board and Planning Commission Joint Meeting (April 16, 2015):** Board members offered multiple detailed comments on the topics of community engagement, regionalism, foundations work, growth and urban form, presentation/document formatting, and high-priority issues. The helpful feedback is noted in Attachment A.

- **City Council Study Session (Mar. 31, 2015) and Retreat (Jan. 2015):** Council members generally supported the work plan, schedule, consultant report ideas, gave feedback on the 3D tool, regional data and context, data requests, the survey, and general community engagement. At the annual retreat, council gave direction to move forward with the foundations work and begin official public involvement in mid-2015 with plan adoption in 2016.

Relationship of BVCP to other Planning Projects

The plan relates to multiple planning initiatives in 2015 and community engagement.

- ✓ **Vision, policy, and strategy development** work includes the Resilience Strategy, Housing Boulder, and the Climate and Energy Blueprint.
- ✓ **Implementation** work includes Design Excellence and Form Based Code Pilot, Development Fees, University Hill historic district, façade improvements, etc.

Principles for the Plan Update and Engagement

As discussed during previous study sessions, the city and county are aiming for an open and engaging update process that is focused on critical issues. The process should result in a useful, relevant, and updated plan completed in 2016. The update will entail extensive, authentic community dialogue and engagement as described in the Community Engagement

Plan. A Draft Community Engagement Plan can be found on the project webpage.

Project Timeline

Four phases are proposed for the BVCP update, each with extensive community dialogue and engagement. **Attachment B** includes the project timeline.

Phase 1—Foundations and Community Engagement Plan (to July 2015)
Phase 2—Issues Scoping with Community (through summer 2015)
Phase 3—Analyze and Update Plan Policies and Maps (summer 2015 - early 2016)
Phase 4—Prepare Draft Plan for Adoption, Extend IGA (to mid 2016)

Implementation steps, such as changes to code and zoning map updates would be completed following plan adoption.

During **Phase 1—Foundations/Community Engagement Plan—**the planning team will complete the background data collection, projections, trends report, map clean up and analysis, creation of subcommunity maps, analysis of metrics, and 3D base model and preparation for additional 3D and data tools later. Additionally, the Community Engagement Plan will guide the "kick off" and subsequent community engagement phases. An "Accomplishments and Challenges" report will assist the community's issues discussion in August.

The short **Phase 2—Issues Identification—**is aimed at working with the community to refine and solidify the priority issues to be addressed through the 2015 BVCP update through 2016. This phase will coincide with a community survey to identify opinions and specific issues related to growth, urban form, neighborhood character, and other topics to be defined.

Phase 3—Plan Analysis and Updated Policies and Maps—is a longer phase starting in late summer/fall aimed at doing the substantive work to develop choices and analysis for the plan update as well as the "housekeeping" updates to align it better with plans and policies. Several events/milestones will provide opportunities for the community to help shape the plan: a choices charrette, a survey, and scenarios meetings/events.

During this phase, the team will advance the 3D modeling and visualization tools to help convey conditions, options, and tradeoffs. Policy refinement and additions (e.g., adding arts and culture, climate commitment policies, local foods, etc.) will also occur with community input. Gaps in metrics to measure plan outcomes will be identified and the full set of measurements further refined. Finally, the Land Use Plan and Area maps will be updated, reflecting input and analysis from the public request process as well as scenarios and analysis.

Finally, **Phase 4—Draft Plan and IGA**—will synthesize all the previous phase deliverables in a draft plan for consideration/adoption. Additionally, the "Comprehensive Development Plan Intergovernmental Agreement" (IGA) between the city and county (valid through Dec. 31, 2017) will need to be updated before its expiration.

Upcoming Community Engagement Plan

City and county staff are completing the Community Engagement Plan for the BVCP update, with the aim of including diverse perspectives and developing an open and transparent process. The project should provide helpful information and multiple opportunities for community dialogue while remaining focused on critical issues as defined by leadership and incorporating community input. The Process Committee (described below) will provide input to refine and continually improve the engagement plan.

Engagement "Kick Off" in August

Staff is planning update kickoff activities in July and August with the purposes of generating awareness and excitement about the update process, providing baseline information about the plan and current trend analysis, and listening to ideas and concerns.

Kickoff activities are planned to span several weeks and will include multiple times, venues and ways for people to get information and engage. To the extent possible, the events will be held in conjunction with engagement for the Housing Boulder project.

Planning for engagement events in July and August includes:

- A possible mailed post card to all Boulder addresses with information announcing the plan update, webpage, and key events. Given the cost for the postcard (approx. $20,000), staff will discuss this option with the process committee (June/July);
- In addition to (or instead of a mailed post card), staff will work on a media "blitz" to generate awareness – this would include paid advertising, social media, and other venues. Additionally, the planning team will work with the Daily Camera on informational articles about plan related topics (June/July);
- The planning team will attend meetings at community organizations to present trends information and host conversations about issues and concerns (July – August and potentially beyond);
- Organize at least two events in early August to:
    - Provide information about the plan, trends, projections, process (including an introduction to Boulder planning);
    - Provide opportunities for dialogue and listening;
    - Gather initial ideas and issues for the update; and
    - Integrate with Housing Boulder strategy engagement and other projects.
- Host multiple online information and feedback opportunities (i.e., replicate in-person activities and questions in online formats, Inspire Boulder);
- Compile, summarize, and show what people share to shape areas of focus; and
- Conduct a statistically valid survey on issues of growth, development, and built environment.

Planning "101" Video Chapters

In previous discussions, boards, council and the BOCC have expressed how important "Planning 101" information has been for past plan updates. Therefore, the planning team proposes a series of short, one to two minute videos to tell the story about Boulder Planning from vision to implementation. The videos would be geared to a public audience—mainly people who are trying to learn about planning and how to get involved. The first three will describe the visioning and planning process and BVCP, and the later segments will explain the

regulatory process and how development review works. Video chapters proposed are:

Ch. 1 – A History of Planning in Boulder
Ch. 2 – Boulder's Vision and Values: The Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan, 2015 Update and Why it Matters
Ch. 3 – How Boulder Implements its Vision: Land Use Regulations and other Steps
Ch. 4 – How Projects Get Reviewed
Ch. 5 – About the Concept Plan Review Process
Ch. 6 – About Site Review
Ch. 7 – About By Right Projects *(optional)*

Each video would include brief background (e.g., "about the topic"), information about public engagement (e.g., "how can I get involved at this stage?") and how to get more information (e.g., "want to know more?" go to…)

Statistically Valid Survey(s)

Another request related to community engagement has been for a statistical survey to be completed. City council has expressed interest in conducting a survey to aid in plan development, particularly regarding growth and potentially some of the housing/jobs related policies. Consequently, staff has sought input from survey firms regarding the approach and budget and has requested proposals about how to survey a representative sample of the population (minimum of 600 recommended). The general tasks and deliverables will likely include:

Task 1A **Survey by mail** (and analysis of same) representative sample regarding opinions about urban form, growth, housing, jobs-related, and other policy topics (August/September);
Task 1B **Focus group(s)** of survey respondents for further discussion and input on survey responses to explore why respondents answered as they did (September/October); and
Task 2 **Survey by phone (or mail)** (and analysis of same) representative sample regarding focused plan options/solutions to address the growth topics initially identified (November to early 2016, depending on progress related to plan options in late fall).

The budget for these tasks should not exceed $50,000.

BVCP Process Committee

In addition to regular check-ins with the City Council and Planning Board as well as County Commissioners and Planning Commission (periodic joint meetings) on substance and process, a process committee has been formed with representatives from: the City Council (Macon Cowles and Sam Weaver); City Planning Board (John Gerstle and Leonard May); Board of County Commissioners (Elise Jones); and County Planning Commission (Lieschen Gargano). Beginning on June 10 2015, the committee will advise and guide staff on the overall process for the plan update and will likely meet once a month (or more frequently as needed).

ANALYSIS (AND DATA)

Overview of BVCP Foundations Technical Work

Attachment B includes an outline of the four-phased work plan with focus on technical foundations work (in addition to developing the Community Engagement Plan). Ongoing technical work includes the following tasks:

1. Update 2015 "Profiles"
2. Prepare 2040 Forecasts (25 years)
3. Prepare Trends Snapshot and Subcommunity Fact Sheets
4. Prepare Map Inventory Updates and do Land Use Map and Area I, II, III map clean up
5. Align Master Plans and Measurable Objectives/Metrics
6. Prepare 3D Urban Form Tools
7. Identify Initial Accomplishments and Challenges

Foundations Work Underway

2015 "Profiles"

The 2015 profiles updated in April provide a consolidated snapshot about the Boulder community and affordable housing program. See the 2015 community profile and affordable housing profile for more information.

What's the Status?

An initial draft of the 2015 Community Profile and the 2015 Housing Profile were completed in April. By July, the Community Profile will be updated and refined with information regarding jobs (square footage), sources of data, relationship to State Department of Local Affairs demographic information, break down of the population, and other information as requested by council. It will also include the 2040 forecasts for population and jobs.

2040 Forecasts (25 years)

In preparation for completing 2040 forecasts by June, the city worked with consultants (Economic Planning Systems and Clarion Associates) to do an independent assessment of forecast methodology. Since 2002, each BVCP update has incorporated refinements from previous years and new improvements. The base forecasting method is to establish current estimates of existing dwelling units, population, and employment as a first step, then project those forward 25 years using historic growth rates and zoning capacity. Since the methodology is zoning-based, projected residential and non-residential growth can be presented at the zoning district, subcommunity, and service area geographies.

The most significant 2015 projections refinement is the use of CommunityViz, a GIS-based tool that automates some of the calculations and allows housing to be projected in the same manner as employment, whereas in previous years the methodology differed for housing and employment. The model now also incorporates development constraints including flood zones (high hazard and conveyance) and wetland regulatory areas.

What's the Status?

Citywide forecasts for housing, population, and employment are being updated using the refined methodology noted above. Staff is currently reconciling and verifying different sources of existing employment data. Once that base information is complete in mid-June, the preliminary draft of the forecasts will be shared with City Council through an Information Packet.

Summary Analysis - Residential Growth Management System (RGMS)

Staff has conducted an initial analysis of the RGMS allocations since 2011, quantified them by type, and compiled statistics on exemptions to the system (see **Attachment C**). The analysis reveals that since 2011 when the city began tracking exemptions by type, a majority of new residential units have been exempt from the RGMS because they were located in mixed use projects, rezoned to a residential zoning classification, or were permanently affordable units. Even so, during this time period the average annual growth rate of residential units has been less than one percent.

What's the Status?

Preliminary draft available – to be refined by July.

Trends Report

The Trends Report examines Boulder's trends of today—"who we are, how we live," and "where we are headed" as a community. It is organized by community sustainability categories: Livable, Safe, Healthy and Socially Thriving, Environmentally Sustainable, Accessible and Connected, Economically Vital, and Good Governance (see **Attachment D**). Additional work needs to be done to complete the report and make it as targeted and relevant for the plan update as possible. Additionally, the report ultimately could become linked with metrics and periodically be updated to include metrics. The work completed to date indicates some evident emerging and continuing trends including but not limited to:

1. Boulder's population has grown, but it has not significantly aged or diversified since 2000.
2. The city (and region) is in post-recession growth period that is creating questions about the pace, quality, and type of development occurring in the community.
3. Boulder remains a major employment center, with job growth continuing to keep pace with population growth since the 2010 BVCP update. At the same time, Boulder continues to demonstrate long-standing trends of lower unemployment rates and higher average annual wages than the region and state.
4. Boulder is a multimodal city. Residents walk, bike, and use transit for a higher percentage of trips than their counterparts in the region.
5. Real estate values have been in a period of accelerated growth in the past few years, and the urban service area has almost no vacant land remaining.
6. Shocks and stresses seem to be the "new normal" for communities. Within the past 10 years, Boulder has emerged from two wildfires, a major flood, and an economic downturn. Moreover, the city is preparing for Emerald Ash Borer's effects on the Ash tree canopy and is working to prevent decline of pollinators. The scientific community continues to warn about increasing rates of climate change and the need to mitigate and adapt.
7. Boulder is doing well in terms of many community goals. It is a safe, healthy, accessible/connected, and desirable place to live. Community satisfaction with key amenities, including parks and open spaces, remains high.

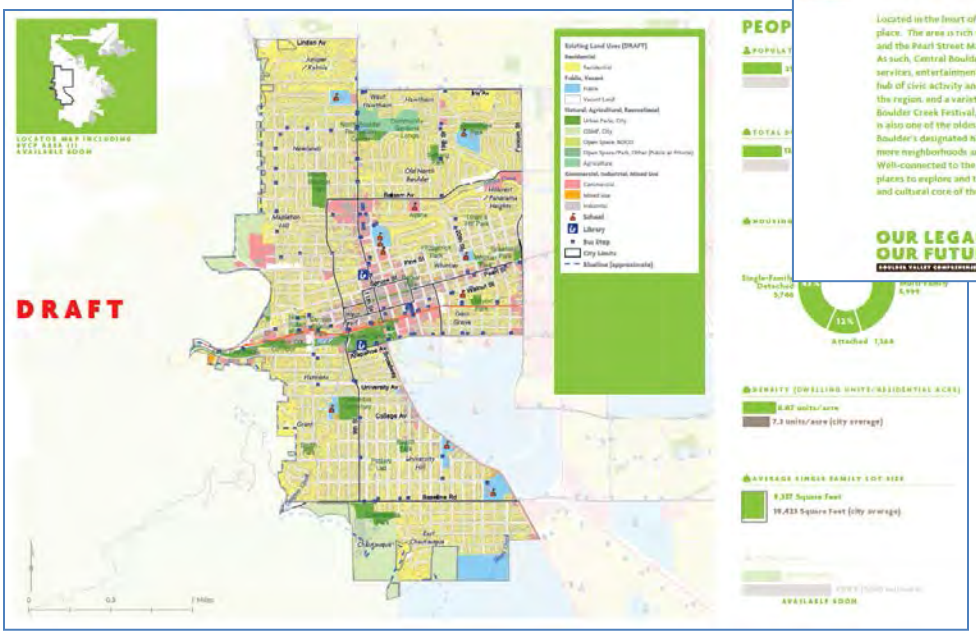
Other trends may become evident as research continues.

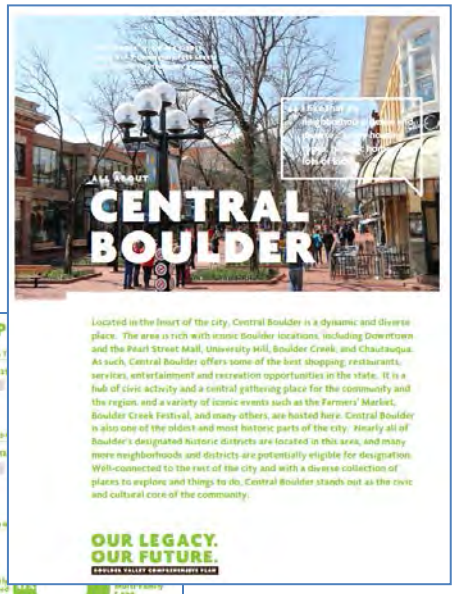
What's the Status?

The Trends Report will be completed in July.

Map Inventory Updates

Subcommunity / neighborhood maps and fact sheets document existing conditions and help identify factors related to areas of stability and change. Drafts are posted on the project webpage. **Land Use Map and Area I, II, III map clean up** will clarify parcels, identify inconsistencies with zoning, and identify suggestions for improving the descriptions and definitions to be ready for the land-use request process in August.





Example of a Subcommunity Fact Sheet (Note: A full size and more complete version will be provided at the June 9 Study Session.)

What's the Status?

Preliminary drafts of subcommunity maps are available and will continue to be completed and refined by July. Information and stories about historic districts, structures and sites will also be added. Factors for Stability/Change Areas in the city will be identified in coming months from the mapping analysis. Additional regional mapping will be completed by July/August.

Measurable Objectives/Metrics

The plan update will include metrics, including measures from master plans and subcommunity or area plans, to monitor progress of policies. Metrics need to be practical and relevant.

