Colorado Springs-Fountain Brownfield Coalition

The Blast Site, Pedestrian Mobility Corridor

- Stantec Land ReUse Plan
 - a historical, educational, recreational assessment
- City R5 Strategic Objective
 - Complete a conceptual design for the land area defined as The Aga Park/ Blast Site Pedestrian Corridor located within the Olde Town URA



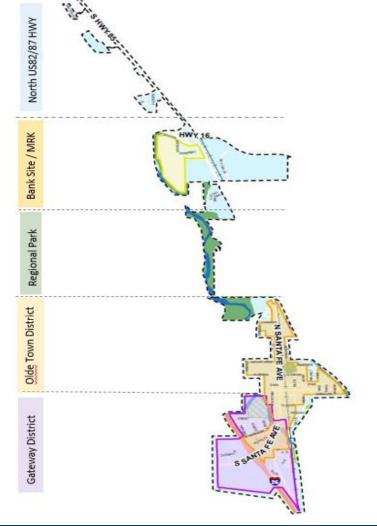








City of Fountain Focus Area Map



- Mix of Private and Public Property Ownership participation
- 3 Phase I ESAs
- 3 Phase II ESAs
- 2 Building Materials
 Surveys
- 1 Cleanup/ Reuse
 Planning Site
- 1 Conceptual Land Use
 Site
 - The Blast Site

Projects in the City





1.14 acre city-owned property located between Missouri Avenue and Illinois Avenue in the Olde Town URA

- with associated, adjacent land mass areas PH I-III
- BNSF linear active rail line
 - Passive Use ONLY Conditions
- Fountain-Fort Carson School District
 8 youth facilities
- 1888 historical train collision "The Blast" 30-FT Crater

The Blast Site

Goal Statement:

The City would like to be in a healthy position in working through the EPA Brownfield resources and scope of work deliverables to achieve a goal of meeting the eligibility criteria and apply for State of Colorado GOCO and/or Gates Family Foundation grants to fund the public space improvements.



The Study Area











Acknowledgements

Site Nominee = City Manager, Scott Trainor

City Site Advocacy = Fountain Urban Renewal Authority, Olde Town Steering Committee

Working Committee:

Parks and Recreation Board = Rick Clements

Fountain Urban Renewal Authority = Dixie Snyder

State, Local Historian/ City Councilmember = Tamera Estes

Railroad Historian/ FV News Author = Mel McFarland

Peaks N Pines Brewery, LLC = Teresa Vieira and Eric Bowers

BNSF Railway = Andy Williams and Rafer Nichols

FFCSD8 = Ariane Carrillo and Christy McGee

Specialists:

City Planning = Kristy Martinez

City Parks N Recreation = Gordy McCormick

City Public Safety = Lieutenant Matthew Racine

City Public Engagement/ Marketing

Communications = John Trylch

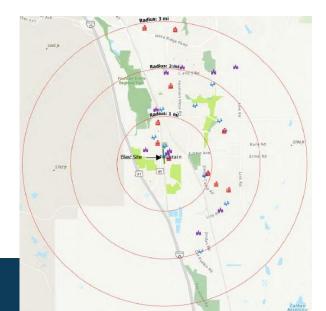
City Economic Development/ Urban Renewal/ EPA Coalition Liaison = Kimberly Bailey



Foundational Elements

- Parks Master Plan
- US85 Gateway Urban Renewal Area (URA)
- Moving Fountain Forward Initiative
 - Illinois/ Indiana Avenue Transportation Improvement
- Olde Town Revitalization Summary
- Ohio Avenue Placemaking Campaign
- Town Design+Aesthetic Guidelines and Safe Routes to Schools

- Aga Family Park Donation
- The Blast Site Heritage Donation (URA)
- Illinois Avenue PnP Commercial Site (URA)
- Livery Stable National Historic Registry
- 3-Mile Youth/ Child Care Demographics
 - 10 Schools
 - 15 Child Care Facilities
 - 10 Churches





Connectivity

- 1M Bike Loop
- Public Safety Youth, Families, and Bicyclists
- Multi Generation Mobility
- Urban Outdoor Spaces/ Heritage Trail
- Natural Waterways with Front Range Regional Trail Accessibilities



Working Committee Land Use Planning

- Rail Operations
- Olde Town and Community Appearance
- Indiana/Illinois Avenue
 Transportation Improvements
- Front Range Regional Trail
- Community/Civic Destinations
- Safe Routes to Schools

