

A background image of a Denver cityscape with various buildings and a park area with trees and a person on a bicycle.

# Denverright.

Your Voice. Our Future.

Comprehensive Plan 2040 & Blueprint Denver

City Council Public Hearing

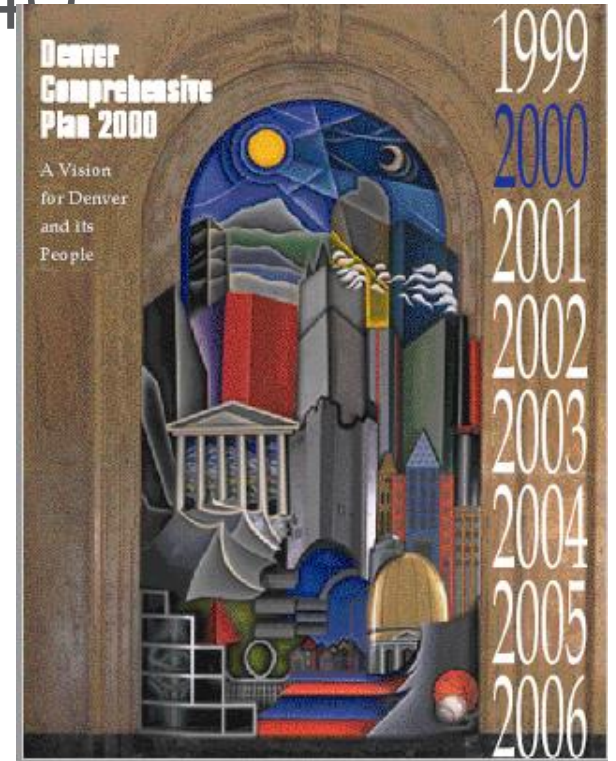
April 22, 2019



# 1. Comprehensive Plan 2040

# Comprehensive Plan 2040

- Built on the foundation of Comprehensive Plan 2000



**Parks & Recreation**  
Fun Activities in Beautiful Surroundings