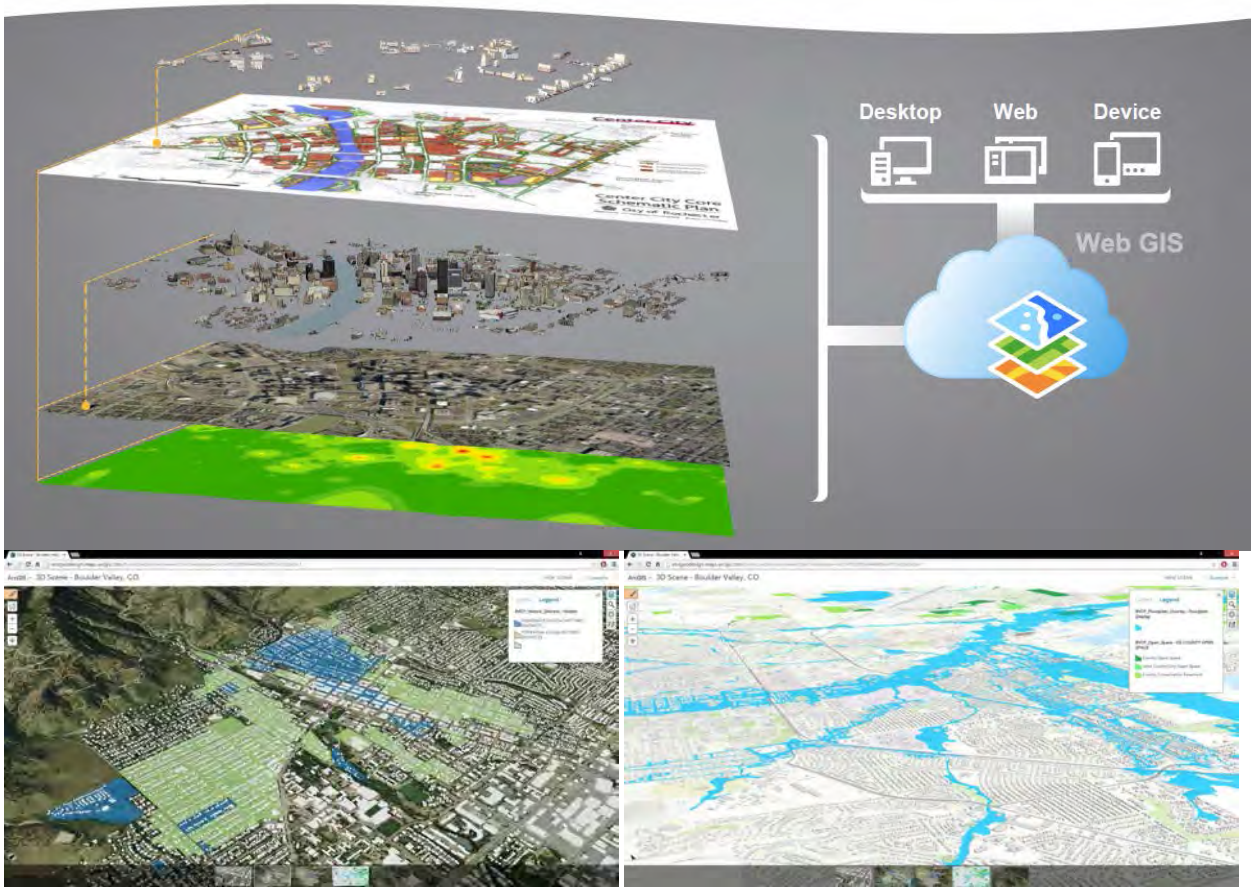
What's the Status?

The planning team has completed an initial review of master plans and is coordinating with the City Manager's Office on the performance metrics dashboard project. An initial assessment of existing policy metrics and gaps will be completed by July.

Prepare 3D Urban Form Tools

The mapping and visualization tools will enhance ways of presenting maps and data to the community in the form of story maps (e.g., story of water, transportation, etc.) and more visually and realistically in 3D (e.g., layered on topography, buildings, and natural features). Maps will be able to spatially depict non-spatial data such as energy use and revenues and depict metrics. The information should convey information in a manner that is easily understood and supports meaningful community dialogue about plans for the future. Additionally, these maps

will be able to highlight land use / transportation / services and infrastructure relationships.



Examples of data-rich 3D modeling supported by ESRI. The bottom two graphics are quick portrayals of 3D Boulder historic district and floodplains.

What's the Status?

The planning and GIS team will work in partnership with consultants from ESRI to develop the 3D mapping tools. Initial "existing conditions" 3D maps and story maps will be ready by July, while "future" conditions pilot maps for several areas within the city will be ready in the fall. 3D-enabled subcommunity profiles and regional context mapping will comprise the first set of online maps this summer. The team is working toward an online display of public land use requests. The planning team will use a variety of software including CityEngine to do 3D authoring, data management, and analysis for maps that will be helpful in communicating conditions and later for analyzing and updating the land use map and plan policies. Later in the project, publishing of scenarios and analysis will be online and in 2D and 3D.

Identify Initial Accomplishments and Challenges

Following completion of the previous tasks, the planning team will begin to identify accomplishments and remaining needs and opportunities for discussion and refinement with the community at initial outreach events in August.

What's the Status?

Not yet started. Draft in July.

FOCUSED TOPICS FOR BVCP 2015 UPDATE

Staff seeks council confirmation on focused topics for the 2015 Plan update. The following list is largely reflective of the findings of the consultant report in late 2014/early 2015 (See the final report online). It also incorporates recent input from the boards and commissions and BOCC and council discussions. Staff will further refine the list of issues to be addressed after input from Planning Board and City Council in June and from the community in August. *(Note: meetings with County officials need to be scheduled.)*

Substantive New Update Topics

1. **Growth Management and Urban Form** – The BVCP should clearly convey and illustrate the land use map and more clearly identify locations of potential future change and growth. It will be important to understand the new projected jobs and housing, and determine whether to refine the plan and/or growth policies to reflect the community's desired balance, pace, and type of future growth.
2. **Neighborhood Character** – The community has expressed interest in maintaining community and neighborhood character and conveying plans and policies at the local level—not just citywide.
3. **21st Century Opportunities and Challenges** – The BVCP must align and integrate with directions from other plans or initiatives such as Boulder's Climate Commitment, Energy Future, arts and culture, age-friendly community planning, and local foods. Additionally, the plan should address resilience. Finally, it should integrate any relevant strategies that emerge from the Housing Boulder project.

Process and Outcomes/Deliverables Improvements

Additionally, the process and deliverables should accomplish the following:

4. **Improve Community Engagement** – More robust, transparent, and meaningful engagement methods are critical;
5. **Make Plan's Vision and Values More Compelling** – Better tell and show Boulder's planning story and make the plan's vision and values more compelling and accessible (i.e., in graphic published document and online format);
6. **Add Stronger Links Between Policies and Actions and Implementation** – Make sure the policies can be implemented. Revisit plan sections regarding urban service criteria and standards. Improve the action plan. Ensure land use descriptions provide clear direction and a clean tie with the Boulder Land Use Code regulations and zoning, particularly related to site review criteria/community benefit;
7. **Add Metrics** – Incorporate relevant, high-level metrics from master plans and the strategic plan dashboard to ensure that policy progress gets measured because "what gets counted counts;" and
8. **Address City/County Intergovernmental Agreement Early** – Quickly address the city/county "Comprehensive Development Plan" IGA renewal to meet the Dec. 2017 deadline.

BVCP NEXT STEPS

July 16, 2015	Planning Board check in – remaining Foundations work and plan issues
July 28, 2015	City Council Agenda Item to accept BVCP schedule, work plan, and process for public requests for changes to the plan, including assessing interest in

	considering requests for changes to the service area
July/Aug (TBD)	Board of County Commissioners and Planning Commission check-ins
Aug	Community kick off regarding major plan issues, final “Planning 101” videos
Aug 3, 2015	Land Use change request process begins with applications due Aug. 28, 2015
Aug/Sept	Statistical survey of community on growth-related topics

ATTACHMENT(S)

A. Summary of Discussion and Public Input to Date:

a. Community Input on Community Engagement Plan (April)
b. April 30, 2015 - Board of County Commissioners Study Session
c. April 16, 2015 - Planning Board/Planning Commission Joint Study Session
d. Mar. 31, 2015 - City Council Study Session

B. BVCP Timeline

C. Residential Growth Management System Allocations Analysis

D. Trends Report

Attachment A: Summary of Feedback to Date

This attachment includes feedback from the public (March 31 through April 17) and summaries of the Board of County Commissioner discussion on April 30, 2015, the Joint City Planning Board/County Planning Commission discussion on April 16, 2015; and the City Council Study Session discussion on March 31, 2015. Summaries of the Nov. 3, 2015 – Joint Study Session with the Board of County Commissioners and Planning Commission and the Oct. 14, 2014 Study Session with the City Council and Planning Board and other discussions are also available on the project website.

March 31 – April 17: Public Outreach Regarding Community Engagement Preferences

Online Polling

An informal poll was posted on the comprehensive plan website (www.bouldervalleycompplan.net) beginning March 31 and closing April 17 to better understand how the community wants to participate in the update process. A total of 236 people from a wide range of Boulder neighborhoods (and outside the city) responded.

Respondents were asked to rank preferences for traditional and digital engagement methods as well as how they prefer to receive information. Respondents also provided open ended comments and suggestions. A high-level summary of results is presented in the text below. A detailed summary of survey results is available here.

- Preferred traditional methods are:
    1. Public events, meetings and hands-on workshops;
    2. Mailed postcards and surveys; and
    3. Meetings hosted by organizations or associations.
- Preferred digital methods are:
    1. Online surveys and polls;
    2. Emails from a group or organization; and
    3. Inspire Boulder.
- Preferred ways to get information and find out about events or ways to participate are:
    1. Emails from the "Boulder Planning" email list;
    2. News media story (print, TV, or digital); and
    3. Mailed postcards.
- Respondents heard about the survey primarily from direct e-mails and social media.

Respondents offered questions and feedback as noted in the following sections.

Engagement types

- Be sure to use all types of engagement (digital, in-person, mail, etc.) because people's needs and preferences vary widely.
- Include small, neighborhood meetings; charettes and scenario modeling.
- Schedule meetings and events on weekends and evenings in easily accessible locations;
- Use electronic "polling" at meetings to gain consensus in an anonymous manner.
- Offer web-friendly ways to provide input for people who can't come to meetings so they can engage at times they are able.
- Use the mail to reach residents; many older people do not use computers or social media.

- Conduct a survey by mail to ensure everyone has a chance to participate and has notice.

Ways to reach people

- Actively engage those who are typically under-represented in processes: students, millennials, local employers, low-income, etc.
- Welcome new people and have true open dialogue at public meetings.
- Reach out to agencies and non-profits to co-facilitate meetings with Spanish-speakers.
- Work with neighborhood organizations and consider having neighborhood representatives who are engaged at a high level, can attend most meetings and serve as a conduit between neighbors and city staff.
- Go through schools, churches and gathering places to connect with families.
- Outreach to organizations and local churches that work with homeless and low-income people.

Process

- Work to establish trust that people's input is being heard and considered in the decision-making process.
- Hire an outside party for survey results.
- Do a training session for anyone leading a "Meetings to Go" session.
- Address complaints constructively.
- Ask for specific input and not questions where the input will be vague. Listen to input – don't develop a position too early.
- Develop goals for engagement that are concrete and actionable. Have follow-up surveys or some feedback mechanism to measure progress with community engagement.

April 6 and 9 Webinars

A lunchtime webinar was offered on April 6 and an evening webinar on April 9 with total participants about 45. Copies of the webinars are on the project webpage. The purpose was to garner input from community members to inform the engagement plan for the update. Staff presented an overview of the update process and ideas for engagement. Participants offered questions and feedback as follows:

- How to engage renters, a range of ages, students and commuters;
- How the process will address issues of growth and development;
- Presentation of survey results; and
- Engaging in subcommunity or neighborhood planning processes.

April 7 Public Meeting

A public meeting was held in the Main Library from 5 to 6 p.m., including a presentation similar to the webinars (overview of the update process and engagement direction and ideas). Approximately 30 people attended. Participants offered questions and feedback verbally and on survey forms as follows:

Ways to reach people

- Provide information for neighborhood groups or associations. These groups can get information to people and serve as a voice for others who don't have time to participate.
- Consider a citizen advisory panel.
- Actively engage those who are typically under-represented in processes (e.g., low-income).
- To reach younger people, schedule time at local coffee shops on Saturday mornings with local officials attending. To reach families, go to community centers (e.g., rec centers and YMCA).
- Engage arts and cultural organizations.

- Digital and social media methods of engagement are important to use.

Process

- When providing information about options – use multiple "funnels" for information on options and consequences.
- Design engagement for more interaction between groups, so groups and people can talk to each other about issues and potential solutions.
- Define dialogue, participation and partnership; what is a successful outcome of the process.
- Balance the engagement – build trust between staff and stakeholders.
- Inform, educate and motive toward responsible action.

Study Session of Boulder County Commissioners for Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan (BVCP) Assessment and Scope – April 30, 2015

Board of County Commissioners Present: Deb Gardner *and* Elise Jones
Staff Present: Abigail Shannon and Denise Grimm (Boulder County); Lesli Ellis, Courtland Hyser, and Jean Gatza (City of Boulder)

Introduction

Staff provided a brief presentation covering the nature of the five year updates, vision, core values, service area, land use request process; consultant report, timeline, community engagement (would like input on county resident input), principles, seek opportunities to cooperate with other projects. The presentation also explained the work currently underway for the foundations and next steps.

Questions & Feedback

- Q: How will the BVCP update capture, steer, influence or galvanize interest and angst in the community about growth and development?
  A: These are top of mind for the community and we do need to address them. Getting ready for the conversations around character, potentially re-think previous decisions, forecasts will be informative. Anticipate working with different groups in the community. Likely won't get to consensus but find commonality around issues. Ensure people know growth/development is not the only topic of this plan.
- Q: Have found the plan in the past to be a bit frustrating because we haven't been able to measure our baseline or measure progress in achieving the comp plan goals. Do the foundation tasks provide measurement and point us to areas that need the most work?
  A: We are identifying areas where we have data and not. Will have some data and metrics and will have other areas where we need to create the metrics and collect data.
- Encourage thinking regionally. Need to be responsive to neighborhood process, but also consider the regional issues such as transportation, affordability, multi-modal - regional context and conversations that are happening.
- Engage parts of our community with whom we don't normally talk - especially low-income. These are the people who will bear the brunt of the next natural disaster. Provide a balance with the neighborhood conversations. Capture the full perspective.
- Acknowledge the great city and county collaboration. Agree with the comments in memo. Forecasting and trend analysis: need to look at assumptions to take into account future changes (e.g., climate change and environmental change) to determine our future plan. We may learn we already have too many people here to be sustainable.

- Parallel efforts - resiliency diagnostic. Be sure the many resiliency efforts are coordinated. Aligned with flood recovery efforts.
- Partnering with organizations - need to be fully inclusive in our list (e.g., add Latino Task Force, Circles, Community Foundation). Work with county staff to reach out to people who may be "untraditional" in their engagement.
- County has "subdivisions - neighborhoods in the county in the planning area. We can get contact names for HOAs.
- Appreciate opportunity to be on process subcommittee. Feedback please by end of next week. Got feedback that we should "put it in stone" that those two bodies get together annually.

April 16, 2015 Joint Study Session of the Planning Board and Planning Commission Regarding the 2015 Update to the BVCP

Following a presentation from city and county staff, the city Planning Board and county Planning Commission participated in an exercise to identify each member's top three topics for community engagement and issues. Following that exercise, the boards engaged in an open discussion of the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan 2015 Update. Both the results of the exercise and the subsequent discussion are summarized here.

Exercise Results

Staff asked the Planning Board and Planning Commission to provide feedback from their city or county perspective and note what is most important (i.e., "top three" topics for each) for:

1. Successful community engagement, and
2. Critical issues/topics the 2015 plan update to address.

The notes are grouped by themes below.

1—Community Engagement

General Engagement Ideas and Concerns

- What's still missing is a reason for people to participate
- Ask folks but also reflect what they say/suggest so they know they have been heard
- Aligning work/housing/transportation
- Identify and weigh various community objectives
- Make everyone aware that the comp plan exists… Rationalize and measure public feedback to distill/clarify where it is coming from and to get past most vocal to the unheard
- Provide contextual info regarding local/state/national trends to mitigate myopia

Groups and Demographics to Include

- Successful engagement reaches all ages, from children through the elderly, Incorporates scientific sampling, Is interesting enough to attract people's attention
- Community outreach – organizations, groups, schools, businesses
- Work with neighborhoods including mobile home parks, low income housing
- Consider reaching out to major Boulder Valley employers to set up/facilitate opportunities for those employees to engage
- Reach out to HOAs – see if they would host a visit
- Go to the people not normally digitally engaged. Go to the neighborhood scale and use those networks.

