# 4201 E. Arkansas Ave

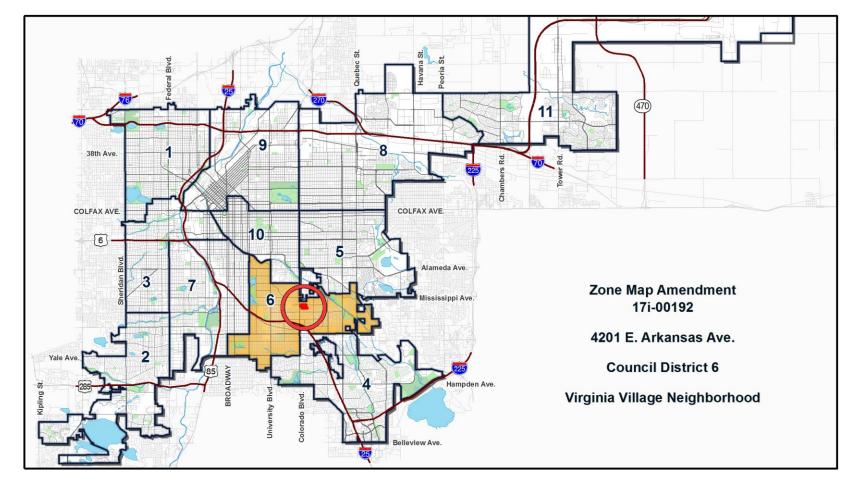
Existing Zone District: CMP-EI2 and S-MX-5 UO-1, UO-2

Proposed Zone District: S-MX-8 UO-2, S-MX-8, S-MX-5, S-

MX-3, S-MU-3



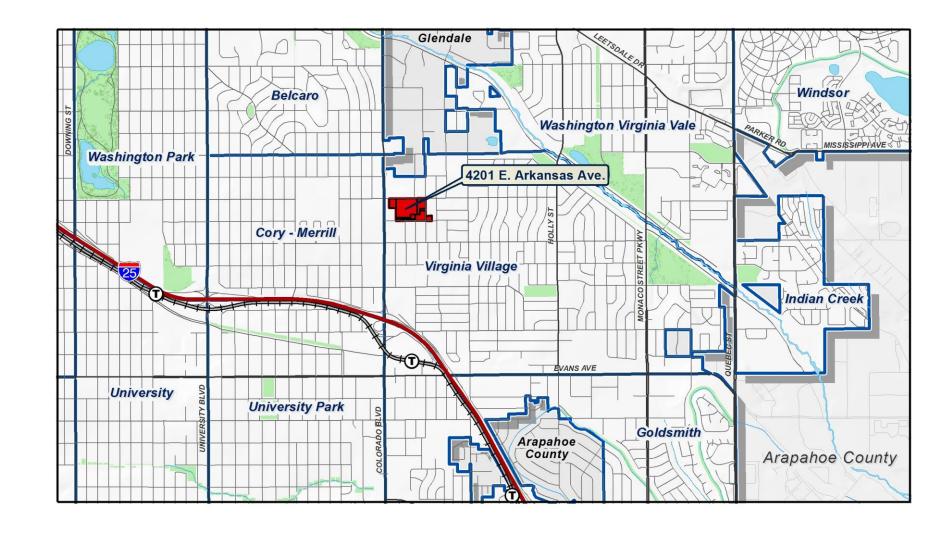
## Council District 6





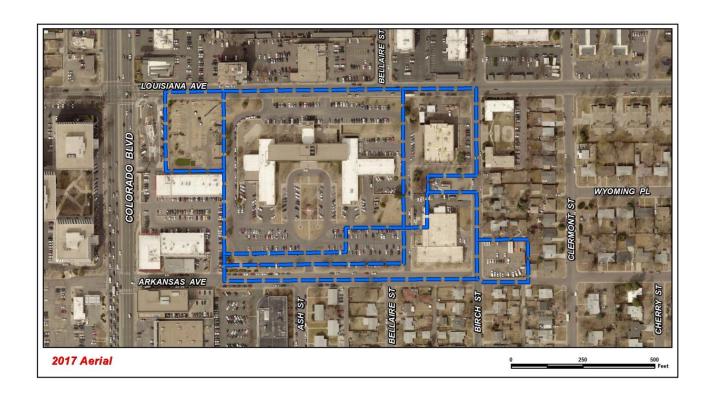
### Neighborhood

Virginia Village





## Summary



#### 4201 E. Arkansas Ave.

- Includes 4040 E. Louisiana Ave. and 1380 S. Birch St.
- Approx. 13.5 acres
- Former headquarters of Colorado
   Department of Transportation (CDOT)
- Three 1- to 4-story office structures currently on site

## Request

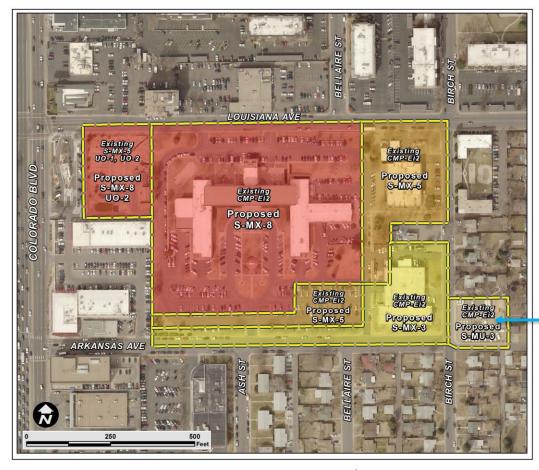


Photo: Denverite

<u>Suburban Neighborhood Context, Mixed-Use</u> District, range of heights:

- S-MX-8 U0-2
- S-MX-8
- S-MX-5
- S-MX-3

<u>Suburban Neighborhood Context, Multi-Unit</u> District:

