Littleton Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)
Think-Tank
PART 1
City of Littleton, Colorado
Comprehensive Economic Development Strategic Planning Process

**STEP 1**
Explore Perceptions
- Evaluation of existing economic conditions
- Market trends analysis
- Key stakeholder interviews

**STEP 2**
Future Scenarios & Implications
- Stakeholder Survey
- Littleton CEDS Think-Tank
- Identify Preferred Future

**STEP 3**
Develop Draft Strategic Plan
- Business Survey
- Focus Groups
- Draft Plan and Recommendations
- Draft Toolkit

**STEP 4**
Strategic Roadmap
- Future Summit
- Final Economic Development Strategic Plan Report with Toolkit

**Final Presentation**
- CEDS Plan

**Benchmark Report**
- April – July

**Scenarios of the Future Think-Tank Report**
- July - August

**Draft Final Plan Report & Toolkit for Implementation**
- August – September

**Final Economic Development Strategic Plan Report**
- September – October

We are here
Littleton CEDS Think-Tank

Part 1 – Explore Future Trends

• Macro trends shaping the future
• Key drives shaping the future
• Rating future impact of drivers

Part 2 – Build ED scenarios

• Develop plausible scenarios of the future
• Identify expected and preferred futures
• Build strategic pillars

July 17

July 18
How important do you think it is to have a **SHARED VISION** for economic development in Littleton?  
(i.e. a vision or perspective on the future that is shared community-wide)  
Scale: 1 = Not at all important; 10 = Very important
How important do you think it is to have a **PLAN** for economic development in Littleton?
(Scale: 1 = Not at all important; 10 = Very important)
The key to effective future thinking...

Consider both trajectory (direction of change) and velocity (speed of change).
The challenge for the Think-Tank

- Explore the future -
- Ask the hard questions -
- Think creatively -

The outcome may be a new view of the future.
Key emerging trends shaping the future of economic development in Littleton
In a time of change and uncertainty....

• Which trends are being amplified and accelerated?
• What changes might be more elastic?
• Where are the potential tipping points?
Forces impacting the world, regions and people

What are the emerging macro drivers...
Macro Trends and Forces of Change Related to . . .

• Demographics, population and mass urbanization
• Energy, food, water & climate change
• Technology driving change
Demographics, population and mass urbanization
Global Population Growth Is Driven By Developing Countries.

World population in billions, 1950-2050 (projected)

Global population age profiles

Developed Countries Have Fewer Young People, but a Higher Share of Elderly.

Developing Countries Have More Young People, and a Smaller Share of Elderly.

Population (millions)

Source: United Nations, World Population Prospects:
Rapid growth in Africa
This graphic depicts countries and territories with 2050 urban populations exceeding 100,000. Circles are scaled in proportion to urban population size. Hover over a country to see how urban it is (percentage of people living in cities and towns) and the size of its urban population (in millions).
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AN URBAN WORLD

This graphic depicts countries and territories with 2050 urban populations exceeding 100,000. Circles are scaled in proportion to urban population size. Hover over a country to see how urban it is (percentage of people living in cities and towns) and the size of its urban population (in millions).

United States
365M Urban Population
90% Urban

China
1038M

India
875M

Pakistan
199M

Bangladesh
126M

Viet Nam
66M

Philippines
101M

Indonesia
190M

Japan
81M

Nigeria
218M

Ethiopia
65M

Democratic Republic of the Congo
93M

Turkey
82M

Iran (Islamic Republic of)
83M

Egypt
82M

United Kingdom
64M

France
54M

United States
64M

Mexico
113M

Brazil
204M
How does this strengthen the strategic proposition for a ‘first-ring’ city?

Society is re-distributing into and around mega-cities
Profound demographic shift underway

Boomer influence fading

United States of America ▼
2022
Population: 334,805,268

United States of America ▼
2032
Population: 353,335,452
Boomer influence gone

High school cohort today

High school cohort in 20 years
By 2028, the foreign-born share of the U.S. population is projected to be higher than at any time since 1850.

Foreign born % increasing

US society is changing quickly, with more cultures and voices

Shifting societal values

For a better start in life
START COCA earlier!