- Involve demographics not typically active in land use issues (e.g., young adults, non-native English speakers)
- Diverse input
- Sustained public engagement beyond the usual suspects
- Broad diverse public input
- Diverse representation
- Small groups, with diverse representation – cross pollination of ideas
- Direct outreach to underrepresented portions of the community
- Engage a broad cross section – requires innovative meeting exercises/formats. Consider field trips
- But – do not exclude groups with focus and expertise on Comp Plan
- Encourage some groups to hold meetings independent of staff

Methods

- Use traditional methods along with social media
- Absolutely suggest the idea of a city-wide poll on issues, as comprehensive and scientific as possible
- Identify means to evolve appropriate weight given to differing points of view
- Hands-on engagement so people can better understand impact of policies
- VISION engagements
- Continue city speakers program on planning topics
- Multiple collection methods
- Diverse tools
- Visual and engaging
- Tools that keep engagement
- Strong digital engagement and visibility
- Concern that if these are 15 different ways to give input we will get input from the same 30-40 people, just multiplied 15 times

2—Critical Issues and Topics

Presenting Information

- Vision – Imaging 3D urban form tool
- Showing land-use map changes and development over time – trending
- Clarify and illustrate the desired urban form for changing parts of the city – Written policy moving into visual representations – implementable actions
- Critical Topics: 3D, Urban Form, Demonstrating what growth looks like
- VISION issues
- Neighborhood mapping and area plans
- Be a document that is embraced by the community
- Enhanced visual tools (i.e., 3D, mapping, graphics)

Urban Form and Growth

- Reconcile growth with levels of service
- Decide if Hogan-Pancost should move to Area III
- Sustainable urban form – idea of regenerative improvement: what parts of the city are so good they cannot be allowed to change?

- Inform design guidelines where needed to get an outcome
- Critical topics: Land use map changes
- Give clear, regulatory guidance about development potential in infill areas of the city
- Growth
- Resolve long-standing ambiguity about parcels on the edge (e.g., Hogan-Pancost)
- Deciding on a desired urban form for areas of town that are likely to change
- Giving the community a chance to have a robust discussion about growth

Other Specific Topics

- Reconcile job growth with job types and housing and commercial space affordability
- Transit
- Community Diversity
- Energy: Solar, wind, water; natural gas? Transportation --how can this support resilience?
- Agriculture: Support local food production – both inside and outside urban centers. How does this affect energy? How does this support resilience? Does this support diversity?
- Diversity: Income; cultural; professional. How can this support resilience?
- Critical topics: Renew IGA soon.
- Begin work on IGA renewal ASAP.
- Identify ultimate population density (by area)
- Identify alternate transportation objectives by neighborhood
- Identify future public land uses by area
- Metrics/tracking
- Metrics on transit, affordable housing
- Resilience
- Addressing resiliency
- How to address jobs:housing imbalance
- Strengthening public understanding with strong visuals
- Housing – especially for younger and older segments of population (affordable and market rate)
- Tying policies and land use code clearly together. Should help de-politicize (to some degree) planning approval process
- Channel development to coincide with transportation infrastructure improvements.

Discussion Summary

Following the initial exercise to identify each board member's top priorities, the boards engaged in an open discussion of the Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan 2015 Major Update. For this summary, comments from that discussion are grouped according to major themes that arose:

- Community Engagement
- Regional Context and Perspective
- Feedback on Foundations Tasks Underway
- Growth and Urban Form
- Presentation of the BVCP Document
- Issues to Address this Summer

Community Engagement

- Q: Is the public application process (both text and maps) going to be changed?
  A: Staff has historically done a screening process to whittle down the applications to proposals relevant to the specific BVCP update cycle topics/criteria, which then goes to the four bodies for

their further review and decision making. The Area III Planning Reserve application process was debated in the 2010 update, but was ultimately left unchanged. All of the applications are due and analyzed at the same time. For this update, the opening date for accepting 2015 applications is anticipated to be in August.

- There still isn't a reason for certain people to participate which could mean a risk that we will hear from the same people, just in 15 different ways. The topic of the "Comprehensive Plan" is perhaps a bit dry and not engaging. Perhaps meetings should instead be framed around relevant topics such as building form or density that people really care about.
- Give residents of neighborhoods an overview of how staff/city identified and defined them, then have a conversation with the residents about their preferred identifying characteristics, topics/issues, and boundaries.
- Presenting the plan in a visual, quickly digestible way would help with public involvement and understanding the importance of the plan.
- Strive to engage a fuller range of the demographic spectrum that does not usually participate in BVCP updates (e.g. less affluent, ethnic minorities, elderly, the young, etc.). They make and provide important contributions to our community.
- Reach out to organizations that already have relationships with hard-to-reach people rather than expecting staff to reach out to them directly.
- Remember that "the community" also includes county enclaves. How do we reach them?
- Try to capture input on these issues from the many ways that we are engaging the community in other projects—from other planning processes.
- Create an affinity for interaction (staff to public, diverse socioeconomic and ethnic groups, etc.) vs. a fear or resistance to interaction.
- Show how public input is actually being used and implemented vs. heard and recorded (but then vanishing). We need to provide information to people that they can relate to.
- Provide more on and off-line communication tools and connections to neighborhood/city maps – road trips, walking tours, computerized/Google Earth "fly throughs", build-out and redevelopment scenarios, etc.
- The "community" includes all those who regularly interact with Boulder, and not just those who live or own property in town.

Regional Context and Perspective

- Regional context is important (i.e., the Front Range and state)? Where do we track with these trends, and where are we divergent? "Our Vision" doesn't get set entirely by the boundaries of the Boulder Valley.
- Other communities in Boulder County are reaching their limits too (i.e., growth boundaries, services, infill/redevelopment, housing diversity, etc.). We have common issues like "what is density/what are its benefits and drawbacks?" It would be useful to share/exchange ideas about approaches to dealing with these topics.
- The regional context informs many of the problems we face, especially the things just beyond the edge of the BVCP planning area.
- It is important to look at the big picture, but also important not to let that dominate or overwhelm needs and desired vision/future of the Boulder Valley – need to balance carefully.
- Remember that the county's role in the update is important. County constituencies both within the Boulder Valley and beyond are affected by the city's actions.

Feedback on Foundations Tasks Underway

- Q: Will there be trends devoted to the acres consumed by various uses (e.g., informal parkland that gets uses in places like redeveloped schoolyards; while formal parkland is added elsewhere)?
  A: Land use analysis will be a component of the foundations work. We will be meeting with Parks and Rec staff to determine park-specific data and indicators for the trends snapshot.
- Consider how open space use has changed over the years (e.g., places with public access vs. open space saved for conservation).
- It may be interesting also to show the biodiversity of open space in terms of "non-human" use. Show progress and assess the value of open space in relation to human uses.
- Include statistics on parkland and energy use.
- Q: Is the idea of a 3D map of the city linked at all to the LIDAR mapping that is also going on?
  A: Yes. There are many paths that could be taken to create a 3D model, both big and small in scope. The LIDAR data helps with mapping existing conditions.
- Spend some time with the Open Space/Other designations when doing the land use map clean up. This becomes a problem particularly when land use is not lot-based.

Growth and Urban Form

- The conversation about urban form is important even though the scope needs defining. It may be time to "bite the bullet" and really have these conversations. It will be difficult, but we should not shy away.
- We seem to have a growth management system that may be out-of-date and has been patched over time. Could there be a way to revise this system?
- Energy use/per capita energy use is an important part of the growth discussion. Need to address energy usage comprehensively. For example, the energy savings earned by smaller buildings/home designs can be negated by one larger building. Urban form issues (densities, areas of stability/areas of change) will also affect energy use and should be considered.
- Architecture and urban design excellence is something that should be elevated in our community. This doesn't necessarily mean architecture micro-management, but it is something that should be addressed periodically.

Presentation of the BVCP Document

- Taking a graphics-driven approach is helpful. A document that is too text-heavy becomes hard to engage people. Expand the use of metrics to the extent possible.
- Integration with department master plans is a great idea. Continue working on this.
- There are aspirations in the comp plan that have no link to any action item or implementation step. Making the links more clear would be helpful.
- Don't be too constrained by the existing format and layout of the BVCP. There may be an opportunity to reorganize the document itself – "less can be more" in terms of comprehension and gaining interest/readership.

Issues to Address this Summer and Other Comments

- Send a BVCP update informational post card to everyone in the Boulder Valley.
- The discussion about an IGA renewal should happen sooner rather than later.
- Settle the two body vs. four body process issues raised in the 2010 update, and do it sooner rather than later (like the IGA renewal).

- The city and county need to continue working on better communication and coordination with each other about resilience issues. Where are we on developing unified/complementary plans, and what gaps or needs in resiliency planning and coordination already exist?
- Might it be possible to re-frame subcommunities with a slightly finer grain so as not to lump neighborhoods together that are, in fact, very different places? (This seems especially important in the central area.)
- Can we talk about urban gardening and food production? Should regulations or designations related to food production be changed?

City Council Study Session– March 31, 2015

City Council provided the following feedback at a study session on Mar. 31:

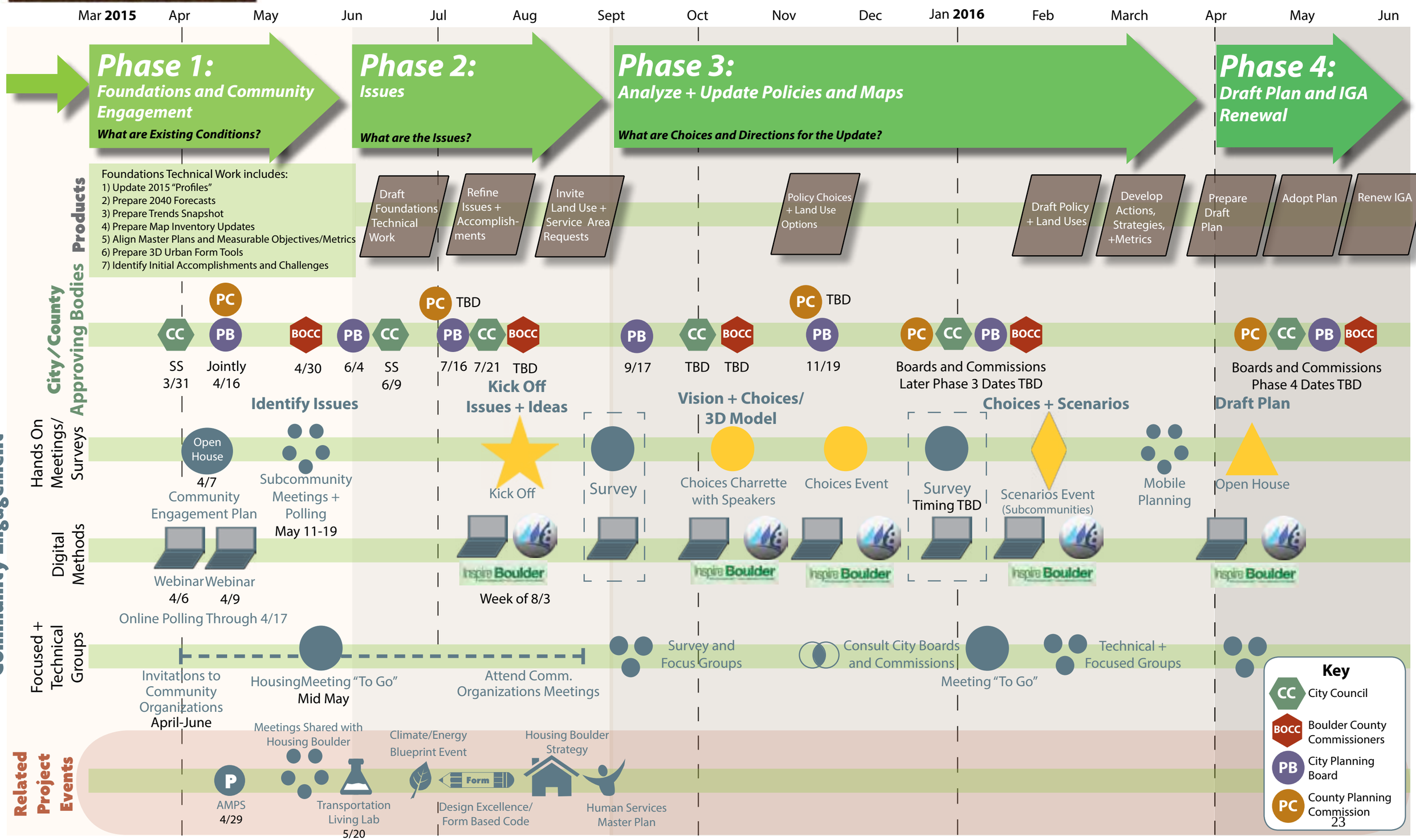
- **3D Tool:** Generally liked the concept of a 3D urban form tool that will enable people to envision what growth and different types of building forms may look like.
- **Regional Data and Context:** Some council members stressed the importance of considering the regional context of growth and planning when assessing data for the BVCP update.
- **Data Requests:** This BVCP will bring forward a lot of useful data and analysis. Consider segmenting student data. Provide existing and trends data on net commercial and industrial space and jobs and housing units. Show realistic growth numbers (trends from past 5-10 year and forecasts for the next 10 years+). Segmented information by neighborhoods, subcommunities is helpful.
- **Survey:** Several council members stated that a statistically valid survey to assess community opinions regarding focused planning issues could help inform this process and worth the cost. A hybrid approach (i.e., mail, Internet, phone) may be the best solution.
- **Multi-Pronged Outreach:** Outreach should involve multiple methods and engage hard-to-reach people to get a 360 degree picture of the community.
- **Planning 101:** We used to do a “Planning 101” session at the beginning of comprehensive plan updates. It would be valuable to do so again.

OUR LEGACY. OUR FUTURE.
BOULDER VALLEY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN

2015 Update: Work Plan

Draft 6/4/2015

Attachment B - BVCP Timeline



Attachment C: Residential Growth Management System Allocations Analysis DRAFT June 4, 2015

Background

The city's current residential growth management system (RGMS) resides in Section 9-14 of the Boulder Land Use Code, and was set forth in Ordinance No. 7026, which was adopted on January 4, 2000. This RGMS updated and replaced the city's prior RGMS from 1982 and is the version that is in use today. The revised system maintained the residential growth rate at one percent, but also granted exemptions for certain types of development. These exemptions do not count against the one percent cap established by the ordinance. The stated intent of the ordinance was to simplify the administration of the system and to permit more residential construction, more quickly, than the previous growth management system. The exemptions prevent RGMS from being a barrier to the development of projects that the city, as a matter of policy, desires to encourage.

Prior to obtaining a building permit for residential construction, a developer must first apply for the required number of allocations under the RGMS. One allocation is needed to secure a building permit to construct each dwelling unit[1]. Dwelling units that meet the exemptions listed in the table below do not count against the available allocations for that year.

Exemption Type	Rationale	Year
Permanently affordable dwelling units	Meet the city's affordable housing goals.	2000
Dwelling units built pursuant to a development right contained in the intergovernmental agreement between the city and Boulder County, dated April 4, 1995, that is transferred into the city	The IGA established a transfer of development rights (TDR) program between the city and Boulder County. The city agreed to permit the use of development rights transferred from a defined Plan Area to locate development upon approved receiving sites within the boundaries of its community service area. The exemption from RGMS was used as an incentive for participation as a TDR receiving site.	2000
Housing projects built by the University of Colorado (CU) for the sole purpose of providing housing for students, staff, and faculty of the university[2]	Exempted because CU development is outside of the purview of local development regulations. City staff does not track these exemptions because permits for new buildings on university land are typically reviewed and issued by the State of Colorado.	2000
Dwelling units that are not permanently affordable units in developments with a minimum of	This exemption recognizes the importance of the internal subsidy between market rate and permanently affordable housing that is often used to get such	2000

[1] Living quarters in efficiency living units, group residences, group care facilities, and congregate care facilities require partial allocations.

thirty-five percent permanently affordable dwelling units	projects under construction and ultimately to the market.	
Exemption Type	**Rationale**	**Year**
Mixed use developments	The intent of this amendment was to encourage the construction of residential units in mixed use, commercial, and industrial zoning districts.	2000
Dwelling units built on land that was rezoned from a nonresidential zoning district classification to a residential zoning district classification after August 19, 2004	This exemption was enacted in 2004 and incentivizes the implementation of adopted plans. As the city legislatively rezones land to residential to implement adopted plans, this exemption helps to direct residential investment into those areas. In addition, the exemption allows developers to pursue a rezoning to a residential zone since housing developed within mixed use, commercial and industrial zoning districts are already exempt per the exemption above.	2004

Allocations (housing units) that count toward the available allocations for each year are referred to as "excess allocations." Dwelling units that meet the exceptions are referred to as "exempt allocations." In addition, allocations for dwelling units that are removed and replaced within three years in a development that has four or fewer units do not count against the available allocations for that year. These allocations are referred to as "demolition allocations." This exemption was intended to align with inclusionary housing requirements of Land Use Code 9-13-3. Additionally, up to twenty-five percent of allocations available, but not granted, in the prior calendar year may be carried forward to the current year.

Analysis

The city has accurate data tracking RGMS allocations by type beginning in 2011. As shown in the table below, allocations vary by year, but in recent years it has been common for a majority of the allocations in a given year to be exemptions from the RGMS: 91% in 2011, 27% in 2012, 91% in 2013, and 69% in 2014.

