

**WEBSTER LAKE PROMENADE PLAZA
NORTHGLENN, COLO.
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
August 21, 2013, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.
Northglenn Recreation Center, 2nd Floor, Alpine Room**

Leadership Committee Members in Attendance

Chris DeMay, Urban Renewal Authority	Rosie Garner, Arts and Humanities Foundation
Rory Moore, Youth Commission	Brook Svoboda, Planning and Development
Amanda Peterson, Parks and Recreation	Jake Hawkins, Hawkins Development
Michael Stricker, Arts and Culture	Debbie Tuttle, City Manager's Office
Kim Snetzinger, City Council	
Brian Ocepek, Parks and Recreation Advisory Board	

Concept Design Consultants from Dig Studio Present

Laurel Raines, Principal Partner ASLA, RLA
Gretchen Wilson, Senior Associate Partner ASLA, RLA, LEED
Tanner Perrin, Landscape Designer

Project Consultant Present

Deana Miller, AMPA
Cindy Vinson, AMPA

Meeting Handouts: Design Concept Plan Review Comment Form

- I. Meeting Goals
Deana Miller discussed how the Leadership Committee will review three design concepts provided by Dig Studios to gain a better vision for the Webster Lake Promenade (WLP) Plaza. Deana explained how the Design Concept Plan Review Comment Form is used to gather Committee member opinions and how to score each design.
- II. Introductions
Deana introduced the Leadership Committee to Laurel Rains and Gretchen Wilson of Dig Studio, the Landscape Architecture-Urban Design and Planning firm that is presenting three concepts plans for the WLP Plaza.
- III. Laurel presented the Committee with three design concepts. She expressed how the Dig Studio team approached each design with general objectives and opinions provided by the Committee members through the visioning process. The designs were presented

as architectural renderings showing aerial and three-dimensional views of each design concept. Images of existing plazas and art-scapes were depicted at bottom of the plans in reference to each design theme. The three themes were as follows:

- Plaza Concept A- *Announcing Northglenn*
- Plaza Concept B- *Webster Lake Lookout*
- Plaza Concept C- *Colorful Northglenn*

The Committee viewed each concept plan in large and small format. Tanner provided three-dimension animation visuals of the plans.

Plaza Concept A- *Announcing Northglenn* includes the following concepts as a “Gateway” to the Plaza

- Pass-through space
- Festival street
- Events
- Shady
- Compliment the tradition

Elements for creating the *Announcing Northglenn* space can be utilized through:

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------------------|
| • Special paving | • New crosswalks |
| • Concrete paving | • Entry archway or banner |
| • Shade structures | • Light poles with banners |
| • Low flowerbed | • Flower planters |
| • Ornamental trees | |

Art opportunities for Concept A- *Announcing Northglenn* include:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| • Entry archway/ banner | • Shade structure |
| • Light pole banners | • Planters |
| • Special paving | • Flowers lining the street |
| • Seat walls | |

Committee Member Comments:

- Concern that the design structure may be place too close to the street creating a dangerous place for children to play.
- Concern about the maintenance and upkeep of the flag poles and banners.

Plaza Concept B – *Webster Lake Lookout*

Gretchen explained how Concept B uses elevation to create a pathway up to a mound or focal point for the public to interact with a human sundial. Concept B provides a sense of nature combining art and organic forms within the landscape. The “Lookout” concept provides various opportunities to tell the story/history of Northglenn.

Plaza Concept B – *Webster Lake Lookout* focuses on:

- Organic
- Interactive
- Inspiring view
- Magnetic
- Destination
- Sense of arrival
- A story about time or the view to the future
- Pride of place

Elements for creating the *Webster Lake Lookout* include:

- Special paving
- Boulder seats in plaza
- Human sundial
- Special wood benches
- Shade trees in planters or grates
- Shade structures with benches
- New cross walks
- Stone wall with railing
- Concrete ramped wall
- Planter area

Art Opportunities for Concept B include:

- Sundial
- Wood platform bench
- Words on boulders
- Shade structures
- Stone wall with railing

Gretchen emphasized how “land art” and the use of organic elements such as grassy areas, stone and wood allow for relaxation and also a place for children to play.

Member Comments on Concept B:

- Can the mound be used for a large sculpture instead of a sundial?
- Cost concerns for the upkeep of flowerbeds.
- Will the view of the mountains still be visible after the shopping area is complete?
- It would be nice to see a rendering the future buildings as one approaches the top of the mound.

Plaza Concept C- *Colorful Northglenn*

Colorful Northglenn provides a “narrative” using forms of leaves in a variety of shapes and colors placed throughout the plaza. Lighted poles and shade elements reflect leaf patterns and color on the ground. A memorable place with lots of color and trees leading to a “leafy lookout” centered on the large Cottonwood tree.

Key concepts for *Colorful Northglenn* are:

- Bright
- Welcoming
- Multi-cultural
- Small gathering spots
- Place to see and be
- Cottonwood narrative
- Warm
- Fun

Elements for *Colorful Northglenn* include:

- Special paving
- “leaf” concrete flower planters
- “leaf” concrete seat walls
- Aspen trees on grassy hill
- Stone stairs
- New crosswalk
- Leafy lookout with seat wall

Art Opportunities for Concept C are:

- Art & light structures or vertical sculptures
- Stone stairs
- Leaf seat walls
- Leaf planters
- Paving

Laurel pointed out that something other than the “leaf” narrative could be used in the plaza. She also explained that it would be too expensive to move the sidewalk. She pointed out that each plan shows the existing sidewalk in its original place with two feet added to the width.

- IV. After viewing all three concepts, the Committee members had a round table period for questions and comments. Comments included
- Concern for the public’s safety if the structures are placed too close to the street.
 - After viewing all three plans, the Committee asked if it is safe to assume that all three concepts come within the same comparable budget.
 - Concern that the public and City Council will judge the plans and make a choice according to costs.

Deana asked each Committee Member to give their opinion on Concepts A, B & C.

After the discussion, Deana concluded that the Committee is in agreement and favors Concept A- *Announcing Northglenn*. She notes that several members would like elements from Concept B & C to be incorporated into Concept A.

There were discussions and comments on the information that should be presented to City Council. Concern was expressed about the cost of the designs and what cost NURA is facing and exactly what will they be purchasing for the site.

- V. Revision of Concept A- *Announcing Northglenn*
Deana proposed that Dig Studio revise Concept A to include specific elements from B and C as suggested by Committee members.

Suggestions for Concept A:

- Combine A with C in using light structures, leaf planters and color.
- Lights could be placed on banner poles or the large cottonwood tree displaying color.
- Lighting of a sculpture if placed on the burm.
- Incorporate the concrete inlay and patterns from Concept C.
- Use the idea of a focal point from Concept B.
- Use a story or timeline and thematic ideas from Concept B.
- Long walls with texture and words inlaid into concrete or stone.

A major concern is the placement of the archway. The archway presents a creative way to exhibit a focal point or “gateway” to the park.

- VI. The Committee was asked to fill out the “Design Concept Plan Review Comment” form before the meeting was adjourned. They were asked on a scale of 1 to 10, how well does each design concept fulfill the vision outlined at the second Steering Committee meeting on August 6th?

Meeting concluded at 7:30 pm