

City of Golden Memorandum



To: City Council
From: Steve Glueck, Director of Community and Economic Development
Thru: Jason Slowinski, City Manager
Date: February 15, 2017
Re: GURA 2016 Work Plan

Recommendations for 2016 Appointments: For 2016, the GURA Board has 2 scheduled openings. The first choice of the GURA board of directors would be to appoint a business owner from the West Colfax Urban Renewal Area. In evaluating applicants, it is recommended that Council consider the benefit of appointing one or more members with the following skills or experience: business, finance, construction management, urban planning, and/or land development. In addition, general knowledge of Golden, Vision Golden, and community needs would be helpful.

2016 Summary: In 2016, the Golden Urban Renewal Authority (GURA) continued to aid in the transition of the Downtown Project to the Downtown Development Authority (DDA). In addition, GURA made significant progress in its three active project areas - 8th Street, Central Neighborhoods and West Colfax.

Progress on GURA sponsored redevelopment projects of note included the completion of a 110,000 square foot industrial flex space building near Corporate Center and the start of construction of Avalanche Harley Davidson dealership at Gateway Village. GURA also participated in the successful grant application to CDOT for the 2017 Colfax sidewalk project, and constructed a widened sidewalk adjacent to a City parcel at the south end of the Central Neighborhoods URA, as the start of a planned East Street streetscape project. As part of the downtown transition, GURA paid the City's share of a project to repaint the original downtown parking structure on Jackson Street north of 12th Street. More about GURA's recent accomplishments has been attached.

Financials of the organization continue to remain strong as revenues were in line with projections, while expenditures were lower than projected. Furthermore, the downtown legacy fund has an estimated balance of about \$2.2 million. These monies will be reinvested into downtown area projects in cooperation with the DDA and the City.

2017 Focus Areas: 2017 will be a productive year for GURA. Below is a listing of goals for the organizations.

- Collaborate with the Downtown Development Authority (DDA) and City of Golden to determine the best uses for the expenditure of the Downtown Legacy Fund.
- Within the three new URA plan areas:
 - Look for current and future capital investment opportunities in the 8th Street area

- Plan for extensions of Central area streetscape along 24th Street and East Street.
- Work toward the completion of the Colfax sidewalk project between Violet Street and Interplaza as a major start to corridor improvements.
- Continue to plan with Planning Commission and other stakeholders for the future street design and mid to long range infrastructure projects in the Colfax area.
- Evaluate what role GURA may productively take in the City's planned transit enhancements and efforts related to housing affordability.
- Anticipate one or more additional redevelopment project agreements in each of the Central and Colfax URA plan areas.

Attachment: 2016 Summary