RGMS Allocations by Type				
Type	**2011**	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**
Excess (count toward the RGMS)	36	192	62	110
Exempt	491	80	933	327
Demolitions	10	23	24	8
Total Allocations	537	293	1020	474

Exemptions by type are shown in the table below. For the years presented, the most commonly used exemptions were for mixed use development, rezoning to a residential district, and for producing permanently affordable housing.

Exempt Allocations by Type				
Type	**2011**	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**
Permanently Affordable	97	12	262	12
Intergovernmental Agreement	0	9	0	0
Thirty-five Percent Affordable	0	0	3	12
Mixed Use Developments	316	0	353	25
Rezoned to Residential	78	59	315	278
Total Exemptions	491	80	933	327

Because RGMS allocations are obtained at the outset of the permitting process, and because several years can pass from when a project receives its allocation to when it receives a certificate of occupancy, RGMS allocations and dwelling unit growth rates are not directly comparable by year. That is to say, an allocation obtained in 2012 does not mean that a certificate of occupancy was also obtained for that same development in 2012. Still, certificates of occupancy are useful in determining the actual rate of growth of dwelling units from one year to the next. This information is shown in the table below.

Housing Units				
	2011	**2012**	**2013**	**2014**
Total Housing Units	43,178	43,617	43,791	44,271
New Housing Units Completed	449	213	247	278
Housing Units Growth Rate	1.0%	0.5%	0.6%	0.6%
Building Permits Issued for New Housing Units	106	415	878	608

Conclusion

Since 2011, a majority of the units developed in the city have been exempt from the RGMS because they were a mixed use project, such as the Gunbarrel Center, or the property was rezoned to residential zoning classification, such as the Alexan Flatirons in Gunbarrel or Landmark Lofts on the 28th Street frontage road. This is by design, as the exemptions were created as a tool for achieving residential development that meets the community's goals.

The presence of exemptions does make it possible for the increase in dwelling units to exceed one percent in a given year, and this is acknowledged in the legislative intent of the RGMS [Land Use Code 9-14-1(a)] which states that the intent is to: "Establish a residential building permit management system that provides for a long-term rate of growth in the city no greater than one percent per annum, but recognizes the potential for fluctuations in that rate on an annual basis". For the years contained in this analysis (2011-2014), the annual residential growth rate averaged 0.8 percent. This is the actual rate of increase based on certificates of occupancy and includes exempt allocations issued during those years, even though exempt units do not "count" for RGMS purposes. Thus, even when residential uses that are exempt from RGMS are included, the average annual growth rate has been under one percent.

For additional reference, the table below summarizes various growth statistics for years prior to the 2011-2014 timeframe that was used for this analysis.

City of Boulder [1]
2003-2014 Housing, Population, and Employment Data

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Housing Units [2]												
Total Housing Units	41,031	41,175	41,482	41,812	42,120	42,260	42,574	43,037	43,178	43,617	43,791	44,271
New Housing Units Completed	189	335	376	363	204	372	489	160	449	213	247	278
Housing Units Growth Rate	0.5%	0.8%	0.9%	0.9%	0.5%	0.9%	1.2%	0.4%	1.0%	0.5%	0.6%	0.6%
Building Permits Issued for New Housing Units	284	540	217	300	583	401	141	453	106	415	878	608
RGMS Allocations [4]	558	78	229	263	254	184	309	193	537	293	1,020	474
Excess	86	21	90	65	51	108	47	80	36	192	571	110
Exempt	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	491	80	933	327
Demolitions [5]	39	20	44	68	62	42	23	15	10	21	25	8
Population												
Area I (City Limits) Population	97,562	97,870	98,526	99,232	99,891	100,190	100,792	97,706	98,986	101,169	101,824	102,420
Population Growth Rate	1.0%	0.3%	0.7%	0.7%	0.7%	0.3%	0.6%	-3.2%	1.3%	2.2%	0.6%	0.6%
Employment [6]												
Area I (City Limits) Employment	98,164	98,394	98,400	98,400	100,100	97,753	97,500	96,800	97,500	99,400	102,500	103,800
Employment Growth Rate	1.3%	0.2%	0.0%	0.0%	1.7%	-2.3%	-0.3%	-0.7%	0.7%	1.9%	3.1%	1.3%
Commuting Patterns [7]												
Work in Boulder, Commute from Outside Boulder	--	--	--	51,556	--	52,852	--	52,907	--	59,000	--	--
% Work in Boulder, Commute from Outside City of Boulder				52%		54%		55%		59%		
Work and Live in Boulder	--	--	--	46,844	--	44,901	--	43,893	--	40,400	--	--
% Work and Live in City of Boulder				48%		46%		45%		41%		
Live in Boulder, Commute to Outside Boulder	--	--	--	13,992	--	11,733	--	10,296	--	13,500	--	--

[1] All numbers are for Area I (city limits)

[2] Building permit numbers reflect Certificates of Occupancy issued for new residential units and do not account for demolitions and mobile home park unit variations.

[3] 2014 numbers and estimates are as of October 28, 2014.

[4] Number reflects all RGMS allocations for excess, exempt, and demolitions for years data is available. Some allocations may have expired or may not have been used. Note two corrections from the September 16, 2014 City Council memo - 1) the 2011 total RGMS allocations are 537 (not 538) and 2) the 2013 total allocations were 1,020 (not 995) as the previous number excluded demolitions. Numbers do not include reservations.

[5] Demolition allocations may be used to replace a demolished unit within three years subject to the provisions of section 9-3-13(e), B.R.C. 1981.

[6] The total employment estimate is developed using US Bureau of Labor Statistics data, reviewed for accuracy at a local level by the University of Colorado LEEDS School of Business – Business Research Division, and a self employment factor (10%) is applied to establish a total jobs estimate.

[7] The City of Boulder commuting estimates are a labor force driven estimate, using a mixture of federal and local data and assumptions. The estimate begins with an estimated number of households (City and State estimate) and develops a resident labor force (the population of workers) using a factor of 1.3 workers per household (State Department of Labor).

Attachment D:

TRENDS REPORT

Rough Draft: Work in Progress-- Unformatted

Trends Report
DRAFT May 28, 2015

CONTENTS

Introduction……..……3
Executive Summary……..……..5
Livable……..…6
Accessible and Connected……12
Environmentally Sustainable……15
Healthy and Socially Thriving……19
Safe……22
Economically Vital……..24
Good Governance……..27
Sources……28

DRAFT

INTRODUCTION

The Use of Trends Analysis in the BVCP

The Trends Report for the 2015 Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan (BVCP) Update presents a diverse collection of data, including snapshots in time of current/recent conditions, as well as trends over time from different sources (identified in this draft with endnotes). Much of the information is presented at the citywide level. To allow for an appropriate perspective, some data is presented at regional scales as well. The most common regional scales included in this report are Boulder County, the Denver Metropolitan Region, and in some cases, Colorado. Later drafts of the report will include a section that presents existing conditions at a scale that is smaller than the city: the subcommunity (neighborhood groupings) level.

The data that is used in this report comes from a variety of sources at the national, state, regional, and local levels. Data availability played a major factor in the indicators that were selected for this report. Due to data limitations, the trends report cannot be exhaustively comprehensive in its scope, but rather should be viewed as a resource that helps to shed light on topics that the BVCP update will need to address such as population, growth and development, connectivity, and others.

By highlighting existing conditions and recent changes in the community and region, the Trends Report helps to establish the context for the 2015 BVCP update. Previous updates have identified focus areas for new content or policy changes to the BVCP. These focus areas are determined not only by data and trends analysis, but also by issues and concerns of the time. Along with the other technical analysis products that comprise the foundations work for the BVCP update, the Trends Report helps to provide information to support additional conversations with the community and its decision-makers in identifying the appropriate focus areas for the update and refined policies and metrics.

Relationship to Other BVCP Work Products

This report is part of a collection of technical analysis products that support and inform the 2015 BVCP update:

- 2015 Community Profile
- 2015 Affordable Housing Profile
- 2015-2040 Population and Employment Forecasts
- Map Inventory Updates and Analyses
- Subcommunity Fact Sheets
- Master Plan Inventory and Alignment
- Accomplishments and Challenges Analysis

When taken together, these work products will provide an informational foundation for conversations and policy discussions that will occur throughout the remainder of the BVCP update process. Beyond the 2015 BVCP Update, they will serve as an informational resource in the years ahead.

The Sustainability Framework

This report uses the components of Boulder's sustainability framework as an organizing element. Sustainability was advanced in the 2010 BVCP and has since been adapted into a framework that is frequently used in the city's strategic plans, master plans, and projects. The framework has two purposes: it helps to ensure policy alignment across different city departments, and it also serves as a bridge linking individual planning efforts with the city's priority-based budgeting process.

The sustainability framework aligns well with the Core Values that are identified in Section 1 of the 2010 BVCP:

Sustainability Framework	BVCP Core Values
Livable Community	• Our unique community identity and sense of place • Compact, contiguous development and infill that supports evolution to a more sustainable urban form • Great neighborhoods and public spaces • Diversity of housing types and price ranges
Accessible and Connected Community	• An all-mode transportation system to make getting around without a car easy and accessible to everyone
Environmentally Sustainable Community	• Sustainability as a unifying framework to meet environmental, economic, and social goals • Environmental stewardship and climate action
Healthy and Socially Thriving Community	• A culture of creativity and innovation • Open space preservation • Physical health and well-being
Safe Community	• A welcoming and inclusive community
Economically Vital Community	• A vibrant economy based on Boulder's quality of life and economic strengths
Good Governance	• Strong city and county cooperation

The Trends Report for the 2015 BVCP Update provides insight on where the community currently stands for a wide variety of indicators related to sustainability and the BVCP's Core Values.

DRAFT

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Coming Soon—to be added in July draft

DRAFT

LIVABLE

Many components contribute to creating and sustaining a livable community. In defining livability, the sustainability framework focuses on the inter-relationship of safety, housing, city maintenance, regulations, and services, and inclusivity. The BVCP addresses livability with a variety of goals and policies on the built environment, housing, and community well-being. The data analysis presented here focuses on population characteristics, housing, land use, and quality of life.

Note: To increase alignment with the sustainability framework and the BVCP, staff will add the following material to the July draft of the Trends Report:

- *Projections-related data*
- *More detailed demographics information on college-age population and household status*
- *More detailed residential growth statistics for unit types and the residential growth management system*

Livability Trends:

- Boulder is the largest city in the county, and since 2010 its population is growing at a rate of approximately 1% a year. The overall population has not significantly aged or diversified since 2000.
- The presence of a large college-age population (nearly 30% of Boulder residents are in their 20s) skews the city's income and poverty statistics, making the community appear to be younger and less affluent.
- An aging population is expected to be a predominant trend over the next 25 years.
- Boulder continues to add housing units, with a majority of new units being attached and multifamily units.
- Home prices in Boulder have long been higher than the region and are rising fast in the post-recession economy.
- There is very little undeveloped land remaining within the city (less than 1% of the total parcel acreage).

Population

2015 POPULATION ESTIMATES[i]

City of Boulder 103,840

Boulder Service Area 115,605

2040 POPULATION PROJECTIONS[ii]

City of Boulder ***Coming Soon—***awaiting forecast results

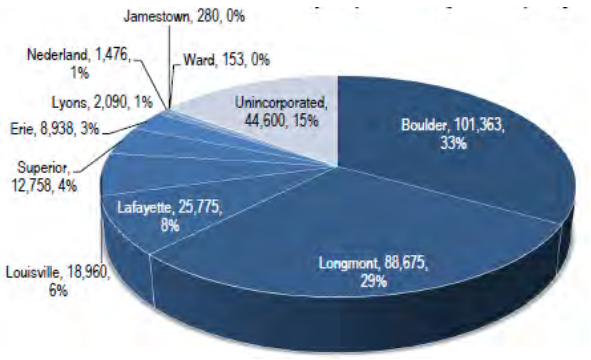
Boulder Service Area ***Coming Soon—*** awaiting forecast results

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO ENROLLMENT

Current 2015 ***Coming Soon—***awaiting forecast results

Projected 2040 ***Coming Soon—***awaiting forecast results

BOULDER COUNTY POPULATION BY MUNICIPALITY[iii]

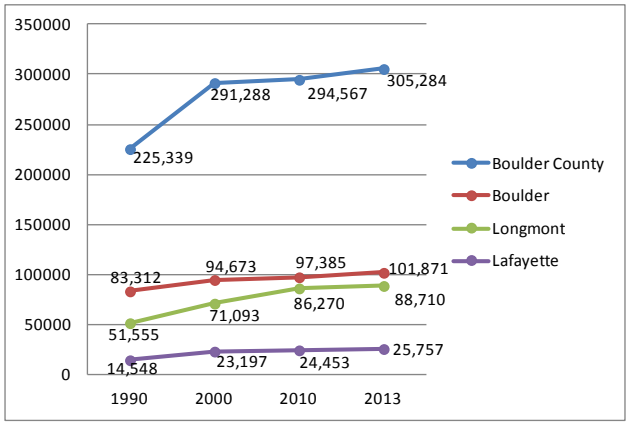


Boulder is the largest city in Boulder County, with approximately one-third of the total county population.

Trends Report

DRAFT May 28, 2015

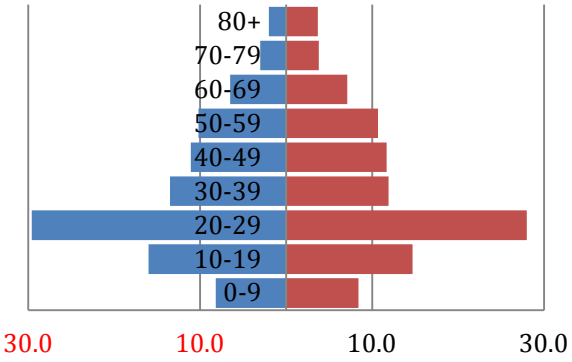
POPULATION CHANGE IN BOULDER COUNTY AND ITS LARGEST CITIES[iv]



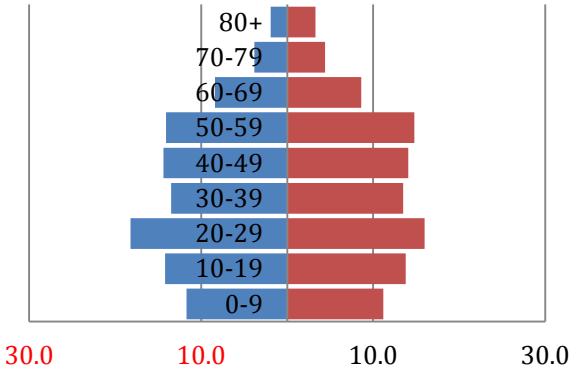
Boulder's population is increasing, but at a slower rate than the county and nearby municipalities. Since 1990, Boulder's population has increased by 22% (0.9% annual growth rate), Boulder County's by 36% (1.3% annual growth rate), Longmont's by 72% (2.4% annual growth rate), and Lafayette's by 77% (2.5% annual growth rate).

AGE DISTRIBUTION[v]

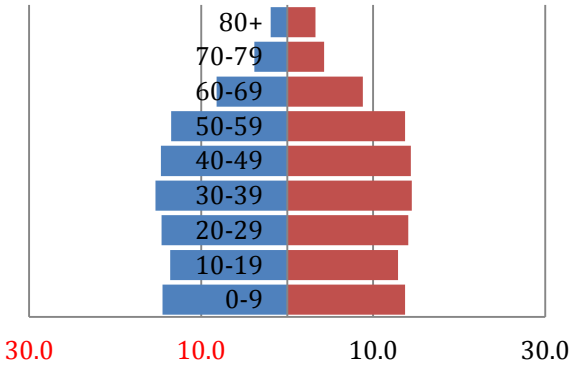
BOULDER 2012



BOULDER COUNTY 2012

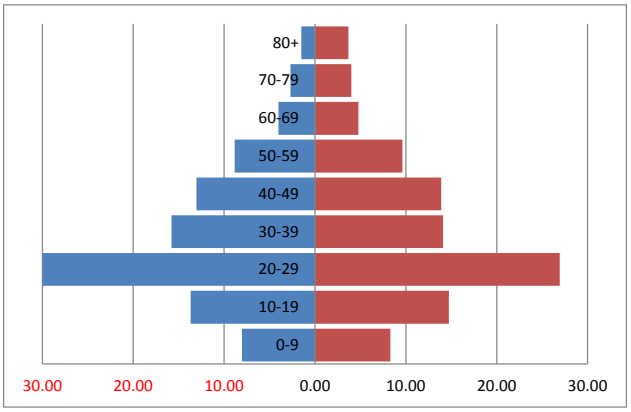


DENVER-AURORA-BOULDER CSA 2012



Boulder's age distribution skews heavily toward college-age residents, but is otherwise similar to the county and the region.