Blow in her face and she'll follow you anywhere

An off in her direction and she'll follow you anywhere.

Oh yes...you get smoking satisfaction without inhaling smoke.

Smokers of America, do yourself a favor. Make your next cigarettes a Tipalet.

How soon is too soon?
Not soon enough. Laboratory tests over the last few years have proven that babies who start drinking soda during that early formative period have a much higher chance of gaining acceptance and "fitting in" during those awkward pre-teen and teen years. So, do yourself a favor. Do your child a favor. Start them on a strict regimen of soda and other sugary carbonated beverages right now, for a lifetime of guaranteed happiness.

The Soda Pop Board of America
1515 W. Hart Ave. Chicago, Ill.
Predictions and observations

• Generational change is coming which will trigger widespread upheaval of norms.
• People and industries will continue to cluster around mega-cities, in specialized cities and regional centers.
Demographic + Population + Mass Urbanization

What does this mean for the future of economic development in Littleton?
60% INCREASED DEMAND BY 2050

FOOD

GLOBAL POPULATION GROWTH - 25% INCREASE BY 2050

ENERGY
50% INCREASED DEMAND BY 2050

WATER
40% INCREASED DEMAND BY 2050

Adapted from work by Prof. Nicholas Jordan, University of Minnesota (2015)
Renewable Energy

Potential for unlimited cheap energy

Electrification of the world is accelerating, driven by renewable energy
FRESH WATER

• Nearly 450 million people in 29 countries now face severe water shortages

• As much as 2/3 of the world population could be water-stressed by 2025

• Half the world’s rivers and lakes are seriously polluted
WE HAVE A BIG PROBLEM WITH UNDERNUTRITION

2 BILLION
People don't get enough vitamins and minerals

795 MILLION
People don't get enough calories

161 MILLION
Children are chronically undernourished

WE HAVE A BIG PROBLEM WITH OVERWEIGHT & OBESITY

1.9 BILLION
Adults are overweight or obese

1 in 12
Adults have diabetes

42 MILLION
Children are overweight
Hunger is an emerging critical global issue
Crop yields up and down

Increases and decreases in food security and production capability are rapidly becoming a more important global issue.

* A key culprit in climate change – carbon emissions – can also help agriculture by enhancing photosynthesis in many important (...) crops such as wheat, rice, and soybeans. The science, however, is far from certain on the benefits of carbon fertilisation.*

This map represents the case of beneficial carbon fertilisation processes.

Source: Cline W., 2007, Global Warming and Agriculture.
Corn and soy production is more sensitive to heat than drought, and it will decrease for every degree of warming. By midcentury, North Dakota (A), which already harvests millions of acres of both crops, will warm enough to allow for more growing days and higher yields. But parts of Texas and Oklahoma (B) may see yields drop by more than 70%. 

ProPublica © Copyright 2022 Pro Publica Inc.
Heat is one of the largest drivers changing the niche of human habitability. Rhodium Group researchers estimate that under the RCP 8.5 scenario, between 2040 and 2060 extreme temperatures will become commonplace in the South and Southwest, with some counties in Arizona experiencing temperatures above 95 degrees for half the year.
By midcentury, the northern Great Basin, though not a densely forested region, will become the epicenter of large wildfires. These large, remote counties in Nevada and Oregon see cycles of wet and dry weather that turn the grassland into the fuel for fires that can easily rip through 10,000 acres a day with strong winds, said John Abatzoglou, one of the authors of the study.
Sea Level Rise: 2040-2060

Some 50 million Americans live in eight of the largest U.S. metro areas — Miami A, New York B and Boston C among them — which all lie in some of the most affected counties in the U.S.
Long term GDP impact positive in north

Climate change may drive migration patterns within US may move to ‘north’, and from ‘west to center’

Potential economic damages are shown at the county level in a scenario in which emissions of greenhouse gases continue at current rates. Green indicates areas that could see economic benefits. To see an interactive version of this map, click here.