• S-MU-3



## **Project Details**

- City-brokered transaction
- Agreement approved by City Council late 2017
- Stated Goals:
  - 150 units of affordable housing
  - 150,000 square feet of commercial space
  - Employment opportunities
- Anticipated late November closing date with CDOT for property
  - Proposed Development Agreement in lieu of GDP





# Proposed Development Agreement

- 150 units of affordable housing onsite
- Provide open space on a minimum of 10% of the property
- Environmental cleanup
- Traffic and transportation commitments (e.g. traffic study, transportation demand management)
- Reconnect street grid



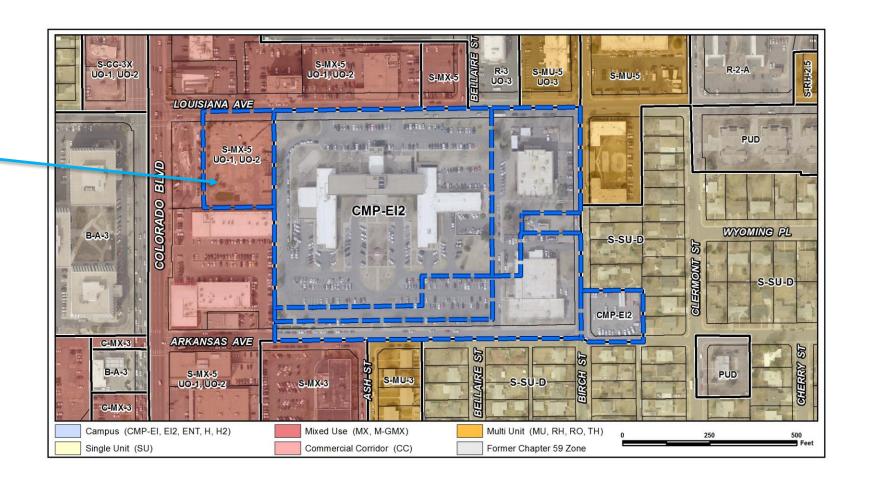
# **Existing Context: Zoning**

#### Current zoning of site:

- CMP-EI2
- S-MX-5 UO-1, UO-2 (NW parcel) -

#### Surrounding Zoning

- S-MX-5
- S-MU-5
- S-MU-3
- R-3
- S-SU-D





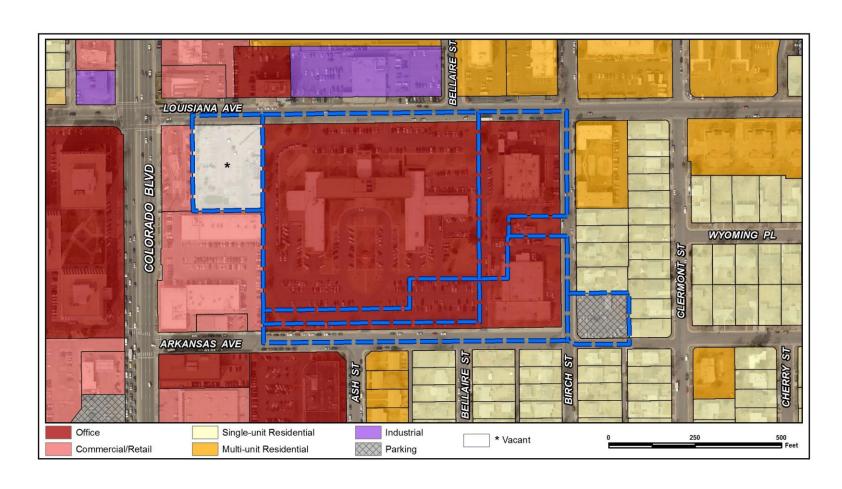
# **Existing Context: Land Use**

#### Site:

- Office (Vacant, formerly CDOT Headquarters)
- Vacant (NW Parcel, used for water quality training)

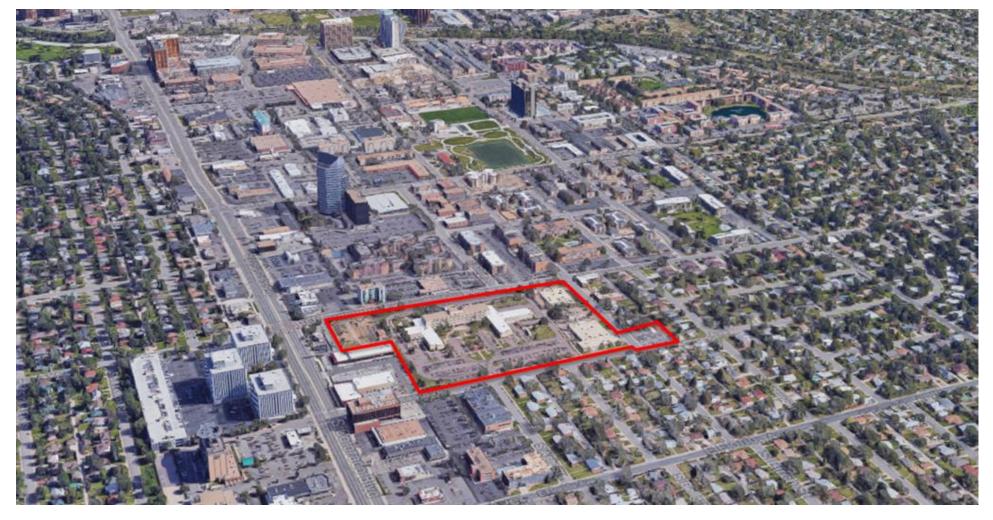
#### Surrounding:

- Office
- Commercial
- Multi-Unit Residential
- Industrial (auto body repair)
- Mult-unit residential
- Single-unit residential