**Transit**  
Creating an Easily Traversable City



**Land Use & Transportation**  
Neighborhood Character and Quality of Life



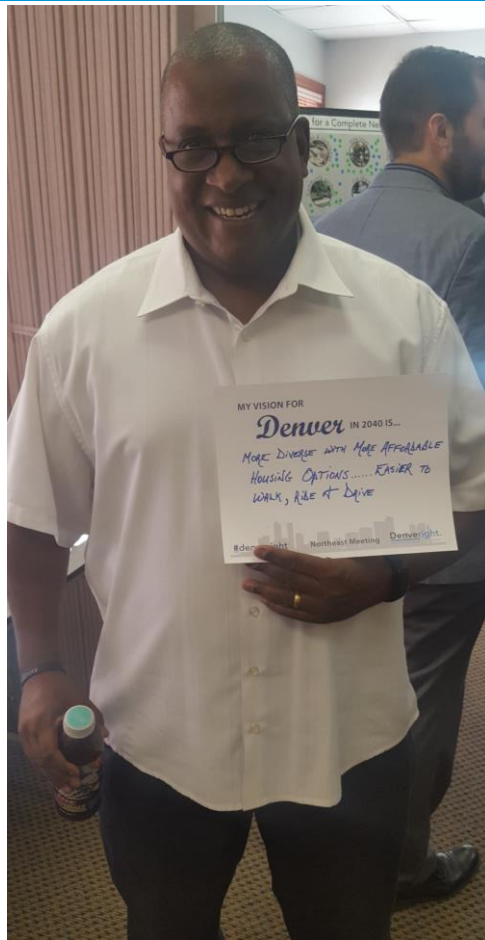
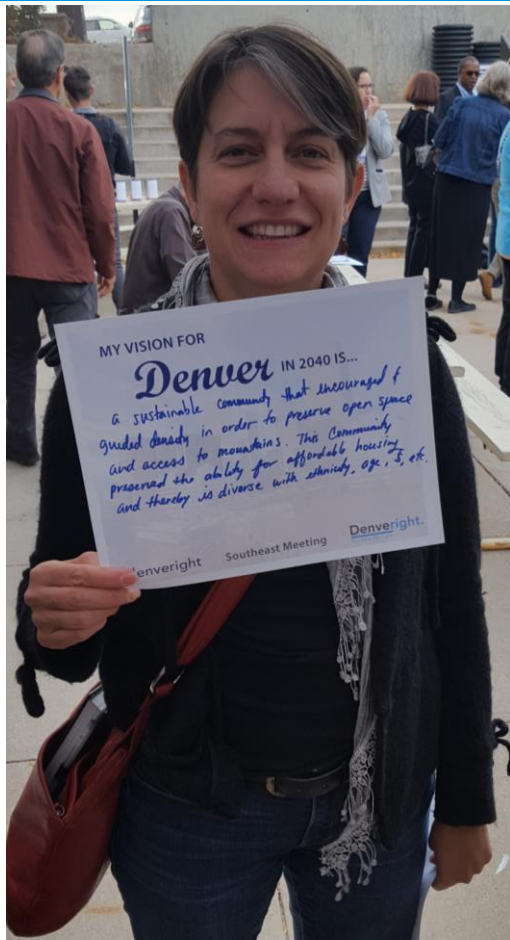
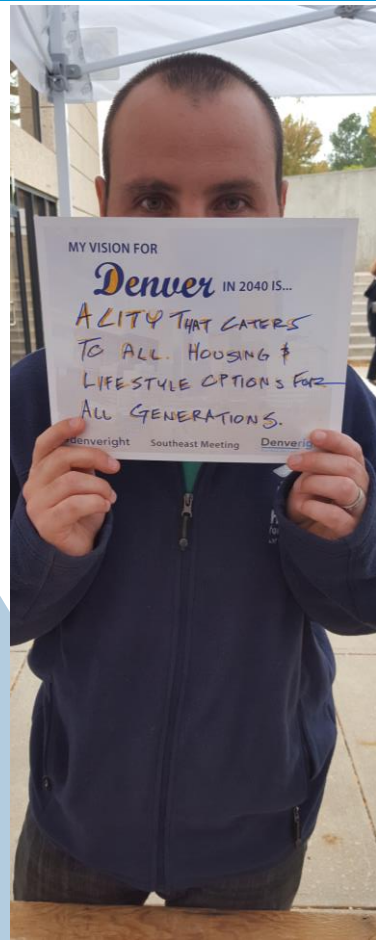
**Pedestrians & Trails**  
Connecting People and Neighborhoods



**Denverright.**  
Comprehensive Plan 2040

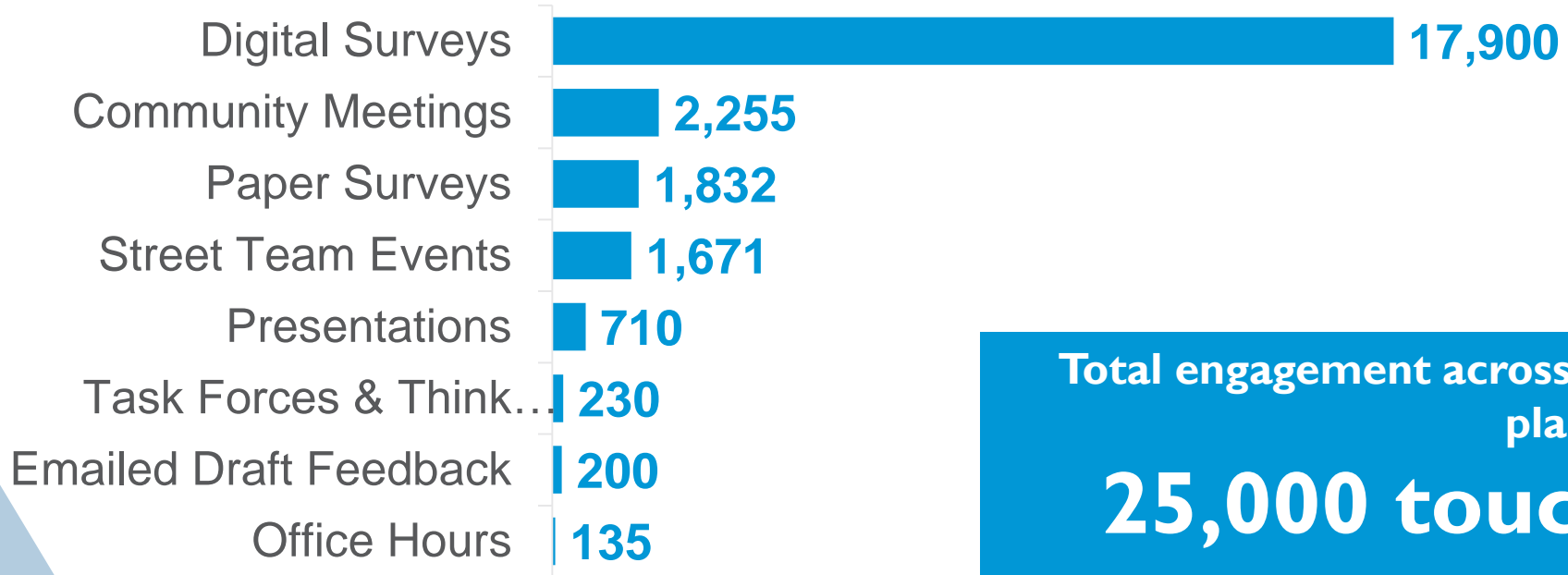
# Denverright: the voice of the community