Haile, Kopp, Jin, Fisinger, et al./Science

Source: Christopher Joyce, MPR News, June 29, 2017
New Climate Maps Show a Transformed United States

In the United States, that niche today blankets the heart of the country, from the Atlantic seaboard through northern Texas and Nebraska, and the California coast.

In a paper published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, a team of researchers modeled the human climate “niche”: the regions where temperature and precipitation have been most suitable for humans to live in over the past 6,000 years.

According to new data from the Rhodium Group analyzed by ProPublica and The New York Times Magazine, warming temperatures and changing rainfall will drive agriculture and temperate climates northward, while sea level rise will consume coastlines and dangerous levels of humidity will swamp the Mississippi River valley.
Predictions and observations

• Growing disconnect between where food will be consumed, and where it can be grown.
• New migration patterns are emerging
Technology and the speed of change
Artificial Intelligence emerging as driving digital technology
When will AI outperform people?

AI WILL LIKELY OUTPERFORM HUMANS AT...

- 2024: Translating Language
- 2027: Driving A Truck
- 2053: Working As A Surgeon
- 2060: A.I. Will Be Able To Do All Human Tasks
- 2022: Folding Laundry
- 2026: Writing High School Essays
- 2049: Writing A Best-Selling Book
- 2059: Performing Math Research


Reproduced from Next Industrial Revolution, Future iQ, 2018
Rapid systemic change and technology integration

**Technological Development**
Moore’s Law: The power of chips, bandwidth and computer doubles approx. every 18 months.

**The Human Factor**
Technological dev. feeds and enables various trends in society: Democratisation, Social Connection, DIY, Decentralisation.

Adapted from: Source: Deloitte. 2014. Industry 4.0 Challenges and solutions for the digital transformation and use of exponential technologies.
Technology and speed of change

• Waves of disruption and technology are reshaping education, industries and economies

• Speed of change is exponential
Demographics + Resources + Technology

What do all these future trends mean for the future of economic development in Littleton?
City of Littleton
Economic Benchmark Report

Littleton Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy
June 2023
Littleton Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

IDENTIFYING KEY DRIVERS
Key Drivers:
What key drivers do you think are most important for the future of economic development in Littleton?

(Key drivers are events, trends, developments, catalysts or forces that actively influence or cause change.)

Table brainstorm
Key Drivers Handout

What are the most important key drivers shaping the future of economic development in Littleton?
(Key drivers are events, trends, developments, catalysts of forces that actively influence or cause change.)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Drivers – [list developed in Think-Tank]</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Transportation, Connectivity and Traffic</td>
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<td>2. Housing Affordability-Full Range</td>
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<td>3. Natural Resources</td>
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<td>5. Infrastructure – electrical/grid/fiber</td>
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<td>6. Aging population</td>
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<td>7. Building location and zoning</td>
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<td>10. Future community needs and desires</td>
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Key Driver Details

Building an understanding of each driver

DRIVER NAME: ____________________________

1. Key emergent high-level trends associated with this driver:

2. Potential impacts on economic development in Littleton over the next decade:

3. What is the big ‘FUTURE-SPLITTING QUESTION’ for this driver?

4. Future predictions – How impacts may ‘play out’ for this driver over the next decade:
Littleton Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS)

RANKING KEY DRIVERS
Key Drivers – Future Impact Score

*Rate each driver on a 1 – 10 scale of future impact (1 = small impact; 10 = very large impact)*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DRIVER</th>
<th>DRIVER NAME</th>
<th>Community Fabric</th>
<th>Economic Development</th>
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THINK-TANK PART 2

Think-Tank Part 2
THINK-TANK WORKSHOPS

Monday, July 17
3:00pm - 6:00pm

Tuesday, July 18
9:00am - 12:00pm

AGENDA

Session 1: Explore Future Trends

Date: Monday, July 17, 2023
Time: 3:00pm - 6:00pm
Location: Bemis Public Library
6014 S. Datura Street
Littleton, CO 80120

Session 2: Build Scenarios

Date: Tuesday, July 18, 2023
Time: 9:00am - 12:00pm
Location: Bemis Public Library
6014 S. Datura Street
Littleton, CO 80120