

Community Outreach

During our initial community outreach process, we met with:

- Council President Jamie Torres (10/05/23—Virtual)
 - Discussed an overview of the property, premise of rezoning application and guidance from recently adopted plans for area. Talked about how the property is part of the Infrastructure Master Plan (IMP), how a letter of authorization was requested of Scott family for the IMP, and how the property size (2.5 acres) is below Large Development Review (LDR) threshold. Discussed timing and status relative to Ball Area project and process. Encouraged outreach to the community and educational institutions regarding potential collaborations or community benefit discussions.
- Central Platte Valley Auraria RNO (12/07/23—Virtual)
 - Provided overview of the rezoning, building forms, affordable housing, and status relative to the Ball Arena process. Touched on community conversations regarding Ball Arena. Generally, the group was familiar with the Central Platte Valley (CPV) plan amendment and did not have major concerns so long as the CPV transition height district along Speer Blvd. next to the historic district.
- LoDo District Inc. Urban Design Committee (01/24/24—Virtual)
 - Committee was very familiar and involved with the CPV plan amendment and zone districts that were created for the neighborhood. Design review and certain outcomes of the Ball Arena plan and IMP were discussed and important to the group. As reflected in the letter of support from the committee, the group supported the rezoning application and thought the proposed zone district was appropriate in the context of the broader development.
- Auraria Higher Education Center (AHEC) leadership (12/20/24—In-Person)
 - AHEC and the Scott Family had interacted in the past over possible student housing. Discussed the goal of rezoning the property to fit in with its surroundings and let AHEC know that Scott family was interested in potential future partnerships once more was known about the uses or type of development on the site. AHEC provided a letter of support.

Following initial consideration at the South Platte River Committee on October 9, 2024, we were encouraged to conduct additional outreach regarding potential community benefits. This outreach ultimately led to a Voluntary Affordable Housing Agreement for additional affordable housing on-site and an agreement with AHEC to provide much needed financial support for the Ninth Avenue Peace and Healing Garden. Specific meetings and feedback is listed below:

- Susan Powers, co-chair of Ball Arena Community Benefits Agreement Committee (BACBAC) leadership (11/12/24-2/13/25—Virtual and email)

- Provided overview of Scott property, zone district and building forms, affordable housing, and inclusion in the IMP for Ball Arena. Did not receive indication that a community benefit agreement (CBA) was needed for a site of this size and agreed with our subsequent updates and direction of pursuing a Voluntary Affordable Housing Agreement with HOST for additional affordable housing and series of discussions with AHEC that led to the agreement to support the Ninth Avenue Peace and Healing Garden.
- Department of Housing Stability, HOST leadership (12/09/24-02/11/25—Virtual)
 - Discussed desire and options to execute a Voluntary Affordable Housing Agreement and how to structure an agreement using Expanding Housing Authority High Market Cost levels and standards. Discussion led to an Agreement that was signed 02-11-25.
- Auraria Higher Education Center (AHEC) leadership (12/09/24-present—Virtual)
 - Multiple meetings and calls with Lulu Lantzy, David Olguin, Zach Hermesen, and Skip Speer that resulted in the identification and immediate need for support for the Ninth Avenue Peace and Healing Garden project. Follow up discussions regarding a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for execution and an additional letter of support will be provided.
- Metropolitan State University of Denver – James Meija (12/23/24—Virtual)
 - Focused on our plans to enter into a Voluntary Affordable Housing Agreement with the City and how to support community benefits in the area. Meija was very helpful in confirming the Ninth Avenue Peace and Healing Garden as the best project for the Scott family to support. Meija confirmed the immediate financial need of the garden and the general support for additional affordable housing commitments.