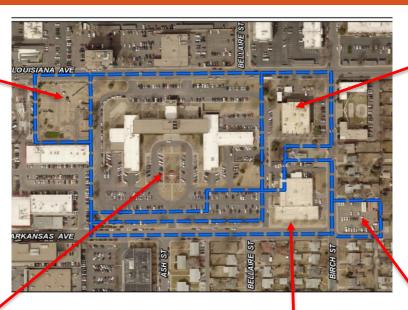


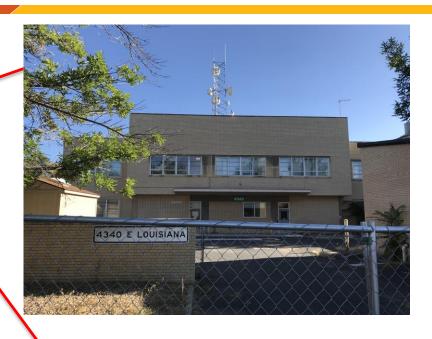
# Existing Context: Block Size, Building Form and Scale

























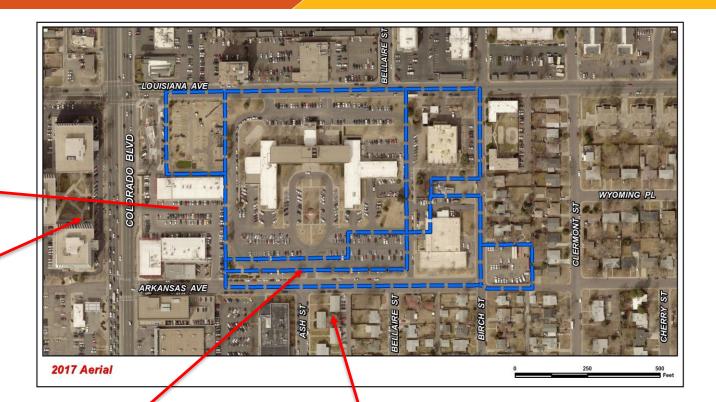












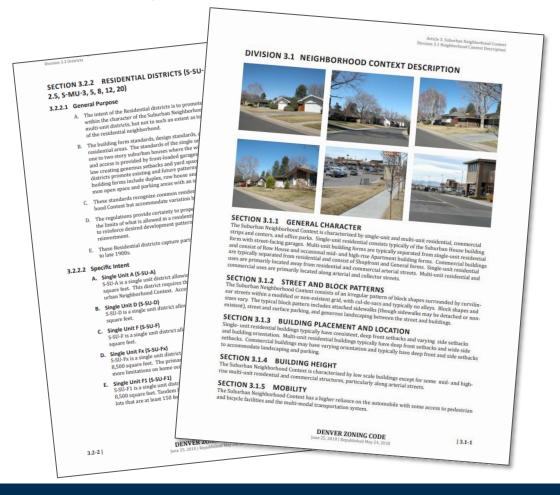






## Proposal: S-MU-3

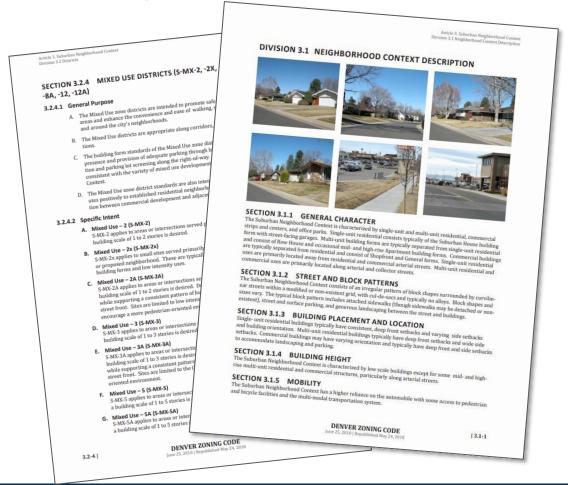
Suburban Neighborhood Context, Multi-Unit Use, maximum height of 3 stories.



 Promotes higher-density housing in a suburban context, including "duplex, row house and apartments sometimes organized around common open space and parking areas with an internal circulation system."

## Proposal: S-MX-3, 5 and 8

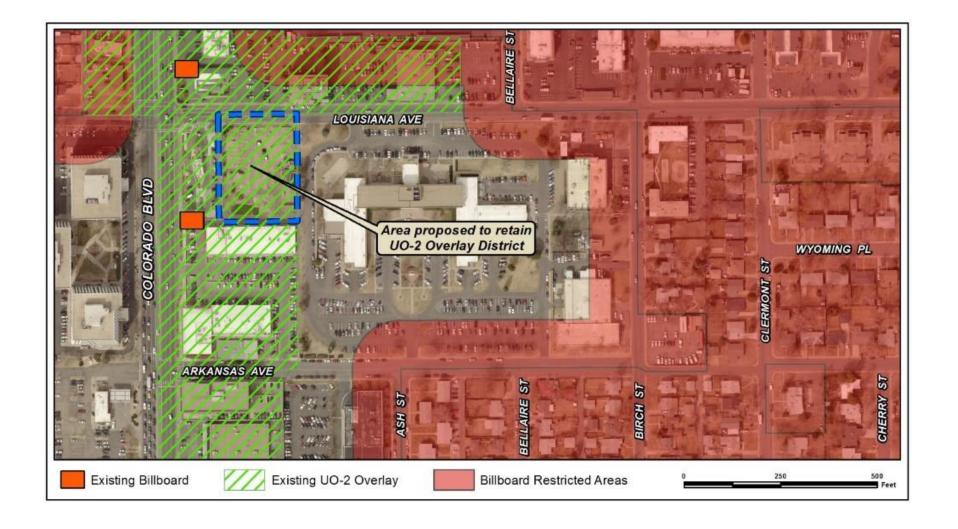
Suburban Neighborhood Context, Mixed-Use, maximum height of 3, 5 and 8 stories.