Public Survey Site Elements

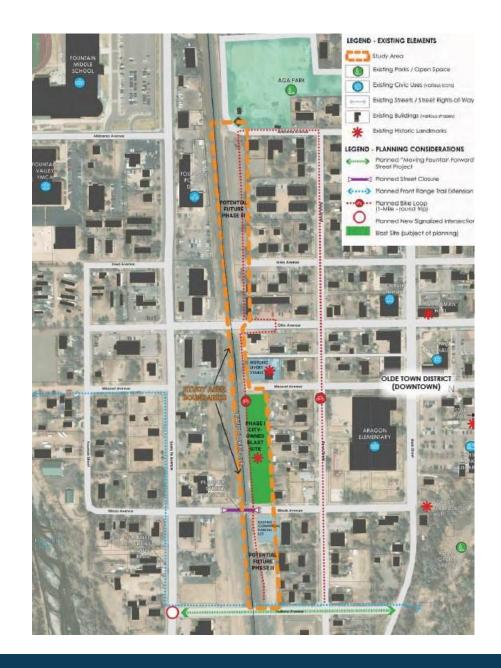
- Multi Use Trails
- Passive Gathering Areas
- Parking and Circulation
- Art and Historic Markers
- Shelters and Restroom Facilities
- Fencing and Buffering Elements
- Safe Routes to School and Multi-GEN Mobility

Public Survey



- Identified Undiscovered Amenities in the District
- Quantified Increased PED Activity Patterns in the District
- Demonstrated Support for District Appearance Improvements
- Encouraged Economic
 Vitality for Small Business in the District

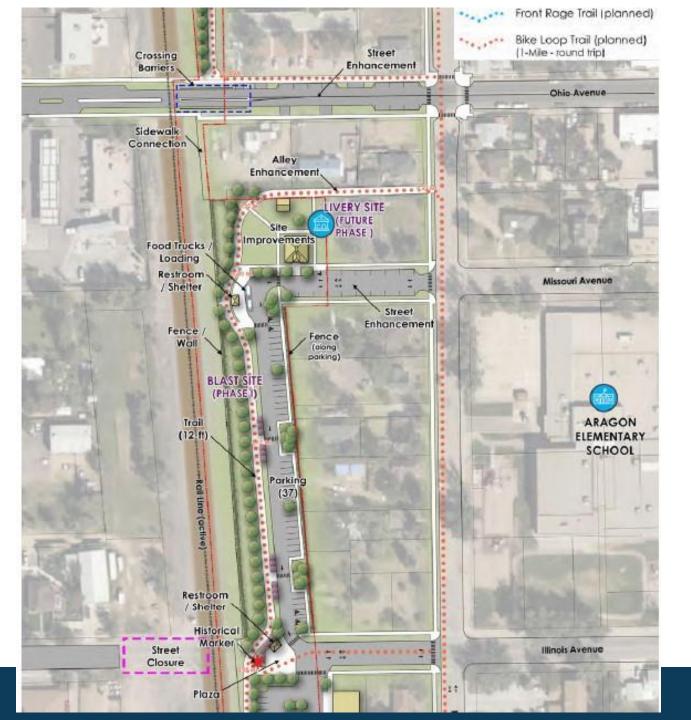




Master Plan

- On-Site Parking Lot
- Roadway Improvements
- Trails and Bike Route
- Alley(s) Enhancement
- Plazas/ Patios
- Food Truck/ Mobile Vendor Amenities
- Restrooms/ Shelters
- Fencing and Landscape Buffers
 - RxR and Residential Neighborhood



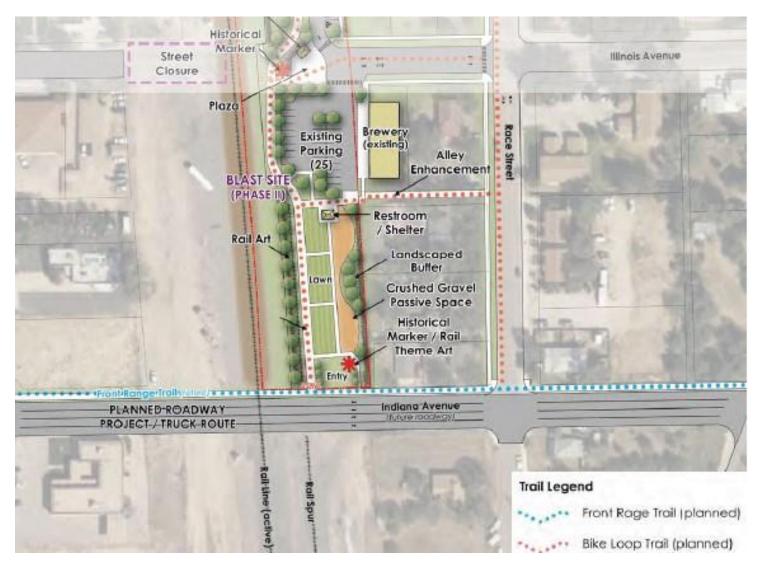


PH I

City ownership per a URA land donation

- 1M Bike Loop
- Ohio/Race Public Crossing Zone
- Alley Enhancement (north)
- Restrooms/Shelter
- On-Site Parking Lot
- Livery Stable Heritage Site
- Food Trucks/ Mobile Vendors Area
- Safe Routes to School
- Adams Open Space Trails