# Summary of all Denveright Outreach

## Total people engaged

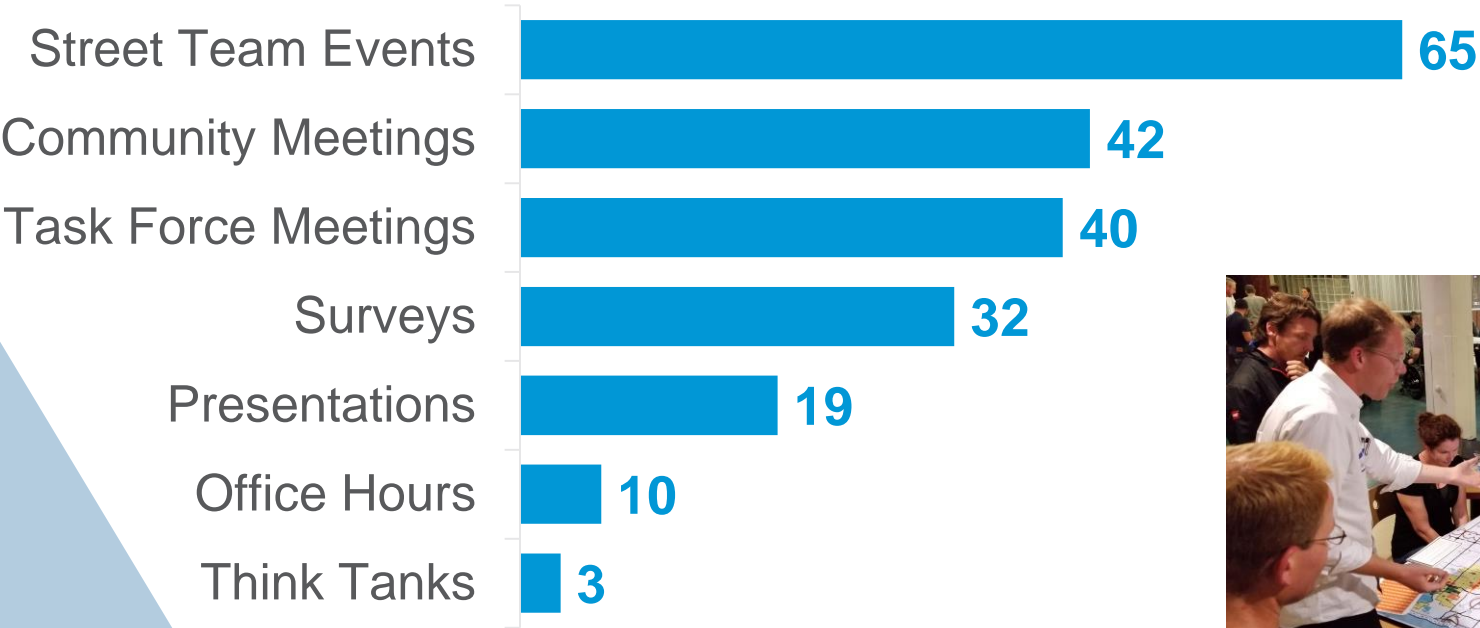


Total engagement across all plans :