- Intended to promote "safe, active, pedestrian-scaled, diverse areas and enhance the convenience and ease of walking, shopping and public gathering within and around the city's neighborhoods."
- "...appropriate along corridors, for larger sites and at major intersections."
- S-MX-3: "areas or intersections served primarily by local or collector streets"
- S-MX-5: "areas or intersections served primarily by collector or arterial streets"
- S-MX-8: "areas or intersections served primarily by arterial streets"



## UO-2





## **Process**

Step Step	Date
CPD Informational Notice of Receipt	6/1/18
Community Meetings to present project	1/25/18, 3/8/18, 4/5/18, 5/3/18, 6/7/18, 7/12/18
CPD Written Notice of Planning Board Hearing	8/30/18
Planning Board	9/19/18
	Recommendation of Approval, 6:2 vote
Land Use, Transportation and Infrastructure Committee	10/9/18
City Council First Reading	10/22/18 (tentative)
City Council Public Hearing	11/19/18 (tentative)



### Registered Neighborhood Organizations and Public Comment

- Virginia Village/Ellis Community Association
- Inter-Neighborhood Cooperation (INC)

Written comment from Virginia Village/Ellis Community Association

• "The RNO remains neutral at the time of this report. The RNO does not feel that there is enough information at this time, and we plan to make our position official prior to the second reading by City Council later this year."

Written individual comment:

- 38 letters and e-mails received
  - 13 opposed to rezoning
  - 25 in support of rezoning



### Stakeholder Concerns

#### **Increased Traffic**

- Estimated 10,000 trip/day increase (could be similar after redevelopment under existing zoning)
- Traffic Study, TDM

#### **Development Density and Height**

- Original proposal: 12 stories, later revised to 8
- Step-down to neighborhoods

#### Gentrification

Affordable Housing part of agreement with City

#### Lack of specificity

 Concern about "redundant" or undesirable businesses, architectural style

#### **Environmental Cleanup**

 Ongoing cleanup of solvent spill



# **Project Support**

### Vibrancy

- Opportunity for "sense of place" alternative to auto-oriented strip commercial on Colorado Blvd.
- Neighborhood-oriented retail and destinations

### Affordable Housing

- 150 units priced at 60% of Area Median Income (\$48,000 for a family of 3)
- Stabilization of school population

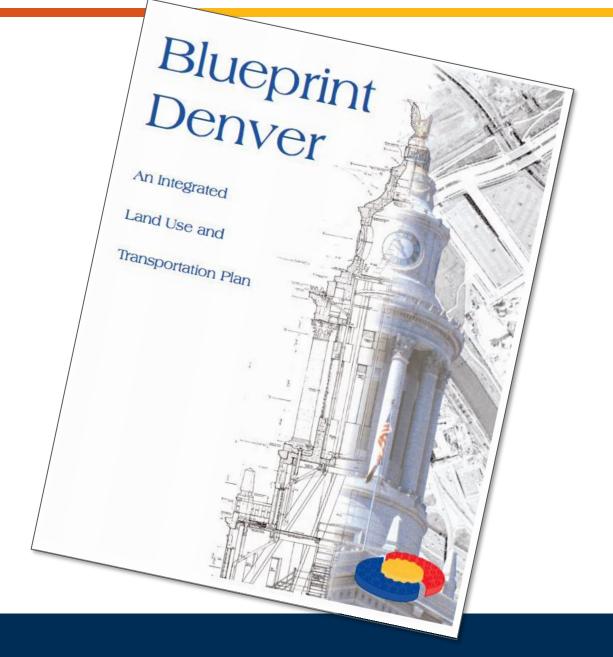
### Sustainability

- Alternative to sprawl to meet housing demand
- Reuse of underutilized site
- New residents along transit routes to support improvements



# Review Criteria for Rezoning

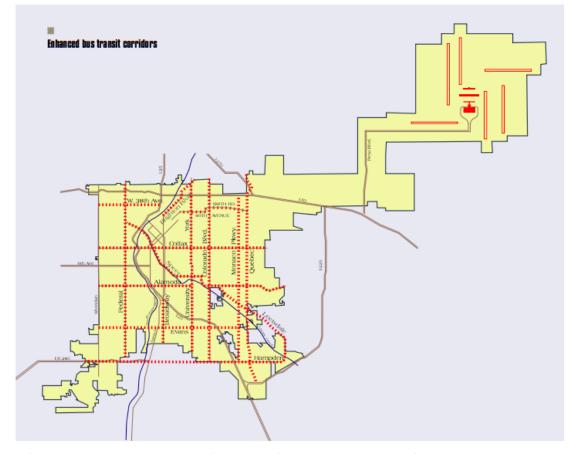
- 1. Consistency with Adopted Plans
- 2. Uniformity of District Regulations
- 3. Further Public Health, Safety and Welfare
- 4. Justifying Circumstances
- Consistency with Neighborhood Context, Zone District Purpose and Intent





# Review Criteria: Consistency with Adopted Plans

- Denver Comprehensive Plan (2000)
- Blueprint Denver (2002)