PH II

Illinois/Indiana Roadway Moving Fountain Forward Transportation Improvement

- Illinois Street RxR Closure
- Peaks n' Pines Brewery (private)
- Alley Enhancement (south)
- Plazas/ Patios / Passive Use
- Front Range Regional Trail Accessibilities and Natural Waterways





PH III

Aga Family Park Donation and Utility Easement

- Parking Lot and Restroom Improvements
- Food Trucks/ Mobile Vendors Area
- 1-Mile Bike Loop
- Public Safety/ PED Bridge (future study)
 - Safe Routes to School Youth Crossing
 - Bicyclist Multi-Mobility
 - 3-Mile Families and Child Care Facilities
 - Emergency Access Point
- Plazas/ Passive Use (future study)



Using Peaks N Pines Brewery and the Aga Youth Recreation Park as hub points for the site planning could rival other similar lifestyle amenities of community business as located in the Colorado Springs region – 2023 EPA Public Survey Participant Response

Priority should be placed on constructing primary trail links, especially along Jimmy Camp Creek and Fountain Creek corridors of the community – 2015 CoF Parks Plan

Testimonials

The Fountain Creek corridor Greenway will help increase recreational activity and tourism to spur small business revenues and encourage healthier lifestyles for residents – 2020 Fountain Creek Watershed District



Site Reuse Plan

Project Connection to Other Plans



1-Mile Bike Loop meets a top citizen need identified in the **Parks Master Plan**



Quality of Life and Public Safety improvements meets conditions within the **2019 THK Olde Town District Design Plan**



Multi-Generation and Mobility
Access of broader sidewalks and
grades meets conditions within the
Parks Master Plan



Urban Outdoor "Active" Spaces and Historic Walking Trail meets conditions within the **2020 Ohio Ave Placemaking RTAP Master Plan**



Connectivity of Natural Waterways (i.e., Jimmy Camp Creek and Fountain Creek) is an emphasis mission identified within the *Parks Master Plan*



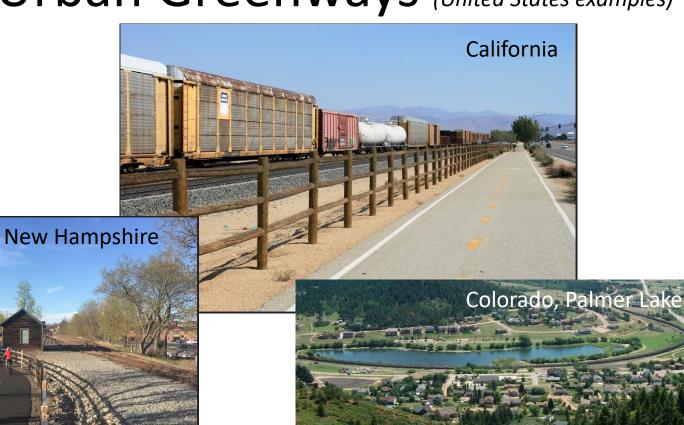
Recommendations

- 1. As a significant public amenity and potential capital investment, to steward funding aspirations, the City should *add the project to its Comprehensive***Development Plan and Parks Master Plan** for long-range policy documentation.
- 2. Due to the linear vast of the Site Area, there are **Zoning Designations** which may need to be addressed to accommodate parks and passive recreational land use allowances.
- 3. Per the project goal statement and future funding procurement initiatives, the City should designate site classification as an Urban Greenway to maximize funding alternatives and differential of use under the Parks Master Plan amendment.





Urban Greenways (United States examples)



An **Urban Greenway** as a shared-use path along a strip of undeveloped land, in *an urban or rural area*, set aside for recreational use or environmental protect.



Recommendations

- 4. The overall land within the Study Area is located along a century active rail line and certain properties are believed to have once supported industrial activities. Therefore, and per the timing of site improvements, an *Environmental Site Assessment* will need to be concluded to determine any engineering controls for public spaces of use.
- 5. The ReUse Master Plan does include a diverse set of site elements and conditions which would require utility service and potential line extensions/upgrades; therefore, a *Utilities Analysis Assessment* would be required for final construction design.
- 6. The Study Area does include associated, adjacent land areas; to which access agreements and/or option agreements coexist towards final land assembly, a *Review of Agreements* may be necessary to tailor purchase timeframes.



Recommendations

- 7. Identify *Grant Funding and Resources* for Master Plan fulfillment
- 8. *RFP Issuance by the City* for:
 - a. civil engineering and site construction documents towards final project permitting and budgets b. wayfinding and signage improvements to create sense of arrival, small businesses, and community experiences for the US85 URA (D15 Strategic Objective, 2024)
- 9. Under Safe Routes to Schools and Pedestrian Mobility improvements, a Pedestrian/ Bicycle Bridge has the potential to be further explored under a separate feasibility study in the URA
 - Right of Way and Public Land Easement designation areas
 - Span height requirements of BNSF Rail Line and US HWY 855/87
 - Additional Permitting Approvals per Agencies as Required
 - Capital Improvement Project classification



"Urban Greenway"









