City of Colorado Springs



Legislation Text

File #: 17-1058, Version: 1

Academy Boulevard Great Streets Plan Progress Report

## Presenters:

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## **Previous Council Action:**

The City Council adopted the Academy Boulevard Corridor Great Streets Plan (Great Streets Plan) as an element of the City Comprehensive Plan on August 23, 2011 (Ordinance 11-74). On June 14, 2016, Council formally adopted the Academy Boulevard Economic Opportunity Zone Action Plan on (by Resolution No. 63-16)

## Summary:

The Great Streets Plan recommended (but does not require) an annual update to City Council. One of the benefits of regular updates is to maintain focus on this area for Council, staff and the community. This focus is important in part because of the enormity of the area (it is home to about 68,000 residents) and the reality that there is a particular nexus between the City and other community partners. This report is intended to accentuate positive progress, but at the same time be honest and authentic about overall data, trends and issues.

# Background:

The 2011 Great Streets Plan is not a traditional small area land use plan. It is more of a corridor plan with a transportation focus (including transit). However, the Great Streets Plan has a holistic focus including a particular attention on intersection nodes along Academy Boulevard and on repurposing and revitalization of disinvested shopping centers and office parks.

The 2014 EOZ Action Plan (adopted by City Council in 2014) recommends 20+ more specific strategies and suggests four catalytic focus areas:

- Academy Boulevard/ Hancock Expressway intersection
- Academy Boulevard /Fountain Boulevard intersection
- Citadel Mall area
- Rustic Hills Mall area

This planning area extends one mile east and west of Academy Boulevard from Maizeland Road on the north to Drennan Road/ Proby Parkway on the south. The area encompasses about 12 square miles.

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Similar progress report was provided for Years 2013 and 2014. A 2015 report was not completed due to staff resource limitations.

This 2016 report is organized around the following headings:

- Complete Streets
- Community Measures
- Economic Vitality
- Highlighted Places
- Concluding Remarks

Attached as an appendix is the 2016 Urban Land Institute (ULI) Building Healthy Places Workshop Report for South Academy Boulevard

## Stakeholder Process:

The Comprehensive Planning Division extensively consulted with various City departments, outside agencies and community partners in obtaining measures and for information on ongoing initiatives within their respective organizations.

# **Board and Commission Recommendation:**

N/A

Alternatives

N/A

# **Proposed Motion:**

No action requested or required by Council.