Blueprint Denver Enhanced Transit Corridor Map



### **Review Criteria:**

### Consistency with Adopted Plans

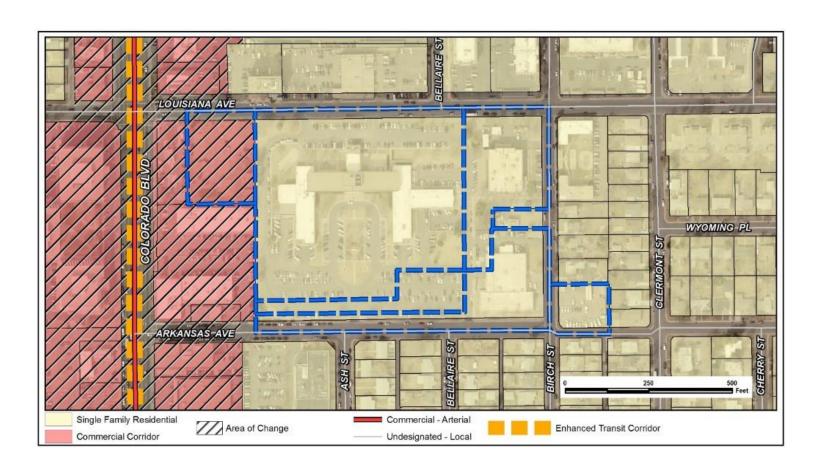
#### Comprehensive Plan 2000

- Environmental Sustainability Strategy 1-A: Encourage redevelopment of vacant, underutilized and environmentally compromised land known as brownfields. (p. 37)
- Environmental Sustainability Strategy 2-F: Conserve land by: promoting infill development within Denver at sites where services and infrastructure are already in place; designing mixed use communities and reducing sprawl so that residents can live, work and play within their own neighborhoods, and creating more density at transit nodes. (p. 39)
- Environmental Sustainability Strategy 4-A: Promote the development of sustainable communities and centers of activity where shopping, jobs, recreation and schools are accessible by multiple forms of transportation, providing opportunities for people to live where they work. (p. 41)
- Land Use Strategy 3-B: Encourage quality infill development that is consistent with the character of the surrounding neighborhood; that offers opportunities for increased density and more amenities; and that broadens the variety of compatible uses. (p. 60)
- Land Use Strategy 3-D: Identify and enhance existing focal points in neighborhoods, and encourage the development of such focal points where none exist. (p. 60)
- Denver's Legacies Strategy 3-A: Identify areas in which increased density and new uses are desirable and can be accommodated. (p. 99)
- Housing Strategy 6-A: Support Mixed-Use Development consistent with the goal of the Comprehensive Plan's land-use and mobility strategies. (p. 117)
- Housing Strategy 6-B: Continue to support mixed-income housing development that includes affordable rental and for-purchase housing for lower-income, entry-level and service employees, especially in Downtown and along transit lines. (p. 117)
- Economic Activity Strategy 1-H: Support a variety of housing opportunities for Denver's current and future workforce. Housing opportunities throughout Denver should be expanded especially in the Downtown core and near employment centers to accommodate people and families of all incomes. (p. 131)



# Blueprint: Future Land Use

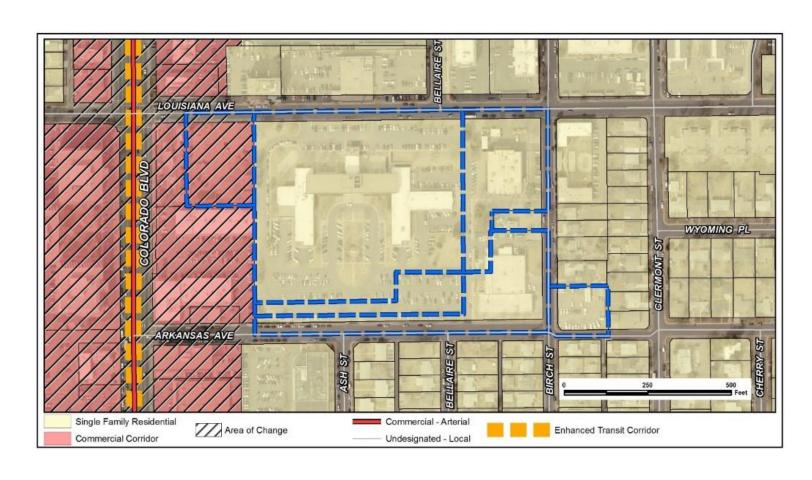
- Single-Family
   Residential, Area of
   Stability (core parcels)
- Commercial Corridor, Area of Change (northwest parcel)





# Blueprint: Future Street Classifications

- Commercial Arterial, Enhanced Transit Corridor (Colorado Blvd.)
- Undesignated Local (all other streets)
- Public Works considers Louisiana a collector between Colorado and Holly (Per 2017 Map)





# Plan Analysis: Areas of Stability

- Areas of Stability: "the vast majority of Denver, primarily the stable residential neighborhoods and their associated commercial areas, where limited change is expected in the next 20 years. (p 120)"
- Overarching Goal: "identify and maintain the character of an area while accommodating some new development and redevelopment." (p. 140).
- Committed and Reinvestment Areas: Reinvestment Areas represent opportunities for "reinvestment through modest infill and redevelopment or major projects in a small area" within Area of Stability (p. 122)



### **Review Criteria**

#### **Denver Zoning Code Review Criteria**

- 1. Consistency with Adopted Plans
- 2. Uniformity of District Regulations
  - Request will result in uniform application of the S-MX zone district's building form, use and design regulations.
- 3. Further Public Health, Safety and Welfare
  - Jobs and Housing near high-quality transit on brownfield site
  - Pedestrian friendly, mix of uses
  - Clear transition of building scale
- 4. Justifying Circumstances
  - Population growth and need for housing
  - Closure and vacation of site



Consistency with Neighborhood Context, Zone District Purpose and Intent

#### **Suburban Neighborhood Context:**

- Context includes "occasional mid- and high-rise Apartment building forms, surface parking and "generous landscaping between the street and buildings" in deep setbacks.
- New development "contributes positively to established residential neighborhoods and character, and improves the transition between commercial development and adjacent residential neighborhoods."