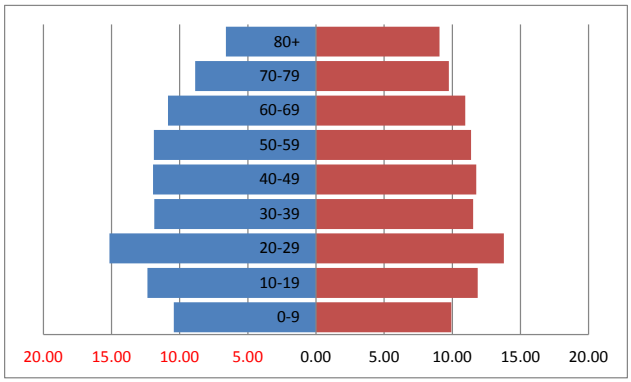
BOULDER 2000



A look at Boulder's age distribution from 2000 shows that the city has not significantly aged since that time.

Trends Report
DRAFT May 28, 2015

BOULDER COUNTY 2040[vi]



2040 county-level population estimates from the Colorado Department of Local Affairs show a dramatic shift in age distribution predicted over the next 25 years.

COLLEGE POPULATION OVER TIME

***Coming Soon*—**data collection in process

BOULDER RACE AND ETHNICITY[vii]

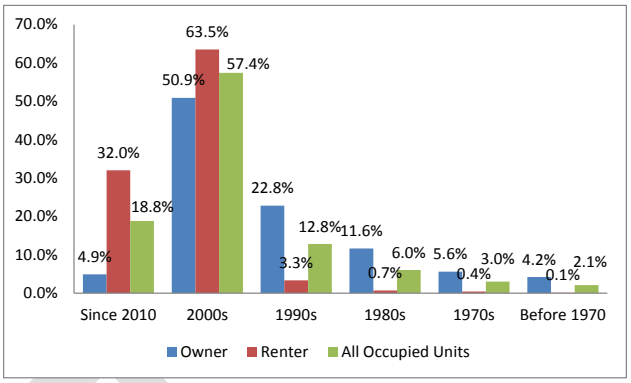
Race/Ethnicity	2000		2013	
White	83,627	88.3%	89,467	89.1%
Black/African Am.	1,154	1.2%	913	0.9%
Am. Indian	450	0.5%	266	0.3%
Asian	3,806	4.0%	4,411	4.4%
Pacific Islander	48	0.1%	42	0.0%
Other Race	3,318	3.5%	2,373	2.4%
Two or More Races	2,270	2.4%	2,891	2.9%
Total	94,673	100%	100,363	100%
Hispanic or Latino	7,801	8.2%	8,817	8.8%
Not Hispanic	86,872	91.8%	91,546	91.2%

Boulder's racial and ethnic composition has changed minimally since 2000.

LANGUAGE SPOKEN AT HOME

***Coming Soon*—**data collection in process

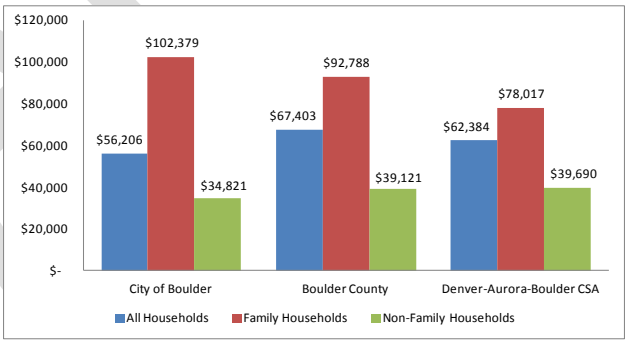
YEAR BOULDER HOUSEHOLDER MOVED INTO UNIT[viii]



Most Boulder householders have moved into their current residence since 2000. For those that moved in since 2010, it's far more common for them to rent than to own.

Income

MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME[ix]

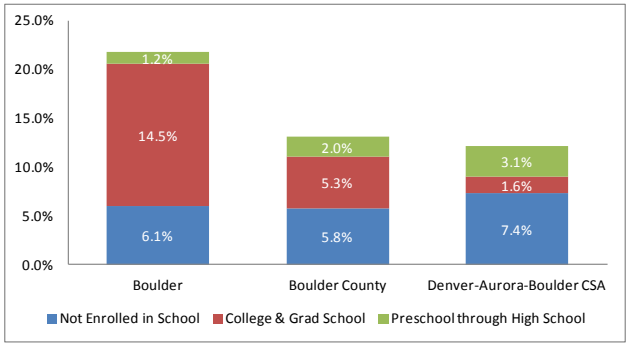


Boulder's median household income is lower than both the county and the region. This is largely because of a concentration of non-family households (including student households) which have much lower incomes than family households. By contrast, Boulder's family household income is higher than the county's, and significantly higher than the region's. In Boulder, the median income for family households is $67,558 higher than for non-family households. Compare this to the Denver Metro region, where the income gap between family households and non-family households is much smaller ($38,327).

DRAFT

Trends Report
DRAFT May 28, 2015

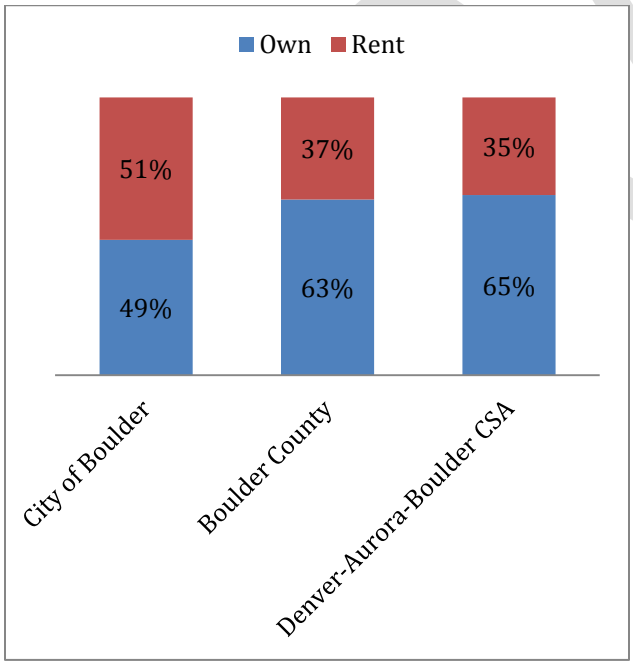
POVERTY BY SCHOOL ENROLLMENT STATUS[x]



Nearly 22% of Boulder residents are in poverty, a much higher percentage than the county (13%) or the region (12%). Breaking down this statistic by school enrollment status shows that most of Boulder's impoverished residents are enrolled in college or graduate school.

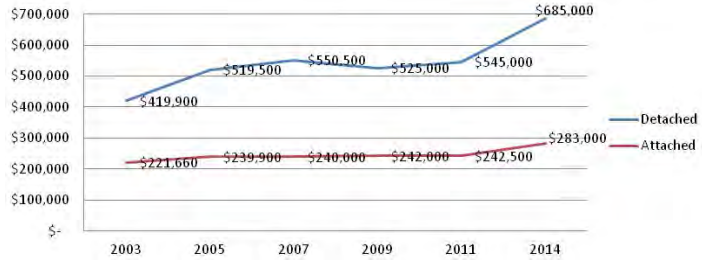
Housing

OCCUPIED HOUSEHOLDS OWNED/RENTED[xi]



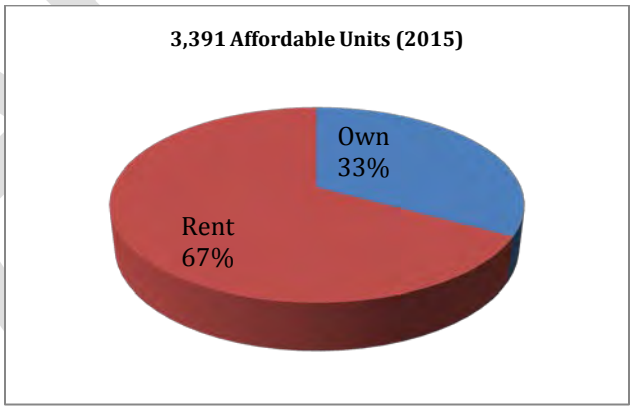
Boulder's housing stock is nearly evenly split between owners and renters, whereas in the county and region owners occupy closer to two-thirds of the housing stock and renters one third.

BOULDER MEDIAN ANNUAL HOME PRICE[xii]



Housing prices in Boulder are higher than the region, and have seen especially steep price increases in the post-recession economy as demand continues to outpace supply. By contrast, in 2014 the median home price in Metro Denver was $306,900[xiii].

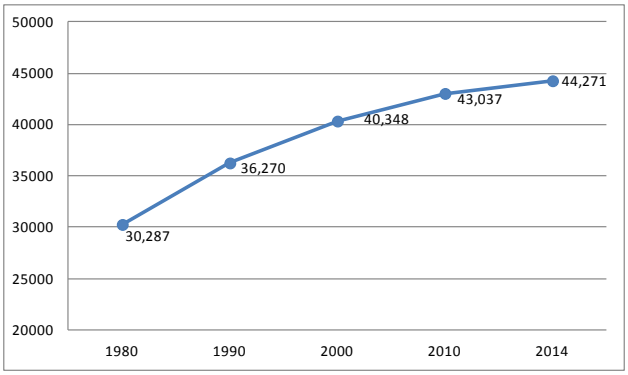
CITY OF BOULDER AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAM[xiv]



The 3,391 units in Boulder's affordable housing program represent 7.5% of the total units in the city. About two-thirds of the units are rentals, and one-third are owner-occupied.

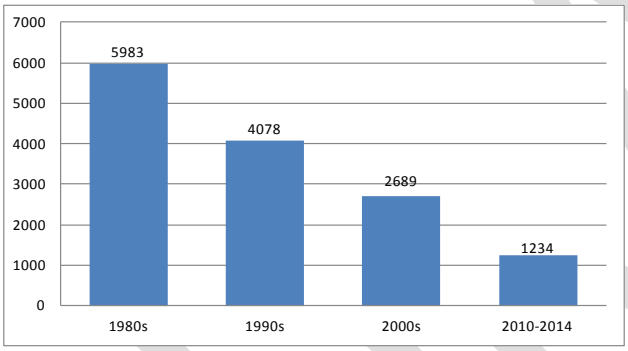
Trends Report
DRAFT May 28, 2015

BOULDER HOUSING UNIT GROWTH OVER TIME[xv]



Boulder's housing stock has grown by about 46% since 1980, but at a decreasing rate over time. Annual average growth rates for housing units were 2.3% in the 1980s, 1.0% in the 1990s, 0.6% in the 2000s, and 0.5% since 2010.

BOULDER NET INCREASE IN DWELLING UNITS BY DECADE[xvi]



The city added nearly 6,000 units in the 1980s, about 4,100 in the 1990s, and 2,700 in the 2000s. The rate of residential development so far in the 2010s is roughly on-pace with the 2000s, with the city having added approximately 1,200 units from 2010-2014.

NEW RESIDENTIAL UNITS BY TYPE

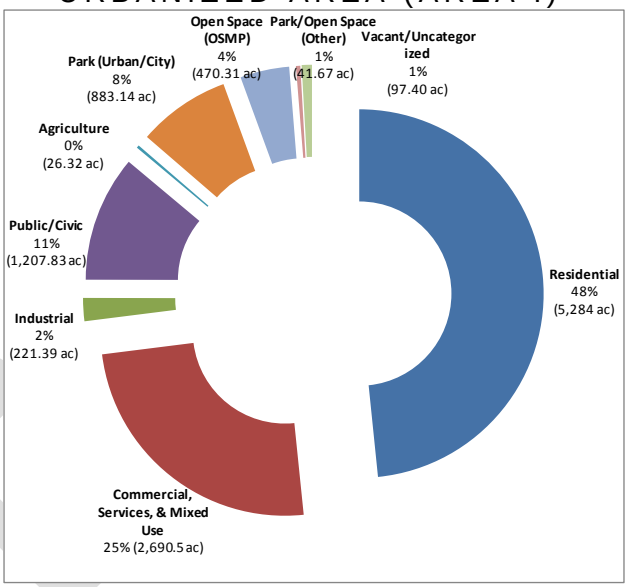
Coming Soon—data collection in process

RESIDENTIAL GROWTH MANAGEMENT SYSTEM TRENDS

Draft analysis included under separate cover

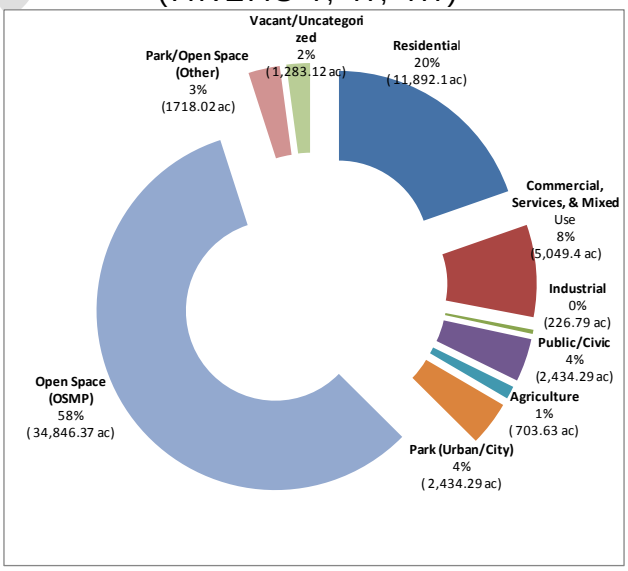
Land Use[xvii]

EXISTING LAND USE BOULDER URBANIZED AREA (AREA I)



Boulder is a city of about 25.8 square miles surrounded by an open space system of about 71 square miles. As a result, the land use mix of the BVCP planning area is significantly different from the mix within the urbanized area (area I).

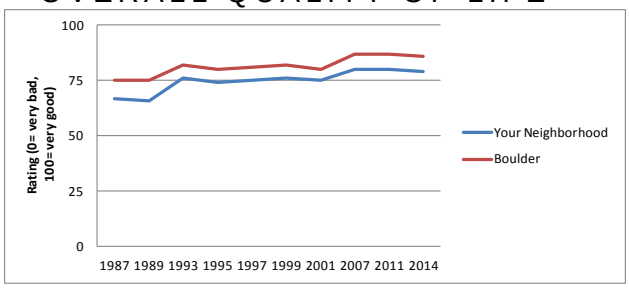
EXISTING LAND USE BVCP PLANNING AREA (AREAS I, II, III)



Trends Report
DRAFT May 28, 2015

Quality of Life

OVERALL QUALITY OF LIFE[xviii]



Community ratings of Boulder's overall quality of life have generally increased over time.

Helpful Links

- US Census American Community Survey
- CU Boulder "Just the Facts"
- 2015 Boulder Community Profile
- 2015 Boulder Affordable Housing Profile
- 2015 BVCP Subcommunity Fact Sheets
- 2014 Boulder Community Survey

DRAFT

ACCESSIBLE& CONNECTED

Accessibility and connectedness speak to the community's transportation network and travel choices. In addressing the topic of accessibility and connectedness, the sustainability framework focuses on the presence of mobility options, infrastructure, regional multimodal connections, community engagement, and inter-relationship with land use planning. The BVCP addresses the topic of accessibility and connectedness with goals and policies on the transportation system, including creating a complete system that accommodates all modes, is integrated with land use, minimizes impacts to air quality, and ensuring land use compatibility with airport operations. Additionally, the Transportation Master Plan supports the BVCP's goals and identifies measurable objectives. The data analysis presented here focuses on trends related to travel choice and behavior, regional traffic patterns, commuting, and relationship to the built environment.

Note: To increase alignment with the sustainability framework and the BVCP, staff will add the following material to the July draft of the Trends Report:

- *Vehicle miles traveled*
- *Single occupant vehicle mode share*
- *Travel time trends for in-town trips*

Accessibility and Connectivity Trends:

- Boulder's daily vehicle miles traveled hit a peak in the mid-2000s and hasn't grown appreciably since then despite continued increases in both population and jobs.
- The mode share of single occupant vehicles has shown a steady decline over time that is anticipated to continue.
- Boulder's status as an employment center makes regional transportation choices especially important in meeting the community's accessibility and connectivity goals.
- Boulderites bus, bike, and walk in higher numbers than do people in the region.

