Council Memorandum

To: The Honorable Mayor and City Council

From: Rick Muriby, Planning Manager

Through: Steve Glueck, Director of Community and Economic Development
and Jason Slowinski, City Manager

Date: January 31, 2018

Re: Planning Commission 2018 Goals

Recommendations for 2018 Appointments:
For 2017, the Planning Commission has four scheduled openings, though all four Commissioners impacted by these openings are eligible for an additional term. In evaluating applicants, it is recommended that Council consider the benefits of appointing one or more members with skills or experience related to architecture, planning, land development, sustainability and landscape architecture.

Goals and Priorities
On November 16, 2017, Planning Commission reviewed their accomplishments for 2017 and then discussed their annual goals for 2018, prioritizing them into the list below. Many of these initiatives will result in a recommendation to Council for consideration and action.

2017 Goals:

- Housing affordability
  - Develop goals for housing affordability in the community, such as percentage of housing that remains affordable, what income level to target (e.g. 80% AMI), existing units vs. new units etc. Status: approved by Council 11/2/17
  - Establish metrics to track progress on housing affordability goals. Status: not addressed
  - Create policies for housing affordability that guide discussion on programs, regulatory changes and other City initiatives. Status: approved by Council 11/2/17
  - Discuss and recommend potential programs intended to further the housing affordability goals. Status: one program chosen, work in progress
o Discuss and recommend potential regulatory changes intended to further the housing affordability goals. **Status: testing for growth ordinance flexibility by engaging public**

- Develop metrics to track progress on fulfilling GV2030 values to help fulfill goals of Comp Plan, which calls for annual community survey. **Status: not addressed**
- Discuss solutions to citizen concerns regarding communication and signage for public hearings. Solutions could range from bigger signs to better methods for directing people to “Current Projects” page where plans and meeting details are posted. **Status: solution chosen and implemented**
- Review CMU zoning regulations for possible revisions. **Status: not addressed, but this is elevated for 2018 with request from residents**
- Review priority list for for ped and bike infrastructure projects (early 2017 if possible). **Status: reviewed and submitted**
- Discuss open space protection ideas and methods. **Status: discussion held, and will likely be part of the Investment Forums Task Force in 2018**
- Discuss current short-term rental regulations and evaluate any need for changes. **Status: Discussed and recommendation headed to Council study session in January 2018**
- Discuss goals for an Integrated Transportation Plan. **Status: on hold until 2018**
- Develop public process for a Colorado School of Mines area plan/report for Council. **Status: not part of original goals, requested by Council. Process developed, meetings held and report submitted to Council**
- Discuss recommendations for safer pedestrian crossings at 24th Street in area of change. **Status: discussed with engineering staff, will monitor as new projects are constructed in area to determine if any new action warranted**
- Engage nearby residents and businesses regarding CMU Zoning for W. Colfax, South Golden Road or both areas: discuss the appropriateness of rezoning these commercial corridors to create a more pedestrian and bike friendly environment. Meet with GURA to discuss West Colfax Avenue design and regulations and develop a common understanding and approach to future development. **Status: joint site visit and meeting with GURA, City pushing CDOT for complete street design approval, rezoning conversation on hold for now, new sidewalks going in now**
- Recommend CIP Budget Items: continue to perform an annual review in late summer in order to make recommendations in time for Council’s budget discussions. **Status: reviewed and submitted to Council**
- Review Noise Ordinance: review the current noise ordinance in Title 5 of the code and decide whether or not to recommend updates. **Status: reviewed with City Attorney and PD, code to remain the same but more public education needed, starting with November Informer article**
- Recommend enhanced transit options to Council for consideration. **Status: not part of original goals, requested by Council. Recommendation**
submitted, led to funding of 15 minute headways for circulator bus that are now implemented and successfully defended from RTD cuts.

Ongoing Planning Commissioner Growth

- Develop a Commissioner Education and Development Plan. **Status:** Commissioner online handbook created
- Planning Commissioner training opportunities. **Status:** discussed opportunities available, such as conferences
- Continue tradition of rotating parliamentarians for public hearings, as well as rotating chairs for study sessions. **Status:** now in practice

2018 Planning Commission Goals:

- Continue to review and recommend potential programs intended to further the housing affordability goals.
- Continue to review and recommend potential regulatory changes intended to further the housing affordability goals. Growth ordinance flexibility is currently being tested in the community. Discuss potential impacts of short term rentals on long term rental housing.
- Review CMU zoning regulations for possible revisions, such as open space and landscaping requirements, discuss potential corner lot density provisions, and revisions to Tier 2 height bonus.
- Following Council direction on proposed short term rental regulations, create an appropriate ordinance for consideration
- Discuss open space needs and priorities
- Discuss goals for Transportation Plan, budgeted for mid-2018 start, and host joint meeting with new transportation board to discuss transportation plan as well as mutual interests, concerns and responsibilities.
- Golden Vision 2030 alignment: discuss areas of special concern and targeted neighborhood plan updates to address potential change.
- Determine Neighborhood Plan goals for 2018, including a discussion of progress on existing goals.
- Recommend CIP Budget Items: continue to perform an annual review in late summer in order to make recommendations for bike and ped projects in time for Council’s budget discussions.
- Review sustainability menu for code changes, including consideration of outcome based compliance path regulations and urban food production.
- Discuss a new downtown neighborhood plan.
- Review the Annexation Plan.
- Revise the Comprehensive Plan Compliance Form to better align the questions with Golden Vision 2030 values.

Attachment: Planning Commission 2018 Calendar