Article 7. Urban Center Neighborhood Conter Division 7.1 Neighborhood Context Description

### DIVISION 7.1 NEIGHBORHOOD CONTEXT DESCRIPTION













#### SECTION 7.1.1 GENERAL CHARACTER

The Urban Center Neighborhood Context consists of multi-unit residential and mixed-use commercial strips and commercial centers. Multi-unit residential uses are typically in multi-story mixed use building forms. Commercial buildings are typically Shopfront and General forms. Multi-unit residential uses are primarily locommercial bundings are typically shoph one and beneral forms. Printernal residential uses are primarily located along residential collector, mixed-use arterial, and local streets. Commercial uses are primarily located

### SECTION 7.1.2 STREET, BLOCK AND ACCESS PATTERNS

The Urban Center Neighborhood Context consists of a regular pattern of block shapes surrounded by an orthogonal street grid. Orthogonal streets provide a regular pattern of pedestrian and vehicular connections orthogonal sureet grut. Orthogonal screets provide a regular pattern of pedesorial and ventural confections through this context and there is a consistent presence of alleys. Block sizes and shapes are consistent and include detached sidewalks, tree lawns, street and surface parking, and landscaping in the front setback

### SECTION 7.1.3 BUILDING PLACEMENT AND LOCATION

All building typically have consistent orientation and shallow front setbacks with parking at the rear and/or

#### SECTION 7.1.4 BUILDING HEIGHT

The Urban Center Neighborhood Context is characterized by moderate to high building heights to promote a dense urban character. Lower scale structures are typically found in areas transitioning to a less dense urban

#### SECTION 7.1.5 MOBILITY

There are high levels of pedestrian and bicycle use with the greatest access to multi-modal transportation



### **CPD** Recommendation

CPD recommends approval, in combination with development agreement to address certain issues, based on finding all review criteria have been met

- 1. Consistency with Adopted Plans
- 2. Uniformity of District Regulations
- 3. Further Public Health, Safety and Welfare
- 4. Justifying Circumstances
- 5. Consistency with Neighborhood Context, Zone District Purpose and Intent



# Extra Slides for Questions of Applicant

Denver City Council Land Use, Transportation and Infrastructure Committee 10-9-18



#### **TEAM OVERVIEW**



**DEVELOPER** 



LAND PLANNER



TRAFFIC ENGINEER



ZONING / COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Essential Management Solutions, LLC

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANT** 



#### **CDOT DISPOSITION**

- CDOT moved to a new building near Colfax and Federal on May 18th, 2018.
- State law requires properties owned by the State of Colorado to be offered first to local government entities.
- City and County of Denver exercised the option to acquire both 4201 E Arkansas Avenue and 2000 S Holly Street.
- City and County of Denver selected Kentro Group to develop the Properties based on confidence in delivering a project beneficial to the community.
- · Contract Requirements:
  - Requires a public rezoning process.
  - Requires construction of 150 for-rent apartment units at 60% AMI in the City and County of Denver or pay a contribution to the City and County of Denver Affordable Housing Fund.
  - Requires 150,000 SF commercial space and 200 permanent jobs on-site or pay a contribution to the City and County of Denver.
- Contract Timing:
  - Due Diligence I Government Approval
  - November 2018 Closing
- The communication tower on the east side of the Property is not included in the acquisition and the State of Colorado will retain ownership.



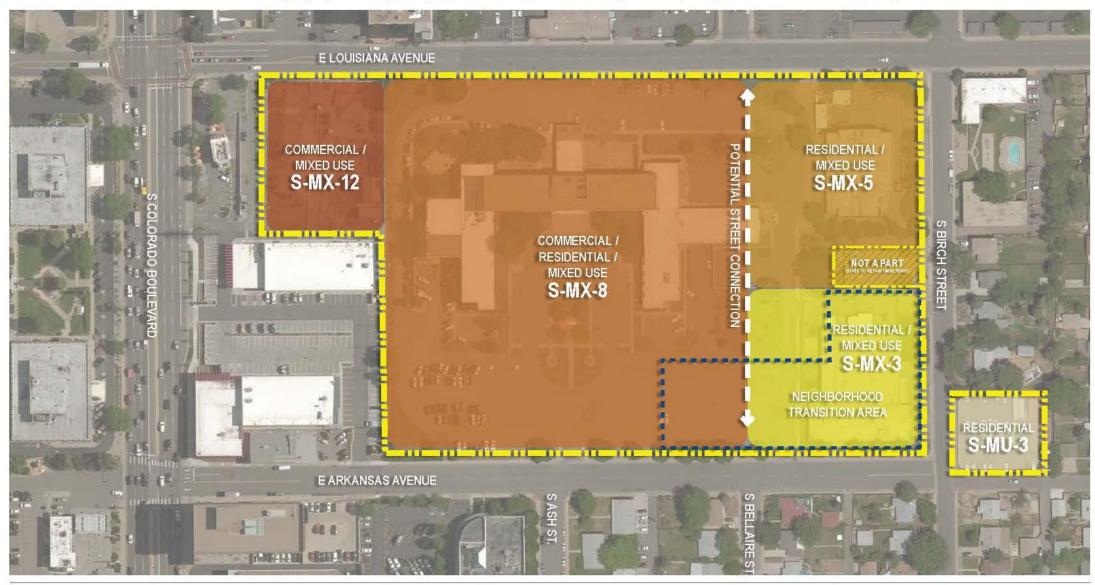
#### PREVIOUS PROPOSED ZONE DISTRICTS - MARCH 2018