Vehicle Miles Traveled

ESTIMATED VMT COMPARED TO TRANSPORTATION MASTER PLAN OBJECTIVE[xix]

***Coming Soon*—**data collection in process

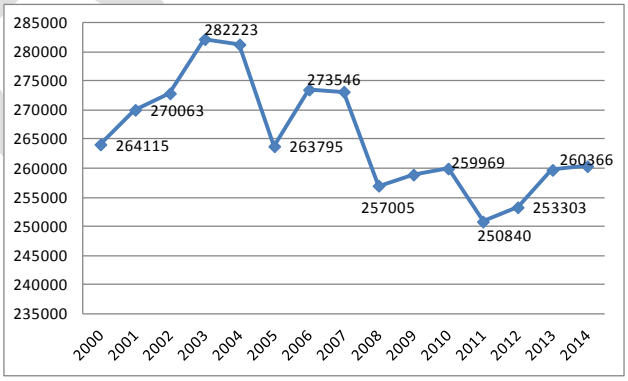
Mode Share

SINGLE OCCUPANT VEHICLE MODE SHARE[xx]

***Coming Soon*—**data collection in process

Regional Network

TOTAL VEHICLES PER DAY ON ROADS LEADING INTO/OUT OF BOULDER[xxi]



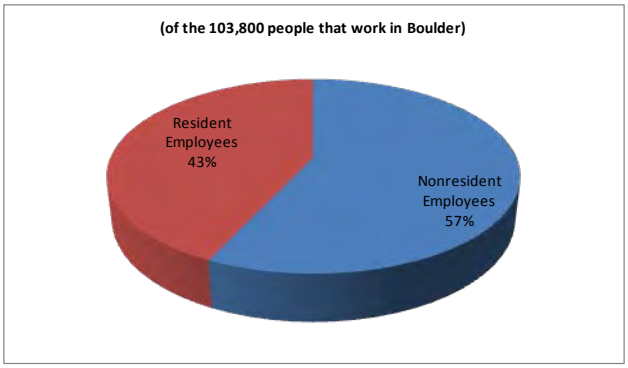
The impact of changing travel behaviors can be seen in this chart of total vehicles per day on the 18 roads that lead into and out of the Boulder Valley. Since the peak travel year in 2003, the total number of vehicles per day on Boulder's regional road network has decreased by 7.7% as of 2014. This overall decline has occurred coincidental to population and job increases during that same timeframe. A trend of increasing vehicles per day has been observed since 2011.

DRAFT

Trends Report
DRAFT May 28, 2015

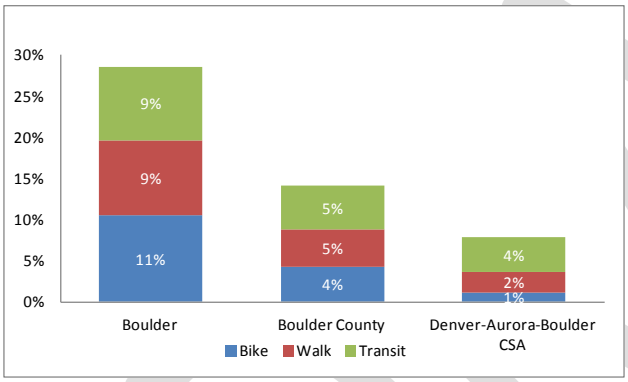
Commuting

EMPLOYEE COMMUTING PATTERNS[xxii]



Of the 103,800 people who work in Boulder, about 57% do not reside in the city.

MEANS OF TRANSPORTATION TO WORK[xxiii]



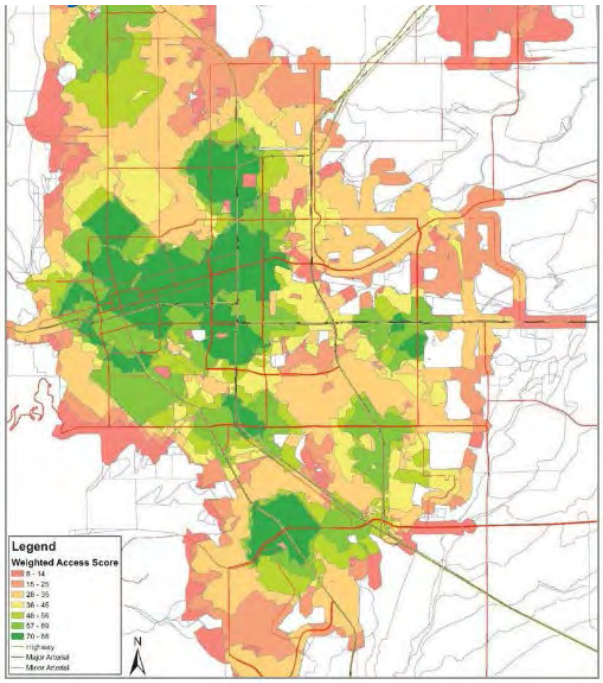
A relatively high percentage of Boulder residents bike, bus, and walk to work.

Neighborhood Access

26%

A neighborhood access analysis conducted as part of the Transportation Master Plan (2014) found that 26% of Boulder residents currently live in a neighborhood where they can access a full range of goods and services with a 15 minute walk. The TMP sets a goal of increasing this number to 80% by 2035[xxiv].

NEIGHBORHOOD ACCESS TOOL[xxv]



The Transportation Master Plan's Neighborhood Access Tool demonstrated that some parts of town (shown in green) have better access to goods and services within walking distance than others (shown in red).

Growth and Congestion

TYPICAL TRAVEL TIME FOR A CROSS-TOWN TRIP

***Coming Soon*—**data collection in process

Helpful Links

- Transportation Master Plan
- State of the System Report
- Transportation Report on Progress
- US Census American Community Survey

ENVIRONMENTALLY SUSTAINABLE

Boulder has a long-standing commitment to environmental sustainability and continues to be a national leader in sustainability practices and policies. In addressing environmental sustainability, the sustainability framework focuses on natural resource and energy conservation, ecological balance, and mitigating threats to the environment. The BVCP addresses the topic of environmental sustainability with goals and policies on the natural environment, energy, waste, and climate. The data analysis presented here focuses on trends related to waste, greenhouse gas emissions, energy use, water use, and open space conservation.

Note: To increase alignment with the sustainability framework and the BVCP, staff will add the following material to the July draft of the Trends Report:

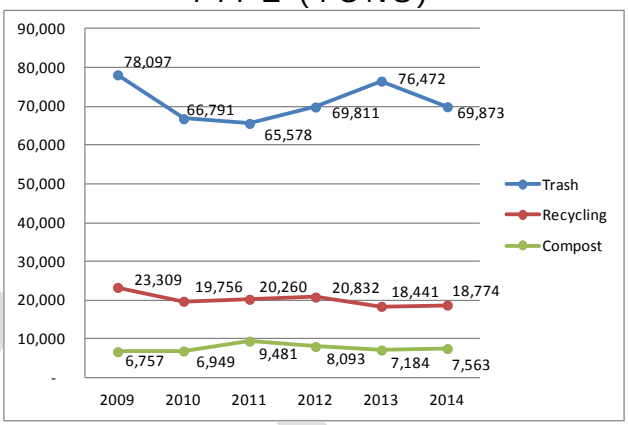
- *Greenhouse gas emissions*
- *Energy use*
- *Biodiversity*
- *Land management practices*
- *County environmental programs and practices*

Environmental Sustainability Trends

- Recent waste generation trends for landfill, recycling, and composting are relatively flat in the recent past, with the single family residential sector diverting the highest percentage of its waste from the landfill, and the commercial sector generating the most waste.
- Decreases in per capita water consumption have reduced Boulder's annual total water use to levels last seen in the 1970s and 1980s, when population and employment were both much lower than they are today.
- Open space conservation efforts have preserved approximately 45,500 acres of land.

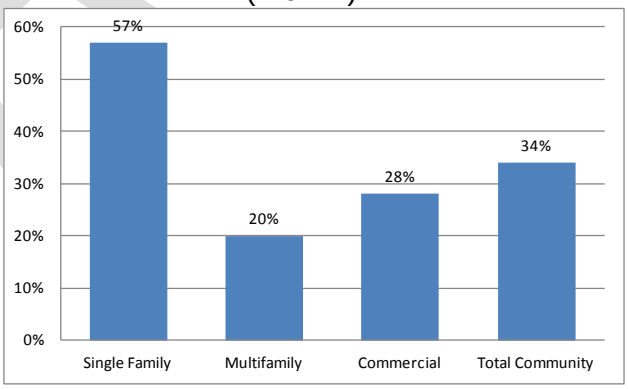
Waste[xxvi]

ANNUAL WASTE GENERATION BY TYPE (TONS)



Annual waste generation (landfill, recycling, and composting) has been relatively steady since the curbside composting program began in 2009.

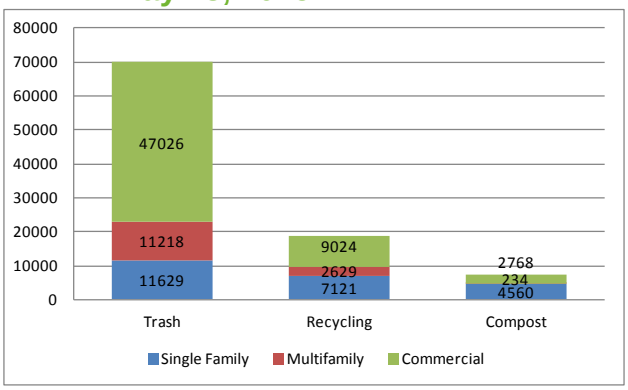
PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL WASTE DIVERTED FROM LANDFILL (2014)[1]



Diversion of waste from the landfill varies significantly by sector.

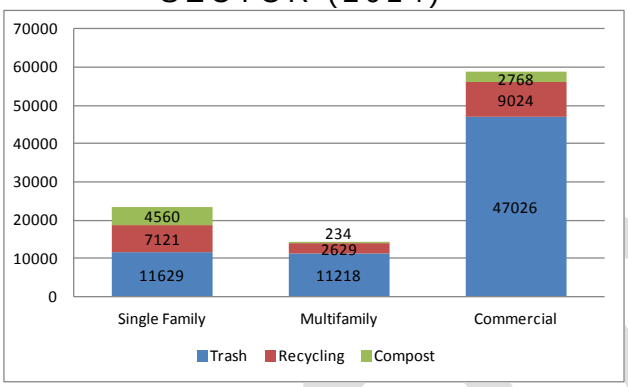
TONS OF WASTE GENERATED BY TYPE (2014)[2]

[1] Diversion rate calculations include additional data/materials such as yard and wood waste drop off, hard to recycle materials, hazardous materials, and C&D.



Far more waste is thrown away in the landfill than is recycled or composted.

TONS OF WASTE GENERATED BY SECTOR (2014)[2]



Overall waste generation varies significantly by sector.

Greenhouse Gas Emissions[xxvii]

Note: analysis of greenhouse gas emissions is underway as part of current work by Boulder's Climate Commitment. Data on this topic should be ready in time for the July draft.

GHG EMISSIONS AND ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

***Coming Soon*—**data in process

2012 GHG EMISSIONS BY SOURCE

***Coming Soon*—**data in process

2012 GHG EMISSIONS BY SECTOR

***Coming Soon*—**data in process

Energy Conservation and Use

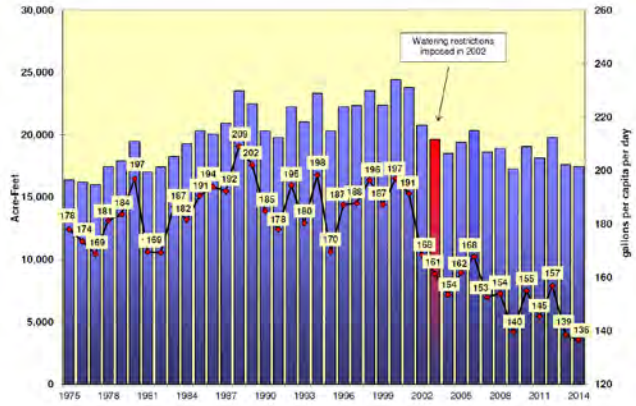
Note: analysis of energy use is underway as part of current work by Boulder's Climate Commitment. Data on this topic should be ready in time for the July draft.

2012 ENERGY USE BY SECTOR

***Coming Soon*—**data in process

Water Use

BOULDER'S ANNUAL TOTAL AND PER CAPITA TREATED WATER USE[xxviii]



Boulder's annual water use is generally decreasing over time. This is happening at the same time that population and jobs are increasing. This is possible because of decreases in per capita water consumption.

Open Space[xxix]

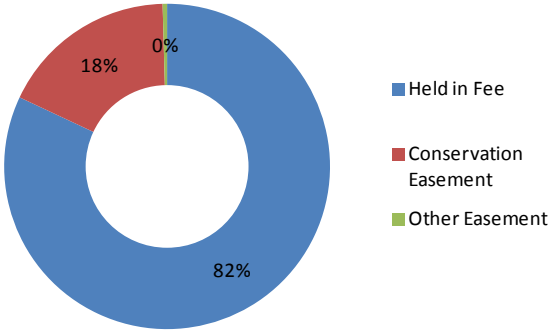
BOULDER OSMP LAND IN CONSERVATION

[2] The tons reported here are just for materials collected by haulers and do not include data/materials such as yard and wood waste drop off, hard to recycle materials, hazardous materials or C&D.

Trends Report
DRAFT May 28, 2015

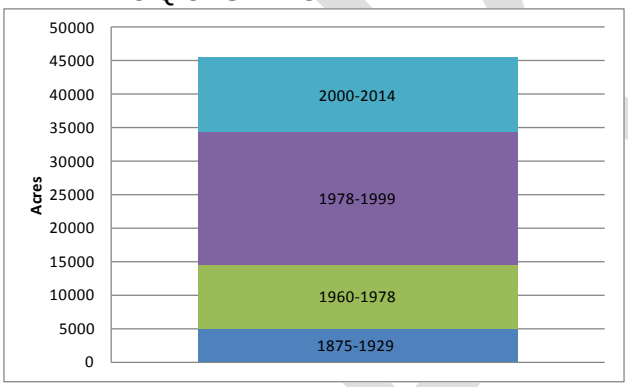
45,500AC

BOULDER OSMP LAND HOLDINGS BY TYPE (2015)



The current total acreage of city OSMP ownership is approximately 45,500 acres (71 sq. miles). Of that amount 37,300 acres is held in fee (sometimes jointly with other agencies), 8,000 acre is held as conservation easement (again sometimes jointly with other agencies) and about 200 acres in miscellaneous easements.

BOULDER OSMP PROPERTY ACQUISITION BY ERA[3]



[3] *Please note that these data represent the total acres in current ownership, rather than the exact number of acres acquired by year. The reason for this discrepancy is that OSMP has acquired conservation easements in a property first, and subsequently acquired the fee title to same property. The result is that the acres purchased as conservation easement in, for example, 1978 are deleted when the property was purchased in fee in, for example, 2013. Other nuances associated with over 140 years of property acquisition are also embedded in these data.*

The roots of Boulder's robust open space system date back to 1875-1929, when the city acquired over 5,000 acres including Chautauqua, Buckingham Park (in Left Hand Canyon) and much of the mountain backdrop. Acquisition efforts since then have added another 40,000AC to the system.

COUNTY OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION

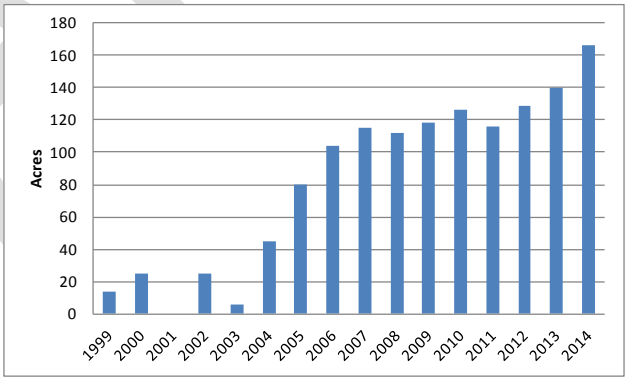
Coming Soon—*Working to identify data sources on this topic*

Biodiversity and Open Space Land Management[xxx]

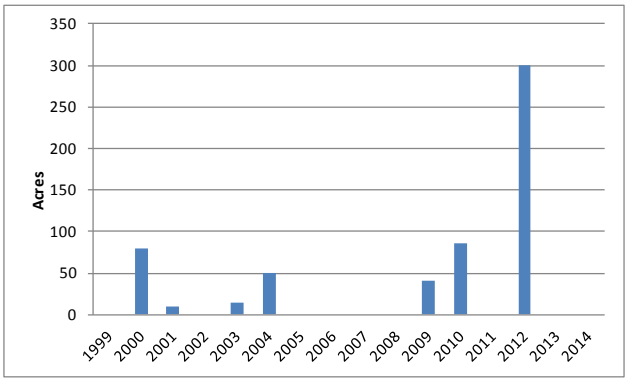
BIODIVERSITY

Coming Soon—*Working to identify data sources on this topic*

COMPLETE FOREST THINNING PROJECTS



PRESCRIBED BURNS AND WILDFIRE



OSMP's Forest Ecosystem Management Plan (FEMP) has two goals, reducing wildfire risk and maintaining or enhancing ecological sustainability. The key strategy to achieve both these goals is manipulating the forests–by mechanical thinning (cutting down trees), or prescribed fire. The desired outcome of these treatments is to create structure and composition that is less likely to burn intensely threatening nearby homes and habitats while simultaneously restoring the forests to a higher ecological function. Another benefit is that the resulting forests tend to be aesthetically more pleasing to visitors.

