

### Downtown Area Master Plan and Design Guidelines

P.U.M.A. | Gould Evans City Council Update | November 2, 2015

## Progressive Urban Management Associates

- Denver-based real estate economics and planning firm
- 22 years, 35 states, 150+ cities
- Brad has 30 years of experience in downtown and community development
- J.J., project manager, brings 20 years as an urban designer and transportation planner
- Erica adds 15 years in land use planning, redevelopment & market analysis



#### P.U.M.A Role | Lead Consultant

- Seasoned experts
- Educators and downtown redevelopment resource
- Evaluate local economic conditions and trends
- Manage an inclusive community outreach process
- Craft a public/private approach to implementation
- Organizers and time managers
- "Urban Therapists"
- Motivators



#### **Gould Evans**

- Kansas City-based Design Firm
- Multidisciplinary staff, Public Sector Experience
- 25+ Years Urban Design Studio
- Graham 17 years of experience in policy and urban design
- Chris 19 years of experience in urban design and regulations
- Robert 19 years of experience as a landscape architect









#### **Gould Evans Role**

- Primary creative influence
- Plan Framework, including urban design and connectivity issues
- Design Guidelines
- Land Use Regulations
- Community Engagement Support



## Market-Based Planning Approach

Understanding of trends shaping downtowns

- + Local market understanding
- + Community aspirations
- = Market-Based Vision with tactics to capitalize on next investment cycle

Drives solutions for design, parking, transportation, land use regulations, etc.



#### Implementation Focused

- Our processes are designed to mobilize community champions to lead implementation
- Firm specialties in organization and finance
- P.U.M.A. has created/renewed more than 65 BIDs collectively generating more than \$80M annually
- Capital projects, realigned city budgets, incentive packages, etc.
- Quick wins to long term change





#### **Process and Schedule**

Sept/Oct Site and Market Recon COMPLETED

October 21-23 Market recon/interviews COMPLETED

November 2-4 Working Group Meetings THIS TRIP

January 12-14 Community Open Houses

February 23-25 Design Charrette and Synthesis

April 5-7 Draft Plan Review

May/June Elected officials, public open house

#### **Initial Observations**

- Strong existing assets (street network, walkable scale, core streetscape, Main St. Square, historic building stock, University...)
- Connectivity to the University is critical
- Connectivity to the surrounding neighborhoods and greenway needs improvement
- People's perception of 'Downtown' is quite small 6-9 blocks need to 'grow downtown'
- Past culture is resistant to change
- Zoning needs to be more flexible for mixed use development
- Market trends suggest opportunity for housing

## **Potential Improvements**

- Improve additional historic buildings
- Wayfinding, pedestrian lighting and streetscape outside of the core
- Need for quality housing
- Services and amenities for downtown residents
- Multiple transportation options between university and downtown core
- Continue to improve bicycle connections (bike lanes, sharrows, cycle track...)
- Connections to trails and open space
- Activating downtown east of 5<sup>th</sup> Street

# **Council Expectations?**

What would you like the plan to accomplish?

How would you like to be involved in the process?

General questions and discussion.



