The Graying of the Rocky Mountain West: FROM ASSESSMENT TO IMPLEMENTATION

Rocky Mountain Land Institute, March 8, 2013
History of Wheat Ridge
Multi-modal Transportation
Repositioning Wheat Ridge

Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy (NRS)
Neighborhood Revitalization Strategy

- Adopted in 2005
- Identified areas of concern in Wheat Ridge

Recommendations

- Update Comprehensive Plan
- Update Zoning Codes and Land Use Regulations
  - Height and Density regulated in City Charter
- Budgeting for Capital Investments
  - Low property taxes compared to Metro Area (1.830 Mills)
- Economic Development & Urban Renewal
- Creation of Wheat Ridge 2020
Wheat Ridge Goals 2017

Financially Sound City Providing Quality Services

Economically Viable Activity Centers

Choice of Desirable Neighborhoods

More Attractive Wheat Ridge
Action Agenda

Top Priorities

- Ten-year infrastructure plan
- Service Priorities and Funding
- Diverse Housing Plan
- 38th Avenue Corridor Plan
- TOD/Ward Station Plan
- Aging Population Needs Assessment and Plan
Aging Population
Needs Assessment and Plan

Wheat Ridge is ahead of the curve.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population 60+ 2010</th>
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<tr>
<td>US</td>
<td>57,085,908</td>
<td>18%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colorado</td>
<td>818,905</td>
<td>16%</td>
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<td>Jefferson County</td>
<td>100,535</td>
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<tr>
<td>Arvada ** whole</td>
<td>21,468</td>
<td>20%</td>
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<td>Bow Mar ** whole</td>
<td>202</td>
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<td>Edgewater</td>
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<td>Golden</td>
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<td>Lakeside</td>
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<td>Lakewood</td>
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<td>Littleton ** whole</td>
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<tr>
<td>Morrison</td>
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<td>Mountain View</td>
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<td>Westminster ** whole</td>
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<td>Wheat Ridge</td>
<td>7,424</td>
<td>25%</td>
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Aging Population
Needs Assessment and Plan

Key Issues

- What service needs do older adults have?
- What needs are not being met?
- Identify community strengths regarding aging population services.
- Identify areas for collaboration, efficiencies and enhancements.
- Identify barriers to providing services.
Aging Population
Needs Assessment and Plan

- Research

- Participation in local and regional projects
  - Jefferson County Aging Well
    - Health, Mental Health, Wellness and Prevention
    - Social and Civic Engagement
  - DRCOG Boomer Bond
    - Community Engagement Team
    - Pilot Community, Community Assessment Tool
DRCOG Community Assessment Survey
Community Design

Inconsistent Sidewalks
DRCOG Community Assessment Survey
Community Design

Inconsistent Sidewalks
DRCOG Community Assessment Survey

Community Design

No ordinance regarding snow removal
DRCOG Community Assessment Survey
Community Design
Crosswalks and Wheelchair Access Sub-par
DRCOG Community Assessment Survey

Housing

Need for diverse housing stock
Aging Population Needs Assessment and Plan

Wheat Ridge Aging Needs Stakeholder Committee

- Citizens, Elected officials, Staff, Service Providers
- Data
  - 2010 CASOA
  - DRCOG Community Assessment
  - 2012 Citizen Survey
- Developing action plan for presentation to City Council
- Creating community bonds around aging issues
Lessons Learned

- Start the conversation
- Impact on decision making
- Need for community input
- Areas for collaboration
Next Steps

- Presentation of action plan
- 2014 Budget process
- Implementation
- Stakeholder Committee

Historical Photos courtesy of the Wheat Ridge historical Society
Thank you!

Nathan Mosey
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