**25,000 touch points**

# Summary of all Denveright Outreach

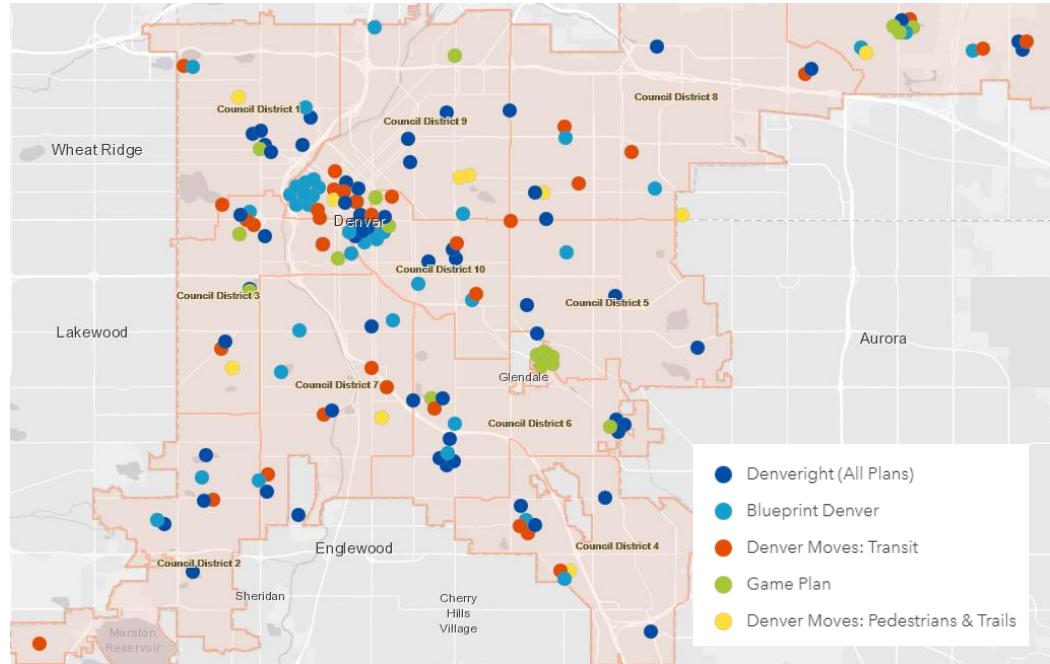
## Total events held





# Where were events held?

- **190** in-person events were held
- Events were hosted at **101** different venues across all **11** council districts



# THE *Vision* FOR DENVERIGHT IS:



# WHAT IS THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN?

A holistic and sustainable vision to guide the future of Denver

*Comprehensive Plan 2040* creates a **vision and goals** to tie together the city's plans and policies



## CITYWIDE PLANS



- Generated by multiple departments
- Contain detailed goals, objectives and strategies

- Reflect the vision and advance the goals established in the comprehensive plan

# Comprehensive Plan 2040

- Vision
- Goals
- Strategies

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Vision Elements



**In 2040...**  
Denver is an equitable, inclusive community with a high quality of life for all residents, regardless of income level, race, ethnicity, gender, ability or age.