OTHER LAND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

Coming Soon—*Working to identify data sources on this topic*

Helpful Links

- Local Environmental Action Division
- Boulder's Climate Commitment
- Open Space and Mountain Parks

DRAFT

Trends Report
DRAFT May 28, 2015

HEALTHY & SOCIALLY THRIVING

Boulder has a national reputation as a community that prioritizes its health and has a thriving social scene. In addressing the topic of health and social environment, the sustainability framework focuses on recreation, culture, education, and social opportunities, as well as physical and mental health, inclusivity, multi-generationalism, and human rights. The BVCP addresses the topic of health and social environment with goals and policies on community well-being (human services, social equity, community health, and community facilities) as well as agriculture and food. The data analysis presented here focuses on trends related to health, food, homelessness, education, and recreation.

Note: To increase alignment with the sustainability framework and the BVCP, staff will add the following material to the July draft of the Trends Report:

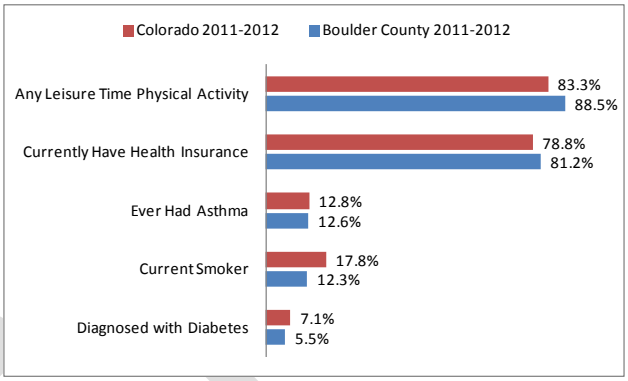
- *Food access*
- *Additional social service indicators (city and county)*
- *School performance*
- *Park access and service measures*

Health and Social Trends

- Boulder County residents may be somewhat healthier than Colorado residents in general with respect to a variety of health indicators.
- When expressed as a percentage of total population, homelessness in Boulder is similarly concentrated to Denver. Other cities in the region have both higher and lower concentrations.
- Boulder has a robust park system that meets or exceeds levels of service experienced by residents of peer cities both in the region and nationally.

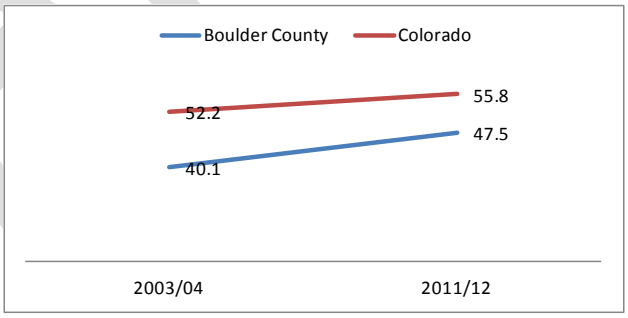
Health

SELECT HEALTH INDICATORS [xxxi]



A variety of health indicators show that Boulder County residents may be somewhat healthier than Colorado residents as a whole.

PERCENT OVERWEIGHT OR OBESE [xxxii]



A majority of Colorado residents are overweight or obese. Boulder County's rates are lower than the state's, but they are on the rise.

FOOD ACCESS AND CHOICE

Coming Soon—*Working to identify data sources*

Social Services

REGIONAL HOMELESSNESS, 2013 [xxxiii]

City	Total Population	Total Homeless Population	Total Homeless as % of Total Population
Denver Region:			
Denver	649,495	4,904	0.76
Aurora	345,803	661	0.19
Boulder	103,166	748	0.73
Lafayette	26,784	259	0.97
Longmont	89,919	1,180	1.31

DRAFT

Trends Report
DRAFT May 28, 2015

A 2013 comparison of homeless populations as a percentage of overall population of other cities in the region suggests that many have comparable or higher per-capita homeless rates than Boulder.

Coming Soon—*Working to identify additional social service data*

Education

BVSD PERFORMANCE

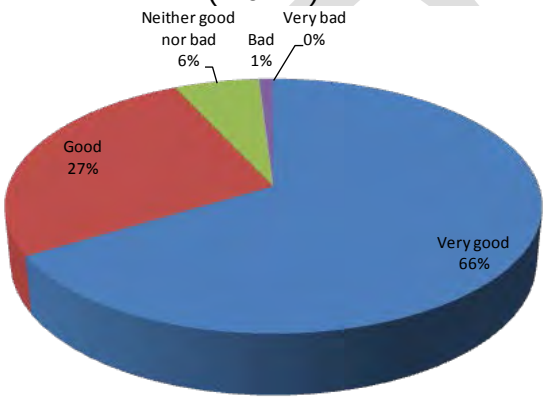
Coming Soon—*Comparison to other districts and/or state standards*

STUDENT TENURE AND PERFORMANCE

Coming Soon—*Enrollment, graduation, &/or dropout rates*

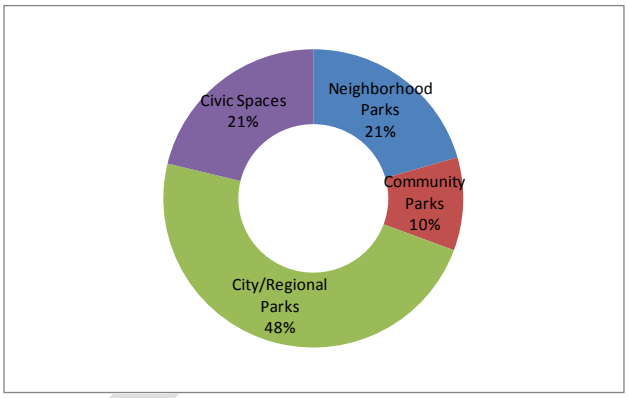
Recreation Opportunities

OVERALL QUALITY OF INDOOR/OUTDOOR RECREATION (2014) [xxxiv]



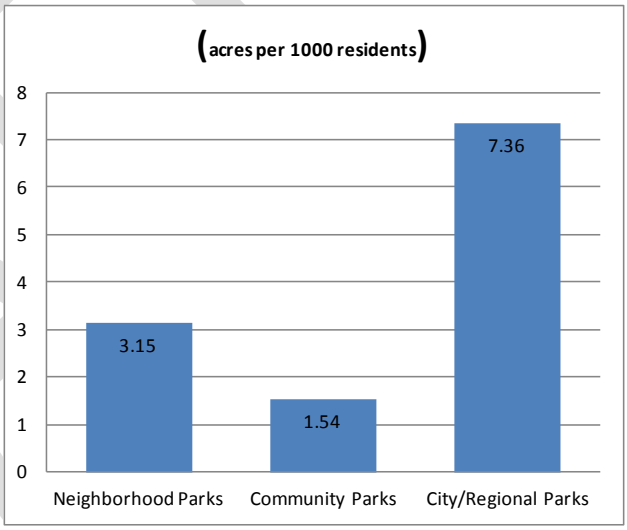
The vast majority of residents consider the quality of Boulder's recreational facilities to be either "good" or "very good".

BOULDER PARKLAND ACREAGE BY TYPE



Boulder's parkland system is both large (1490 acres) and diverse.

CURRENT LEVELS OF SERVICE FOR BOULDER PARKS [xxxv]

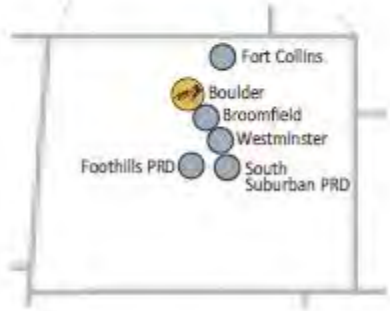


BOULDER PARK ACCESS AND/OR SERVICE MEASURES

Coming Soon—*Working to identify data sources and/or measures*

BOULDER PARKS LEVEL OF SERVICE COMPARED TO PEER CITIES [xxxvi]

Trends Report
DRAFT May 28, 2015



Park Type	Level of Service (LOS) (Acres per 1,000 residents) 2006 LOS Standard in Benchmark Cities	Current LOS in Boulder
Neighborhood Parks	3.00	3.15
Community Parks	1.50	1.54
City/Regional Parks	1.00 - 3.00	7.36
Total	5.50 - 7.50	12.05

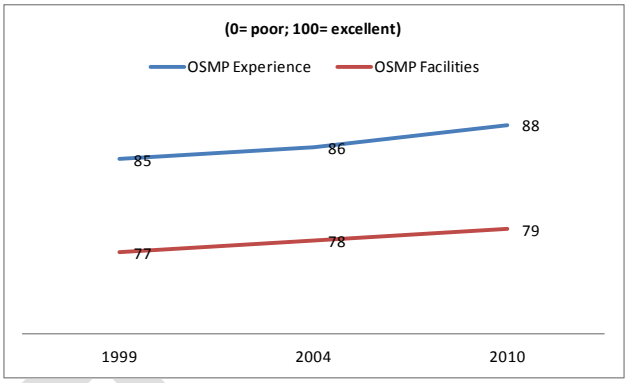
The current service levels for Boulder's municipal park system meet or exceed the service levels provided in peer cities within the state and nationwide.

ACREAGE OF MAJOR REGIONAL PARKLAND AND OPEN SPACE PROVIDERS[xxxvii]

Provider	Acres (Approx)
Boulder Parks & Recreation Department	1,500
Open Space and Mountain Parks	45,000
Boulder County Open Space	35,000
United States Forest Service	1,500,000
National Park Service	266,000
Colorado Parks and Wildlife	14,000
Other	1,000
Total	1,862,500

Boulder residents have access to a regional system of over 1.8 million acres (2,900 sq. miles) of preserved parks, open spaces, and natural areas.

QUALITY OF EXPERIENCE AND FACILITIES IN OSMP AREAS[xxxviii]



Helpful Links

- Boulder County Public Health
- Colorado Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance Survey
- Boulder Valley Public Schools
- Parks and Recreation Master Plan

DRAFT

Trends Report
DRAFT May 28, 2015

SAFE

In addressing the topic of safety, the sustainability framework focuses on law enforcement, emergency response, fostering a climate of safety, shared responsibility, and safety education. The 2010 BVCP addresses safety as a subcomponent of community health, and also expresses a welcoming and inclusive community as a core value of the plan. The data analysis presented here addresses perceptions of safety, arrests and accidents, and emergency/disaster response.

Note: To increase alignment with the sustainability framework, staff will add the following material to the July draft of the Trends Report:

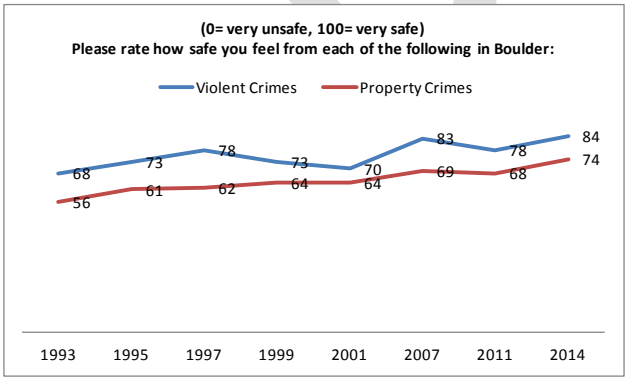
- *Emergency response data*
- *Disaster response and/or risk data*
- *Boulder County safety indicators*

Safety Trends

- Community perceptions of safety have generally increased over time
- Recent arrest and accident data show that while incident counts may fluctuate somewhat from year to year, trends are relatively steady overall.

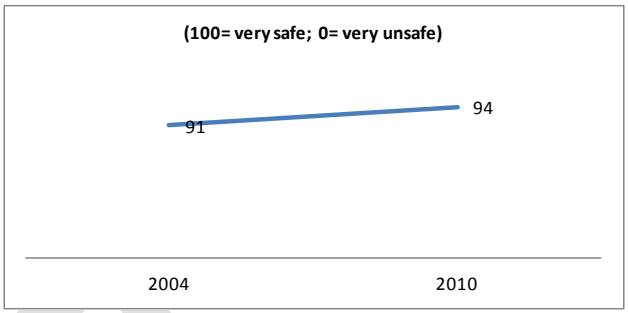
Perceptions of Safety

SAFETY RATINGS[xxxix]



Since the 1990s, public perceptions of safety within the community have increased over time.

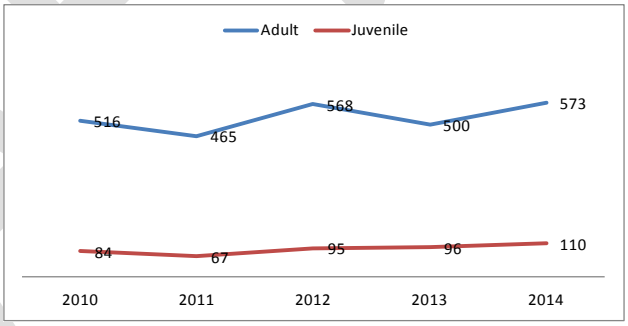
PERCEPTIONS OF SAFETY IN OSMP AREAS[xl]



Boulder's open space areas are perceived to be very safe.

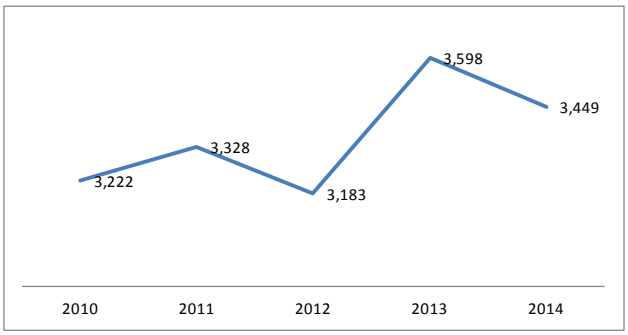
Arrests and Accidents[xli]

TOTAL ARRESTS- PART I CRIMES



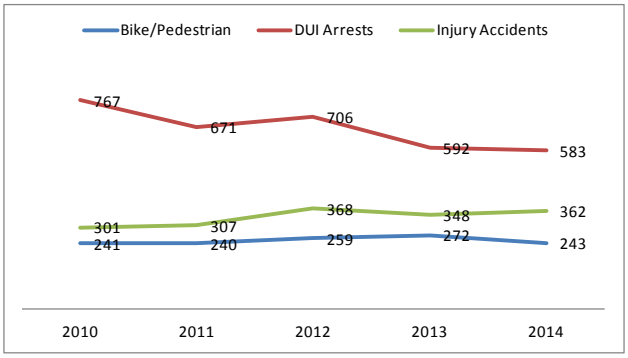
Juvenile arrests for part 1 crimes are typically at or below 100 per year, while adult arrests tend to fluctuate in the low-to-mid 500s.

TOTAL ACCIDENTS



Reported accidents in 2013 and 2014 were elevated above what was seen in prior years.

ACCIDENTS AND INJURIES BY TYPE



While DUI arrests have steadily declined since 2010, other types of accidents and injuries have remained relatively flat.

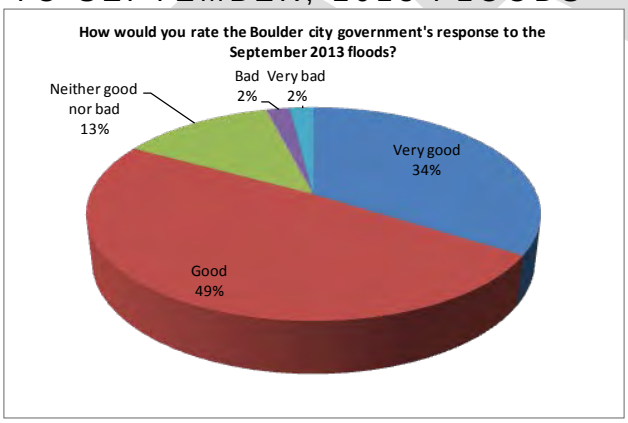
Emergency Response

Coming Soon—*Working to identify emergency response data for the following:*

- *Police*
- *Fire*
- *EMT*

Disaster Response

CITY GOVERNMENT RESPONSE TO SEPTEMBER, 2013 FLOODS[xlii]



Coming Soon—*Working to identify additional disaster response and/or risk data (includes county-level data)*

Helpful Links

- Boulder Police Department Accident and Arrest Data
- 2014 Boulder Community Survey
- Boulder Office of Emergency Management
- Fire-Rescue Master Plan
- Boulder Police Department Master Plan

DRAFT

ECONOMICALLY VITAL

In addressing the topic of economic vitality, the sustainability framework focuses on an environment of creativity and innovation, a qualified and diversified workforce, regional public/private collaboration, and business-supportive infrastructure and amenities. The BVCP addresses the topic of economic vitality with goals and policies on strategic redevelopment and sustainable employment, diverse economic base, quality of life, sustainable business practices, and job opportunities, education, and training. The data analysis presented here focuses on trends related to jobs, workforce, innovation, and economic diversity.