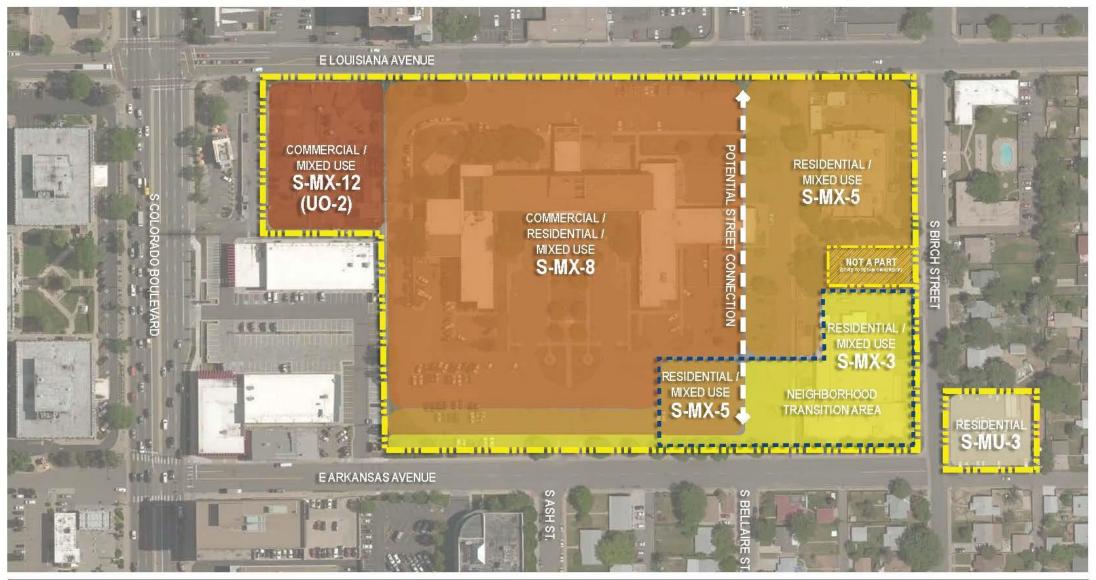
#### PREVIOUS PROPOSED ZONE DISTRICTS - APRIL 2018







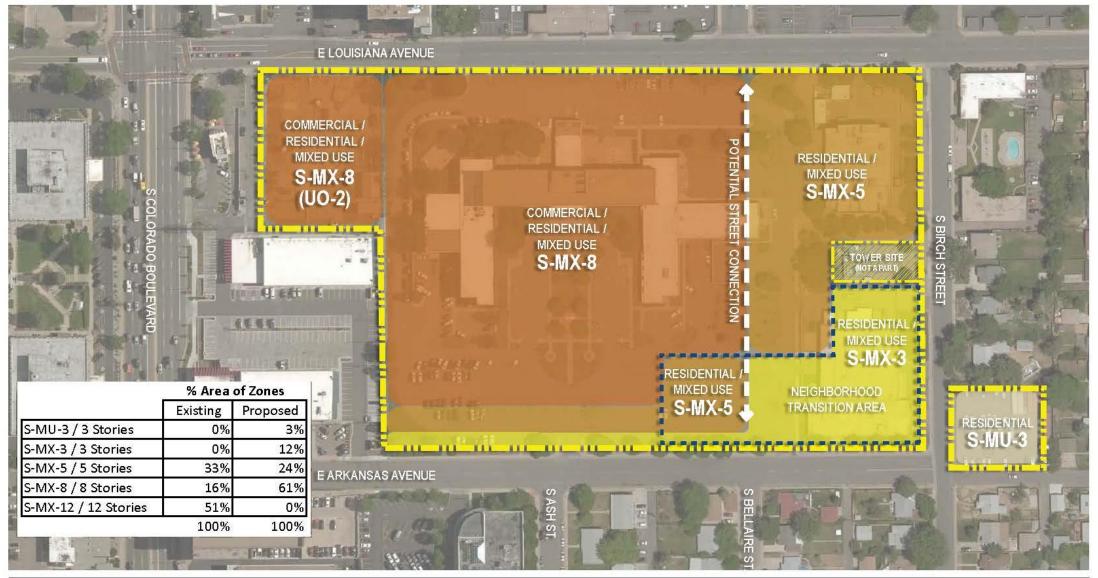
#### PREVIOUS PROPOSED ZONE DISTRICTS - MAY 2018







#### PROPOSED ZONE DISTRICTS







# **ZONE DISTRICT AREA COMPARISON**

**EXISTING VS. PROPOSED** 

# % Area of Zones

	ARE 1953 W. SHOUCH SCHOOL SCHOOL SCHOOL STORE SECTION SCHOOL SECTI	
	Existing	Proposed
S-MU-3 / 3 Stories	0%	3%
S-MX-3 / 3 Stories	0%	12%
S-MX-5 / 5 Stories	33%	24%
S-MX-8 / 8 Stories	16%	61%
S-MX-12 / 12 Stories	51%	0%
	100%	100%

### **DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT**

- An agreement between the developer and the City (with neighborhood input) identifying certain criteria related to land use, planning, infrastructure, open space, other development standards, etc.
- · Implementing this tool as part of the rezoning.
- Key items topics that will be included:
  - Affordable housing delivered on site
  - North/South connection
  - Traffic Study and Implementation of Multi-modal options
  - Minimum Open Space
  - Design Input
  - Implementing other RNO Committee Priorities
- CURRENT ACTIONS:
  - Finalize Term Sheet with City incorporating neighborhood priorities.



### TRANSPORTATION OVERVIEW

- Traffic Study
  - Kimley-Horn completed analysis of intersections potentially impacted by new development.
  - Once business/development plan is finalized, another analysis will be commissioned to study traffic impacts of specific uses.
- Collaboration With Multi-modal Transportation Consultant
  - Evaluating unique ways to reduce trip generation and implement technology/ride sharing services to create multiple transportation options on-site.
- Kentro Group is committed to limiting traffic impacts of development on surrounding neighborhood.

## TRANSPORTATION OVERVIEW



- SOUTHBOUND PROTECTED-PERMITTED LEFT TURN PHASING (GREEN TURN ARROW) AT THE LOUISIANA AVENUE/COLORADO BOULEVARD AND ARKANSAS AVENUE/COLORADO BOULEVARD SIGNALIZED INTERSECTIONS.
- DUAL LEFT TURN LANES ON THE WESTBOUND ARKANSAS AVENUE APPROACH TO COLORADO BOULEVARD.
- FLORIDA AVENUE AND BIRCH STREET INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENTS.
- VEHICULAR CLOSURE OF ARKANSAS AVENUE BETWEEN BIRCH STREET AND THE NORTH-SOUTH ALLEY.