**In 2040...**  
Denver's neighborhoods are complete, unique, diverse and economically strong.



**In 2040...**  
Denver is connected by safe, high-quality, multimodal transportation options.



**In 2040...**  
Denver is a global city with a robust economy that reflects the diversity of our community.



**In 2040...**  
Denver is a thriving, sustainable city connected to nature and resilient to climate change.



**In 2040...**  
Denver is a city of safe, accessible and healthy communities.

#### GOALS

- 1.1 Ensure all Denver residents have safe, convenient and affordable access to basic services and a variety of amenities.
- 1.2 Support housing as a continuum to serve residents across a range of incomes, ages and needs.
- 1.3 Develop housing that is affordable to residents of all income levels.
- 1.4 Preserve existing affordable housing.
- 1.5 Reduce the involuntary displacement of residents and businesses.
- 1.6 Integrate equity considerations into city policies, processes and plans.
- 1.7 Make neighborhoods accessible to people of all ages and abilities.
- 1.8 Increase housing options for Denver's most vulnerable populations.
- 1.9 Improve equitable access to quality education and life-long learning opportunities.

- 2.1 Create a city of complete neighborhoods.
- 2.2 Enhance Denver's neighborhoods through high-quality urban design.
- 2.3 Preserve the authenticity of Denver's neighborhoods and celebrate our history, architecture and culture.
- 2.4 Ensure every neighborhood is economically strong and dynamic.
- 2.5 Create and preserve parks and public spaces that reflect the identity of Denver's neighborhoods.
- 2.6 Empower Denverites to be involved and collaborative in city government.
- 2.7 Leverage the arts and support creative placemaking to strengthen community.
- 2.8 Conduct intentional, equitable and measurable neighborhood planning.
- 2.9 Ensure all neighborhoods are safe.

- 3.1 Deliver a multimodal network that encourages more trips by walking, rolling, biking and transit.
- 3.2 Provide a safe transportation system that serves all users.
- 3.3 Maximize the public right-of-way to create great places.
- 3.4 Create an equitable and connected multimodal network that improves access to opportunity and services.
- 3.5 Ensure the development of a frequent, high-quality, and reliable transit network.
- 3.6 Build and maintain safe bicycle and pedestrian networks.
- 3.7 Expand funding options for multimodal infrastructure.
- 3.8 Strengthen multimodal connections in mixed-use centers and focus growth near transit.
- 3.9 Advance innovative curb lane management and parking policies.
- 3.10 Embrace innovations in transportation policy and technologies to improve movement throughout the city.

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#### GOALS

- 4.1 Ensure economic mobility and improve access to opportunity.
- 4.2 Grow a strong, diversified economy.
- 4.3 Sustain and grow Denver's local neighborhood businesses.
- 4.4 Ensure Denver has a productive, competitive and knowledgeable workforce.
- 4.5 Strengthen Denver as a global city that will be competitive in the economy of today and tomorrow.
- 4.6 Enable Denver's youth to access quality education and compete in the global economy.
- 4.7 Accelerate Denver's economic vitality through arts, culture and creativity.
- 4.8 Expand participation in arts and culture and ensure that arts and culture are accessible to all.
- 4.9 Stimulate the growth of ideas and innovation.
- 4.10 Promote a vibrant food economy and leverage Denver's food businesses to accelerate economic opportunity.

- 5.1 Mitigate climate impact by significantly reducing greenhouse gas emissions.
- 5.2 Prepare for and adapt to climate change.
- 5.3 Conserve water and use it more efficiently.
- 5.4 Integrate stormwater into the built environment by using green infrastructure to improve water quality and reduce runoff.
- 5.5 Enhance and protect the South Platte River.
- 5.6 Protect and expand the city's green infrastructure network.
- 5.7 Reduce the disposal of solid waste and conserve raw materials.
- 5.8 Clean our soil, conserve land and grow responsibly.
- 5.9 Protect and improve air quality.
- 5.10 Promote diverse and environmentally responsible food systems.
- 5.11 Cultivate safe, prepared and resilient communities through emergency planning.

- 6.1 Create and enhance environments that support physical activity and healthy living.
- 6.2 Provide high-quality parks, recreation facilities and programs that serve all Denver residents.
- 6.3 Ensure access to affordable, nutritious and culturally-diverse foods in all neighborhoods.
- 6.4 Increase access to health services for all.
- 6.5 Incorporate health analysis into relevant city policies, processes and planning.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN 2040 | 7

## VISION ELEMENT



### **In 2040...**

Denver is an equitable, inclusive community with a high quality of life for all residents, regardless of income level, race, ethnicity, gender, ability or age.