Note: To increase alignment with the sustainability framework and the BVCP, staff will add the following material to the July draft of the Trends Report:

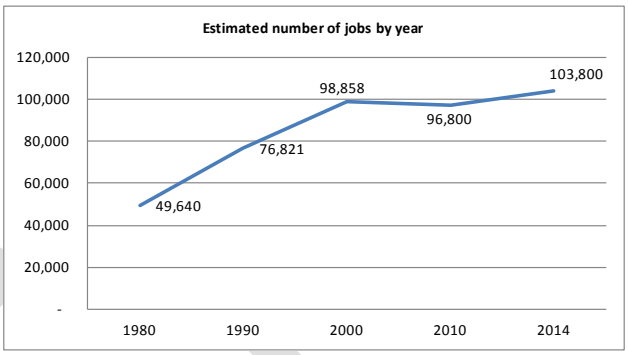
- *Primary jobs*
- *Occupations*
- *Patent activity*
- *Employers by size*

Economic Vitality Trends

- Boulder is an employment center with an approximately equal number of jobs and residents
- Trends show that Boulder County's unemployment rates are typically lower than the region and state, and wages are higher.
- The city's highly qualified workforce is exemplified by the high percentage of adults with advanced degrees.
- Boulder has a diversified economy with respect to its overall industry mix as well as its mix of large and small employers.

Jobs

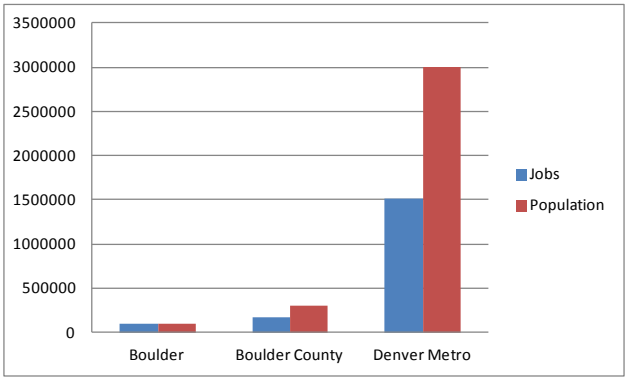
BOULDER JOB TRENDS[xliii]



BOULDER JOB AND POPULATION TRENDS[xliv]

Since the 1990s, the total number of jobs in Boulder has closely tracked with the number of people.

EMPLOYMENT CONCENTRATION: JOBS TO POPULATION[xlv]



DRAFT

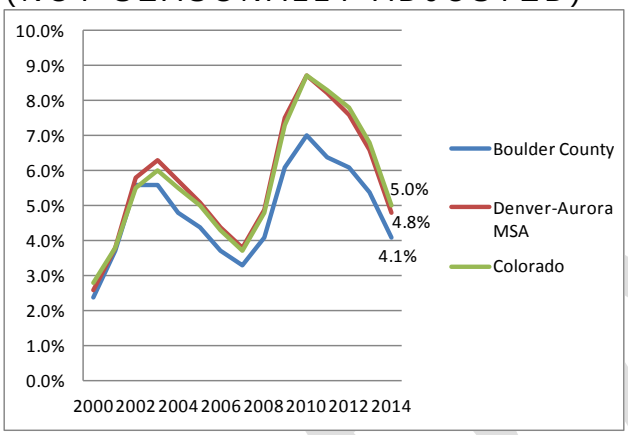
Trends Report
DRAFT May 28, 2015

Boulder's status as an employment center is exemplified by its 1:1 jobs-to-population ratio, which means that there are approximately as many jobs in Boulder as there are residents. This is a much higher ratio than is found in the county and region, where the ratio is closer to 1:2, or one job for every two residents.

PRIMARY JOBS

Coming Soon-- *Working to identify data sources*

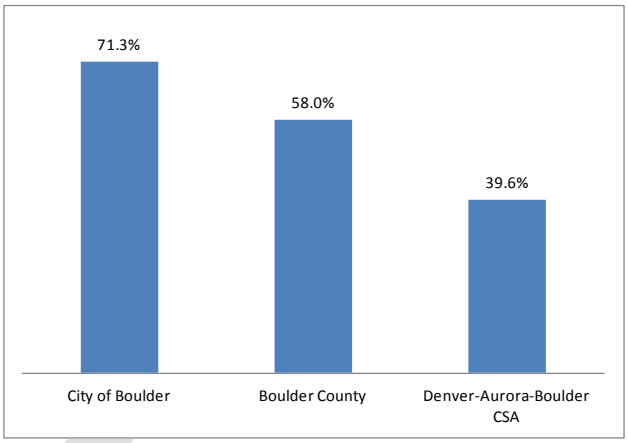
ANNUAL UNEMPLOYMENT RATE (NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)[xlvi]



Since 2002, the unemployment rate in Boulder County has been consistently lower than that of the Denver metro region and the state.

Qualified and Diversified Workforce

POPULATION OVER 25 WITH BACHELOR'S DEGREE OR HIGHER[xlvii]

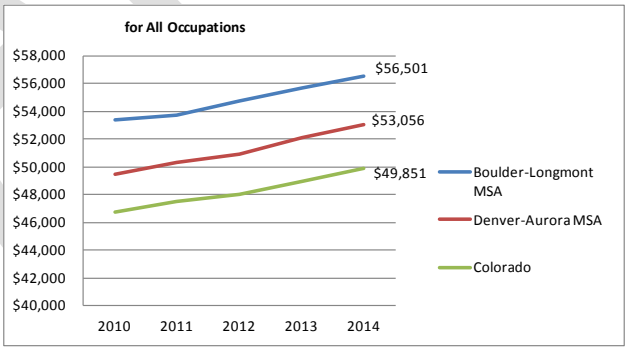


Boulder has an educated population with a high percentage of adults holding advanced degrees. This contributes to the high quality of the local workforce, as well as the wealth and cultural vibrancy of the community.

OCCUPATIONS

Coming Soon-- *Working to identify data sources*

AVERAGE ANNUAL WAGE[xlviii]



Average annual wages are consistently higher in Boulder than they are in the Denver metro region or the state.

Creativity and Innovation

PATENTS PER CAPITA

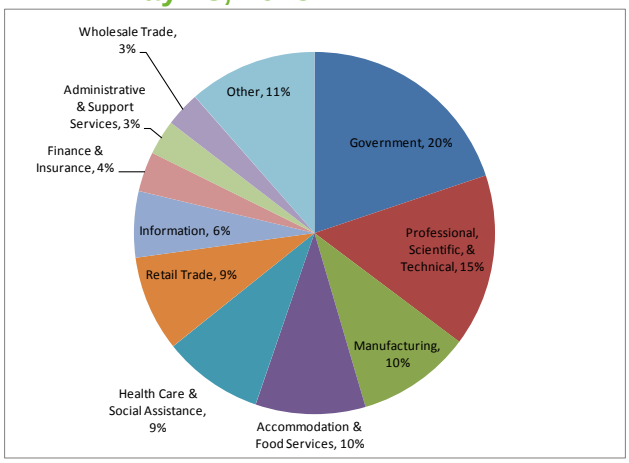
Coming Soon—data in process

Economic Diversity

BOULDER'S INDUSTRY MIX (2012)[xlix]

DRAFT

Trends Report
DRAFT May 28, 2015



The Boulder Economic Council identifies Boulder's industry mix as being highly concentrated in two high tech sectors: Information (2.9 times the national average), and Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services (2.5 times the national average).

BOULDER'S TOP 10 EMPLOYERS (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)[i]

Ball Aerospace
Boulder Community Health
Boulder County
Boulder Valley School District
City of Boulder
Covidien
IBM
NOAA
UCAR/NCAR
University of Colorado Boulder

Boulder's ten largest employers are a stable presence in the community and are not expected to substantially change in the foreseeable future.

BOULDER EMPLOYERS BY SIZE

Chart Coming Soon—data in process

While 96% of Boulder employers have fewer than 50 employees, employers with 100 or more employees (1.6% of total) employ 48.4% of the workers[ii]

PERCENT OF ALL JOBS IN BOULDER COUNTY THAT ARE LOCATED IN THE CITY OF BOULDER [iii]

57%

Helpful Links

- 2014 Boulder Economic Council Market Profile
- 2015 Economic Forecast for Metro Denver
- Colorado Departmwent of Labor and Employment
- US Census American Community Survey

DRAFT

Trends Report
DRAFT May 28, 2015

GOOD GOVERNANCE

In addressing the topic of good governance, the sustainability framework focuses on the following: stewardship and sustainability of the city's assets, strategic and timely analysis and decision-making, customer service, relationships with partners, and regulatory/policy compliance. The 2010 BVCP does not directly address the topic of good governance, but expresses strong city/county cooperation as a core value of the plan. The data analysis presented here focuses on trends related to the overall direction and effectiveness of Boulder's city government, as well as public impressions of city employees.

Note: To increase alignment with the sustainability framework, staff will add the following material to the July draft of the Trends Report:

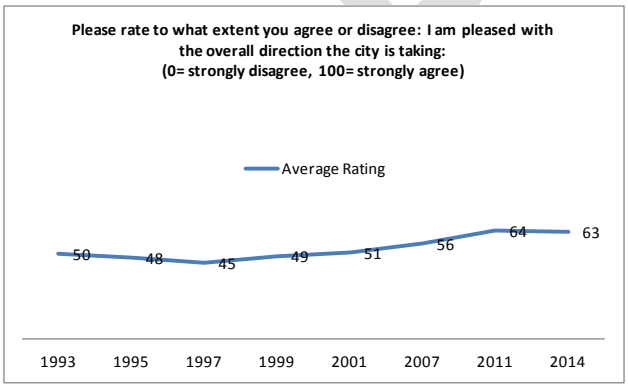
- *Additional good governance data indicators(including finance)*
- *Boulder County governance data*

Good Governance Trends

- Long-term trends are generally upward with respect to the overall direction and effectiveness of Boulder city government.
- Public impressions of city employees have also increased somewhat over time.

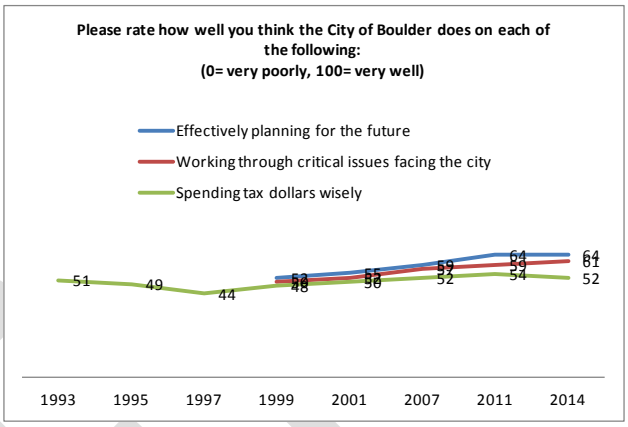
Direction

OVERALL DIRECTION [liii]



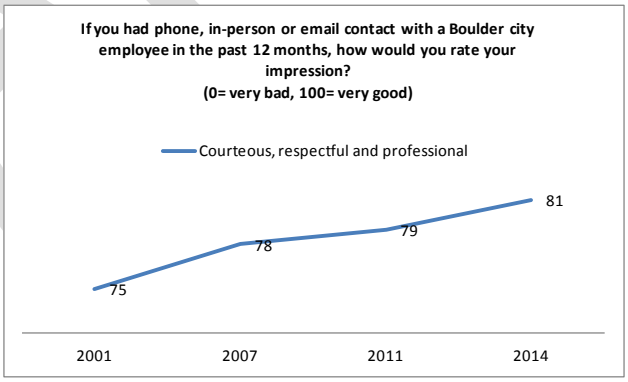
Effectiveness

EFFECTIVENESS OF CITY GOVERNMENT [liv]



Employees

IMPRESSIONS OF CITY EMPLOYEES [lv]



Coming Soon—*Working to identify additional good governance data*

Helpful Links

- 2014 Boulder Community Survey
- City of Boulder
- Boulder County

DRAFT

SOURCES

[i] 2015 Boulder Community Profile; Estimate City of Boulder Community Planning and Sustainability
[ii] 2040 Projection City of Boulder Community Planning and Sustainability
[iii] BEC Economic Profile, Nov 2014
[iv] Decennial Census 1990-2010 (SF1; 2013 ACS 3 year estimates
[v] ACS 2012 5yr estimates (Table SO101)
[vi] Source: Colorado Department of Local Affairs https://dola.colorado.gov/demog_webapps/pagCategory.jsf
[vii] Census 2000 SF1 table QTP3 and 2013 ACS 5 yr tables B02001 (Race) and B03002 (hispanic origin)
[viii] ACS 2012 5 year estimates (Table S2502)
[ix] ACS 2012 5yr estimates (Table S1903)
[x] ACS 2012 5yr estimates (Table B14006)
[xi] ACS 2012 5 year estimates (Table S2502)
[xii] 2015 Boulder Community Profile
[xiii] Denver Metro Chamber of Commerce 2015 Economic Forecast for Metro Denver, February, 2015; page 30
[xiv] 2015 Boulder Affordable Housing Profile
[xv] 2015 Boulder Community Profile
[xvi] 2015 Boulder Community Profile
[xvii] City of Boulder Analysis Using County Tax Assessor Building Use Classifications
[xviii] City of Boulder 2014 Community Survey
[xix] Public Works Transportation Metrics
[xx] City of Boulder Modal Shift Reports (Travel Diary of Boulder Residents)
[xxi] Boulder Valley Yearly Count Program
[xxii] 2015 Boulder Community Profile
[xxiii] 2012 ACS 5 year estimates (Table S0801)
[xxiv] 2014 Transportation Master Plan, page 3-6
[xxv] 2014 Transportation Master Plan, page 5-7
[xxvi] Local Environmental Action Division
[xxvii] Boulder's Climate Commitment Analysis using SWCA tool
[xxviii] Boulder Public Works Water Use Data
[xxix] Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks Calculations
[xxx] Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks Calculations
[xxxi] Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance Survey, adults
[xxxii] Behavior Risk Factor Surveillance Survey, adults
[xxxiii] Boulder Human Services Issue Brief April, 2015 "Do Homeless People Come Here for Our Services?
[xxxiv] 2014 City of Boulder Community Survey
[xxxv] Parks & Rec Master Plan p.42
[xxxvi] Parks & Rec Master Plan pp. 40-42
[xxxvii] Parks & Rec Master Plan p. 30
[xxxviii] 1999- Public Information Corporation (1999). A Study of Attitudes of Boulder, Colorado Residents Regarding City Open Space Issues. 2004-Public Information Corporation (2004). A Study of Attitudes of Residents of the City of Boulder, Colorado Regarding Open Space and Mountain Parks Management, Services and Facilities. 2010-National Research Center (2010). City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks Resident Survey Report of Results. National Research Center, Boulder CO.
[xxxix] 2014 City of Boulder Community Survey
[xl] 2004-Public Information Corporation (2004). A Study of Attitudes of Residents of the City of Boulder, Colorado Regarding Open Space and Mountain Parks Management, Services and Facilities. 2010-National Research Center (2010). City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks Resident Survey Report of Results. National Research Center, Boulder CO.
[xli] Boulder Police Department Crime Statistics https://bouldercolorado.gov/police/crime-statistics
[xlii] 2014 City of Boulder Community Survey
[xliii] 2015 Boulder Community Profile
[xliv] 2015 Boulder Community Profile
[xlv] Boulder & Boulder County (2012 data)- Boulder Economic Council; Boulder Market Profile November, 2014 pages 4 and 13. Denver Metro (2014 data)- 2015 Economic Forecast for metro Denver (Feb 2015) pages 14 & 16
[xlvi] Colorado Department of Labor and Employment LMI Gateway (colmigateway.com) from LAUS system output file
[xlvii] ACS 2012 5yr estimates (Table S1501)
[xlviii] Colorado Department of Labor and Employment LMI Gateway (colmigateway.com) from Occupational Employment Statistics (OES) Program
[xlix] Boulder Economic Council; Boulder Market Profile November, 2014 page 12
[l] Boulder Market Profile, November 2014, Boulder Economic Council page 10
[li] Boulder Market Profile, November 2014, Boulder Economic Council page 16; based on Colorado Department of Labor 2013 QCEW data compiled by CU Boulder
[lii] Boulder Market Profile, November 2014, Boulder Economic Council page 11
[liii] 2014 City of Boulder Community Survey
[liv] 2014 City of Boulder Community Survey
[lv] 2014 City of Boulder Community Survey

DRAFT