

Q4 2019 Monitoring Report

TO: District Plan Commission

FROM: Anneli Berube, Ag Innovation Specialist, for District Plan Staff

DATE: January 23, 2020

SUBJECT: Q4 2019 District Plan Monitoring Report and 2019 in Review

ATTACHMENTS: Table 1. 2019 in Review, Table 2. Deliverables for Commission Review Q1 2020

The following report documents activities and deliverables completed in 2019, and a preview of activities and deliverables that will be completed in the first quarter of 2020 (Q1).

Deliverable & Tactic Updates:

2019 in Review: Below are the eleven deliverables completed and tactics worked on in 2019, as well as next steps for Q1 2020.

- **Tactic #1: Acquisitions** – in 2019: Adams County closed on Murata Brothers Farm Property, preserving 37 acres of farmland; the City of Brighton and The Conservation Fund were awarded grants from the Adams County Open Space Grant and Great Outdoors Colorado for preservation of the Morimitsu Farm property.
- **Tactic #2: Local Foods Workshop** – in 2019: a steering committee was formed, date and location set, and many details explored. Q1 2020: The workshop will be held on 2/13/20 at The Armory in Brighton. District Plan Commission members are invited to attend and participate. Platte Valley Medical Center’s CHIP grant awarded \$1,000 towards the workshop, and Tri-County Health committed to \$500 to \$1,000. An agenda has been created and is being finalized.
- **Tactic #6: Public relations** – in 2019: numerous outreach activities were used to promote the Historic Splendid Valley brand; District Plan website was transferred to Brighton and updated; a front page Denver Post article about Historic Splendid Valley was published on 6/10/19; Historic Splendid Valley Marketing & Public Relations Plan was developed and published. *This tactic was completed in 2019.*
- **Tactic #9: Zoning overlay or design guidelines** – in 2019: The new Land Use Development Code for City was adopted, incorporating concepts from the District Plan; Adams County land use code was updated to allow the keeping of chickens and bees on residential properties. Q1 2020: City of Brighton is exploring the keeping of goats in residential zones.
- **Tactic #10: Transfer of Development Rights (TDR) and/or Cluster Standards** – in 2019: a staff report was written and shared for a TDR Study project; a Request for Proposal (RFP) was drafted for the study; funding was secured from both the City and the County for a 2020 study. Q1 2020: the RFP was published on 1/3/20 and is open until 1/27/20; candidates will be interviewed and the RFP will be awarded by mid-March 2020.
- **Tactic #12: Exploring incentives for conservation easements** – in 2019: Conservation Easements Toolkit completed and published. *This tactic was completed in 2019.*
- **Tactic #14: On-site school gardens** – in 2019: Brighton Shares The Harvest (BSTH) helped to set up a school garden at Otho Stuart Middle School.
- **Tactic #15: Marketing campaign** – in 2019: District Plan Branding & Wayfinding Project completed, Historic Splendid Valley brand developed.
- **Tactic #18: Wayfinding signage** – in 2019: a preliminary design was developed by Domoto Brands; funding was secured from both the City and the County for the project; a grant application was submitted to the Brighton

Q4 2019 Monitoring Report

Lodging Tax Advisory Committee; a meeting was organized on 12/5/19 to gather feedback from potential participants in program. Q1 2020: awaiting next steps for Lodging Tax Grant application to determine remainder of funding for project.

- **Tactic #21: Senior Meal Programs** – in 2019: a test was done to determine feasibility and explore logistics of including local produce in BSTH Meals on Wheels program.
- **Tactic #31: Salad Bars** – in 2019: this has been explored with 27J School District. They do not do salad bars as a policy, so *this tactic was deemed sufficiently explored and therefore complete in 2019.*

Deliverables for Commission Review Q1 2020: Below are the two deliverables or key tasks that will require the Commission's feedback in Q1.

- Local Foods Workshop
- TDR RFP award

Meeting and Event Updates

- **Colorado Food Summit:** Ag Innovation Specialist attended summit on 1/7/20. Topics discussed were local procurement, farm to school, and a 2050 Colorado Food Systems Vision.
- **Producers Summit:** Ag Innovation Specialist attended summit on 1/11/20. The 'probable future' for Denver metro agriculture that was written at last year's summit was reviewed and updated, and working groups were updated. The working groups include: land access, food justice, farmers markets, farmer wellness and labor, farmer-to-farmer education, and strategic partnerships. Ag Innovation Specialist spoke briefly about Historic Splendid Valley and possible opportunities for land access.
- **Local Foods Workshop Steering Committee meetings:** Workshop sessions have been discussed and will include a "farmer showcase", presentation of the Community Health Needs Assessment and other public health and food access indicators, Food Banks of the Rockies, Hunger Free Colorado, and other partners discussing their work, small-groups to encourage collaboration, a Next Steps discussion, and a food waste presentation.
- **Discover Brighton Agritourism Subcommittee:** Ag Innovation Specialist provided an update on the wayfinding signage project, and floated a discussion of an Historic Splendid Valley billboard, which will be revisited at a later date. The group had a discussion about the Brighton Chamber of Commerce's Farm Forum, which might be reimagined to take place partially at Summerfest, with farm dinners happening throughout the summer.