## GOALS AND STRATEGIES ABOUT:

- Affordable housing
- Affordable and equitable access to basic services and amenities
- Mitigating involuntary displacement
- Education
- Highlighting equity, defining it, and integrating it into city policies, processes and plans

## VISION ELEMENT



### **In 2040...**

**Denver's neighborhoods are complete, unique and reflective of our city's diverse history.**

## GOALS AND STRATEGIES ABOUT:

- Complete neighborhoods
- Urban design
- Historic preservation
- Neighborhood-scale economic development
- Improving citizen involvement in planning
- Equitable planning processes
- Public Safety

## VISION ELEMENT



*In 2040, Denver is connected by safe, high-quality, multimodal transportation options.*

## GOALS AND STRATEGIES ABOUT:

- Multimodal network
- Improve equity, accessibility and affordability of multimodal options
- Safety and Vision Zero
- Use public streets to create great places
- Innovative parking and other transportation technologies

## VISION ELEMENT



### **In 2040...**

Denver is a global city with a robust economy that reflects the diversity of our community.

## GOALS AND STRATEGIES ABOUT:

- Economic mobility and access to opportunity
- Authentic neighborhood businesses
- Diversified economy
- Arts, culture and creative placemaking
- Innovative economy



## VISION ELEMENT



### **In 2040...**

Denver is a thriving, livable city connected to nature and resilient to the forces of climate change.

## GOALS AND STRATEGIES ABOUT:

- Climate change and adaptation
- Water conservation
- Stormwater and green infrastructure
- Protecting waterways and the river
- Solid waste reduction
- Soil remediation
- Emergency planning

## VISION ELEMENT



**In 2040...**

**Denver is a city of safe, accessible  
and healthy communities.**

## GOALS AND STRATEGIES ABOUT:

- Healthy and active environments
- Parks and recreation
- Nutritious and affordable food
- Increase access to health services
- Integrate health analysis into city policies, plans, and processes

# DENVER AND THE REGION

## GOAL 1

Be a regional leader in smart growth.

### STRATEGIES

- A. Demonstrate the benefits of compact, mixed-use development for the region.
- B. Monitor increases in population and employment annually to ensure *Blueprint Denver* has appropriate policies and strategies to manage expected future growth.
- C. Develop a strategic implementation plan and program for regional centers and other key growth areas in Denver.
- D. Protect our natural resources and open space.

## GOAL 2

Embrace Denver's role as the center of regional growth.

### STRATEGIES

- A. Direct significant growth to regional centers and community centers and corridors with strong transit connections.
- B. Establish growth targets for specific regional centers to help the region achieve its goals for directing growth to designated urban centers.
- C. Add a significant amount of jobs and housing in downtown.

# GOALS AND STRATEGIES ABOUT:

- Regional collaboration
- Smart growth
- Regional transportation



Denveright

# Staff Recommendation

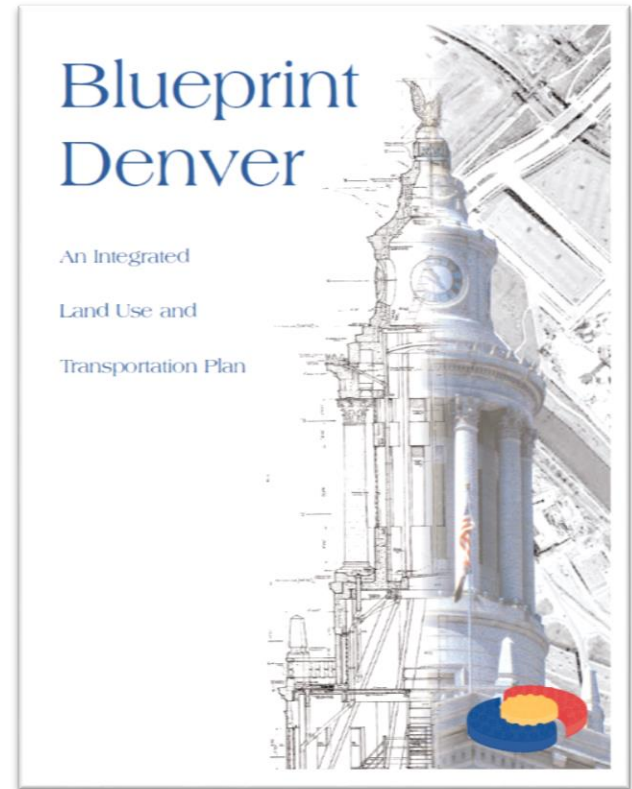
*Comprehensive Plan 2040* conforms with DRMC Section 12-61 requirements for the city's comprehensive plan, including purpose, format and contents.

