



**Planning Commission Retreat
Saturday, April 27, 2013
Field Trip to Denver, Colorado**

Those in attendance: Commissioners Brent Packard, Joyce Nolte, Craig Huff, Brad Mertz, Michael Clay, Councilmen Rick Child and Ben Jolley, and Staff members Laura Boyd and Fred Aegerter. Those in attendance arrived in Denver about 9:00 a.m. and went directly to Westminster. A packet of information about the locations being visited was provided to each person in attendance.

At Westminster, Colorado, those in attendance met with Mac Cummins, Planning Manager for the City of Westminster. Mr. Cummins talked about the design standards the city has adopted for commercial development and how they had been applied to a shopping center visited by those in attendance.

The Commission then visited the new urbanist development of Bradburn in Westminster and discussed that it included 125 acres, similar to what had been proposed in the Westfields Village Center by Suburban Lands.

The next stop was a mixed use development in Lakewood, Colorado. The site originally included a mall that was torn down and the area divided into about 19 city blocks. The mixed use area included a variety of shops and apartments, with portions including new urbanist principles and other parts less so.

The next stop was Gaylord Street, located east of Washington Park. The Commission had lunch here and discussed how the inclusion of a small commercial district contributed to the vitality of the neighborhood.

The next part of the trip focused on how the elements of the City Beautiful movement had resulted in a positive, long-lasting effect on Denver. Those in attendance visited Speer Boulevard, Washington and City Parks, South and East High Schools, the Civic Center near City Hall and the State Capitol Building and 17th Avenue Boulevard.

The final visit of the day was to the new urbanist development at Stapleton, the former airport. The abundance of open space included in this development was very unique.

The Commission left Denver about 7:00 p.m. to return to Springville