- IMPROVEMENTS AT THE LOUISIANA AVENUE/BELLAIRE STREET AND ARKANSAS AVENUE/BELLAIRE STREET INTERSECTIONS WITH BUILD-OUT OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT.
- THREE LANE STRIPING OF LOUISIANA AVENUE AND HOLLY STREET TO PROVIDE DESIGNATED EASTBOUND AND NORTHBOUND LEFT TURN LANES AT THE INTERSECTION.
- PEDESTRIAN AND MULTI-MODAL USE IMPROVEMENTS TO EXISTING TRANSIT AND BICYCLE ROUTES.



### COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

- Immediately after City & County of Denver contract approval (January 2018), Kentro Group began community outreach process by starting a series of Community Meetings.
  - Six (6) meetings: Jan. 25, Mar. 8, April 5, May 3, June 7, July 12
  - Next meeting scheduled for Sept 27
- Met frequently with neighborhood CDOT task force, exchanged written dialogue and comments at meetings.
- Additional outreach efforts:
  - Built website, posted all meeting materials/PDFs (www.KentroGroup.com/Arkansas).
  - Conducted survey on desired uses and site elements.
  - Paid for door-to door mass flier distributions on two (2) separate occasions.
  - Posted signs on property with notice of community meeting.
  - Hired Spanish and Arabic language interpreters for meetings.



### COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

- Held multiple special/issue-specific meetings:
  - Traffic and transportation traffic scope, early traffic study and potential improvements
  - Environmental remediation (in coordination with State and City)
  - Presentation re: CDOT Region 1 site, 2000 S. Holly Street
- Additional meetings, presentations and correspondence:
  - Virginia Village Ellis Community Association (VVECA)
    - Zoning Committee
    - CDOT Task Force
  - Cook Park Neighborhood Association
  - East Evans Business Association (EEBA)
  - Large amount of one-on-one outreach, coffee meetings, emails, phone calls, etc.
- Ongoing outreach with VVECA, Zoning Committee and neighborhood re: Development Agreement, ongoing outreach process and structure and overall site planning process.



## APPLICATION SUMMARY

#### The City PSA Contract Requirements

- 150 units affordable housing at 60% AMI or fee
- 200 permanent jobs AND at least 150,000 sf commercial space; and
- A public rezoning process

#### Suburban mixed-use and Suburban multi-unit are right combination of zone districts for this site

- Lowers height 4-stories on interior of the site from 12 to 8-stories max
- Lowers height 2-stories down on neighborhood transition area
  - 3-stories/40-45' vs. 5-stories/75' adjacent to single-unit zone districts
- Adds 'mixed-use/retail' into allowed uses
- Encourages walkability, appropriate building forms, transparency
- Appropriate parking requirement (S-context) to balance concerns from neighborhood
- Excellent candidate for TDM and multi-modal

#### The public rezoning requirement has yielded many positives

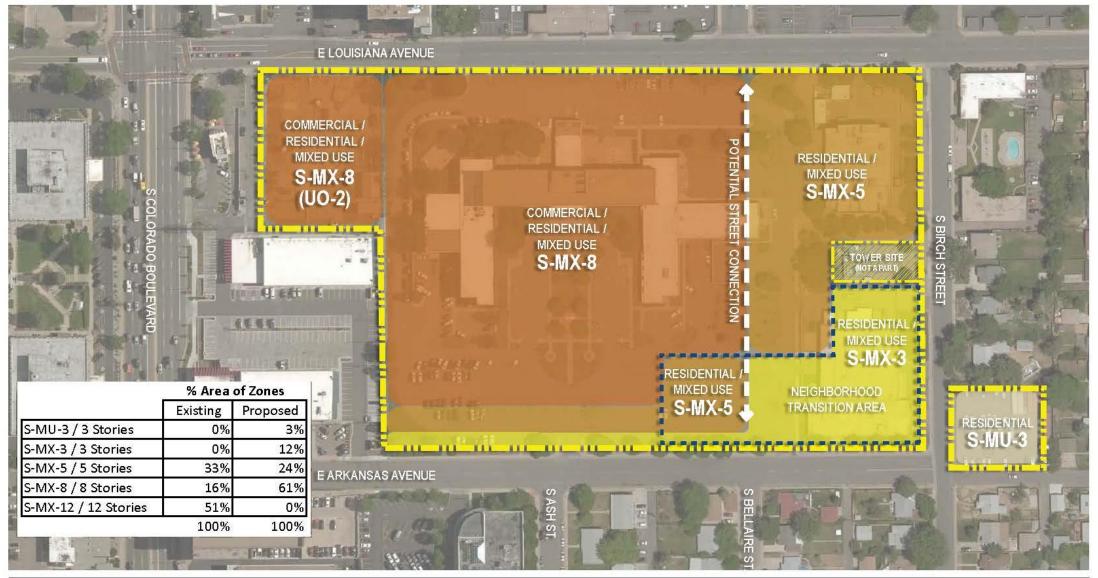
- Engaged hundreds of neighbors into the process
- Negotiations on the rezoning and heights/zone districts vs. use-by-right campus approach
- Led to the creation of a development agreement to incorporate additional public priorities
- Expedited many conversations re: traffic and transportation improvements for the area
- Laid the ground work for future work and collaboration with the RNO and community after the rezoning







## PROPOSED ZONE DISTRICTS







# CMP-EI2 EXISTING ZONING BUILDING ENVELOPE STUDY



ORIGINAL APPLICATION PROPOSED ZONING BUILDING ENVELOPE STUDY



REVISED APPLICATION PROPOSED ZONING BUILDING ENVELOPE STUDY



# E. ARKANSAS AVENUE STREET SECTION: S-MX-3, S-MX-5, & S-MX-8 TRANSITION