Staff recommends **approval** of Comprehensive Plan 2040.

## 2. Blueprint Denver

# Blueprint Denver

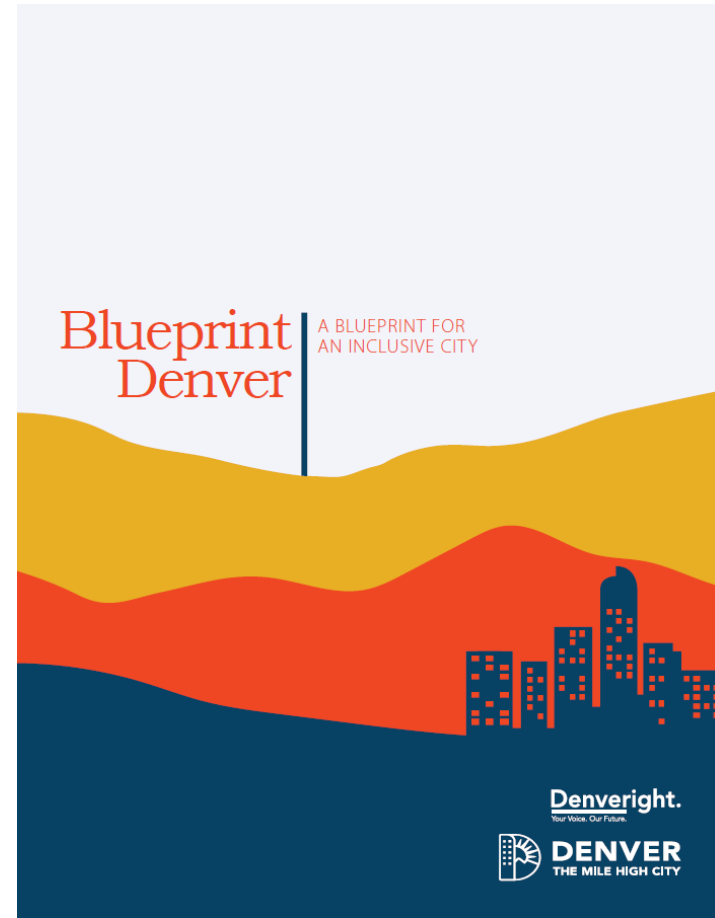
- Built on the foundation of Blueprint Denver 2002



# Blueprint Denver

Land use and transportation plan for growing an inclusive city:

- Consideration of social equity factors to tailor solutions by neighborhood
- Measured, common-sense approach to growth
- Creating complete neighborhoods and networks



# Blueprint Denver

When evaluating plans to be adopted as supplements to *Comprehensive Plan 2040*, the Denver Planning Board and City Council shall consider the following criteria:

- An inclusive community process was used to develop the plan.
- The plan is consistent with the vision, goals and strategies of *Comprehensive Plan 2040*.
- The plan demonstrates a long-term view.



# 1. Inclusive Community Process

*Was an inclusive community process used to develop the plan?*

## Blueprint Denver Task Force:

- 33 Neighborhood and community leaders tasked to guide the plan
  - Brought personal, professional and community expertise to give constructive feedback
  - Members reported back to peer groups and became champions
- 20 Meetings
  - Open to the public
  - Feedback on community values, vision elements, plan framework, draft maps, draft recommendations
- Equity Sub-committee
  - Analyze draft plan with focus on racial equity and institutional racism

# 1. Inclusive Community Process

## Community Engagement Windows:

- Denveright Kickoff and Denveright Visioning Workshops and Surveys – May-October 2016
- The Growing a Better Denver Workshop and Survey – April 2017
- Creating Great Places Workshops and Map Surveys – September 2017
- Complete Neighborhoods and Networks Workshops and Surveys – February - March of 2018
- Denveright Community Event and Draft Plan #1 Release – August - November 2018
- *Comprehensive Plan 2040, Blueprint Denver and Game Plan Draft #2 Release* – January - February 2019

# 1. Inclusive Community Process

## Communication and Additional Outreach:

- **Promotion:** email distribution, media releases, website information, social media, the CPD newsletter, Task Force outreach and City Council offices.
- **Website:** Project information, agendas, meeting materials, draft content, and announcements were posted to [denvergov.org/denveright](https://denvergov.org/denveright).
- **Public comments:** a summary of changes and annotated versions of the revised plan were posted on the Denveright website after public review draft #1.
- **Translation:** Key plan documents, website content and meeting materials were translated into Spanish.
- **Interpretation:** Services and child care were available at public meetings.
- **Focus Groups:** Additional outreach focused on underrepresented communities and groups that typically do not participate in planning processes.

# 1. Inclusive Community Process

- *Finding: Blueprint Denver was developed through an inclusive public process.*

## 2. Plan Consistency

*Is the plan consistent with the vision, goals and strategies of Comprehensive Plan 2040?*



## COMP PLAN 2040



## BLUEPRINT DENVER RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Strong commitment to equity
  - 3 key equity concepts
- Create complete neighborhoods for everyone in the city
- Advance affordable housing and housing diversity in all neighborhoods
- Consider the potential for involuntary displacement in city projects, including large city-led rezonings

## COMP PLAN 2040



## BLUEPRINT DENVER RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Complete neighborhoods with increased access to amenities
- High quality urban design in Denver's neighborhoods
- Preserve the authenticity and character of Denver's neighborhoods
- Empower people to be involved

## COMP PLAN 2040



## BLUEPRINT DENVER RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Complete multimodal network connecting complete neighborhoods
- City's Vision Zero Action Plan and Denver's mode share goals
- Equitable access to opportunity and services
- Growth near transit, especially in regional centers, community centers, and community corridors



## COMP PLAN 2040



## BLUEPRINT DENVER RECOMMENDATIONS:

- A diverse economy and a mix of job types
- Job growth to regional centers, community centers and corridors
  - Equitable access to employment areas
- Target investments in small, locally owned businesses
- Preserve high-value manufacturing areas
- Promotes innovation economy including handcrafted manufacturing and maker spaces

## COMP PLAN 2040



## BLUEPRINT DENVER RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Mitigate climate impact
- Environmentally responsible and resource efficient building practices
- Climate-appropriate landscaping requirements
- Green infrastructure and environmentally-friendly development
- Manage stormwater as part of a larger integrated ecological system
- Improve air and water quality

## COMP PLAN 2040



## BLUEPRINT DENVER RECOMMENDATIONS:

- Increase opportunities to live a healthy lifestyle.
- Support greater health considerations and analysis for more city programs
- Expand tools and regulations to ensure high-quality parks and public spaces

## 2. Plan Consistency

- *Finding: Blueprint Denver is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan 2040.*

# 3. Long-Term View

*Does the plan demonstrate a long-term view?*

- *Blueprint Denver* establishes a vision for an inclusive city of complete neighborhoods and networks in 2040. The plan recommendations are based on that long-term, holistic vision and will take many years to achieve.
- *Finding: Blueprint Denver has an appropriate long-term perspective.*

# 2019 Schedule – Comp Plan and Blueprint

- Public Review Draft #2 – January 7
- Planning Board Info Item – January 23
- Planning Board Listening Session – Feb 27
- Planning Board Draft – March 13
- Planning Board Hearing – March 20
- Council LUTI Committee – April 2
- Council 1<sup>st</sup> Reading – April 15
- **Council Hearing – April 22**

# Staff Recommendation:

- Based on the findings that *Blueprint Denver* used an inclusive public process, is consistent with *Comprehensive Plan 2040* and that the plan takes a long-term view, staff recommends *adoption of Blueprint Denver.*