



Littleton Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Think-Tank PART 2



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 future scenarios

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



WELCOME TO THE LITTLETON, COLORADO COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC PLAN PROJECT

The Importance of Future Thinking

The key to effective future thinking...

Consider both trajectory (direction of change) and velocity (speed of change).

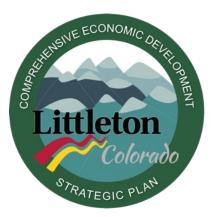


The challenge for the Think-Tank

Explore the future Ask the hard questions Think creatively -

The outcome may be a new view of the future.





Key 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.)



Key Drivers – [list developed in Think-Tank]

- 1. Transportation, Connectivity and Traffic
- 2. Housing Affordability-Full Range
- 3. Natural Resources
- 4. Primary Jobs and Talent
- 5. Infrastructure electrical/grid/fiber
- 6. Aging population
- 7. Building location and zoning
- 8. Small business/entrepreneur
- 9. Diversity of population
- 10. Future community needs and desires

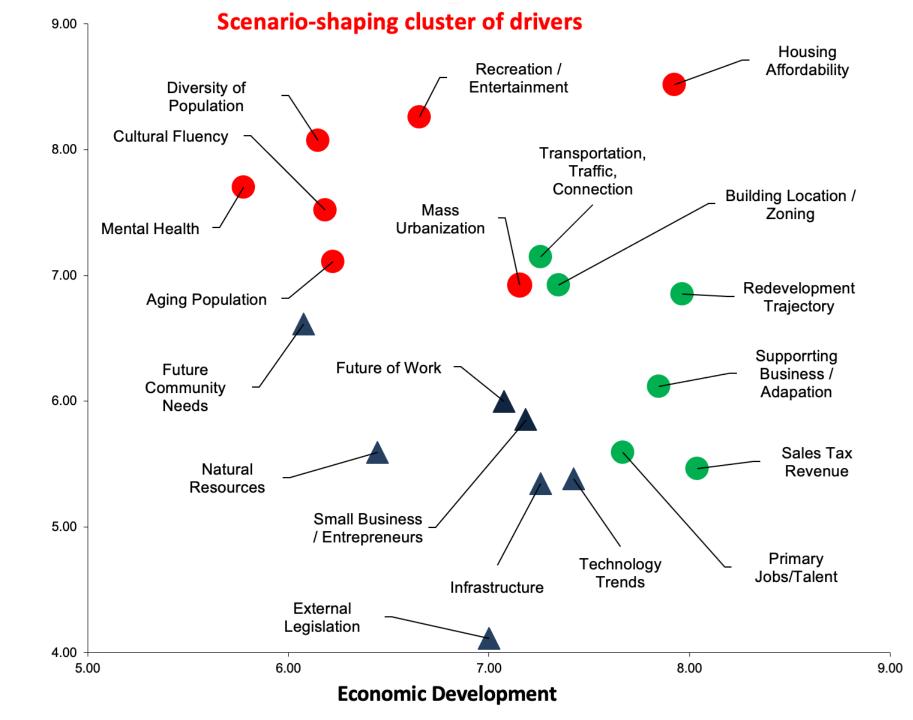
- 11. Supporting businesses / adaptation
- 12. Sales tax revenue
- 13. Cultural fluency
- 14. External Legislation
- 15. Technology trends
- 16. Redevelopment trajectory
- 17. Mental health
- 18. Mass urbanization
- 19. Recreation, entertainment
- 20. Future of work

Key Drivers – Future Impact Score



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

DRIVER	DRIVER NAME	Community Fabric	Economic Development
1			
2			
3			Rating the importance of each driver –
4			individual scoring
5			
6			
7			





Community Fabric

Future-splitting themes – based on clusters of drivers

Development approach

- Transportation, Connectivity, Traffic
- Building location and zoning
- Redevelopment trajectory
- Supporting business / adaptation
- Sales tax revenue
- Primary jobs / Talent

Community character

- Housing affordability
- Diversity of population
- Recreation and entertainment
- Mass urbanization
- Cultural fluency
- Aging population
- Mental health



Key drivers were clustered under future splitting themes – based on data in scatter plot. There are part of the data set used to formulate the scenario matrix

Plausible Scenario Matrix 2040

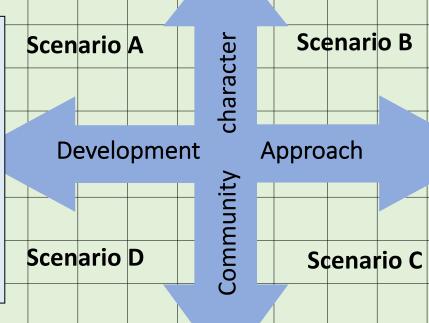
Proactive adaptation

The community intentionally works to proactively absorb and manage growth by facilitating affordable housing and building community services. Enhanced community recreation and entertainment amenities help forge stronger community connectivity. There is a focus on being future-ready with lifelong learning and continued high levels of workforce and community participation. The community works to embrace diversity, foster new ideas and to ensure everyone feels at home and belongs.



Protect and buffer

Create policies and approaches that buffers the community and economy from rapid change and works to keep the rate of growth 'slow and manageable'. There is strong preservation of green spaces and heritage features. The focus is on supporting existing businesses and job types and guiding the gradual redevelopment of existing commercial and business areas. The residential focus remains primarily on single family homes, and transit is predominately car oriented as people commute to work.



Insular bubble

The community works aggressively to retain the 'urban haven' feel as part of the community character. The community is more inward looking, with a focus on traditional amenities, education and schools, and supporting a high quality of life for residents. There is a high value placed on stability, and the 'unique Littleton character'. This is protected by resisting rapid demographic change and cultural shifts.

Leverage and lead

Strong focus on leveraging and repurposing unique features in creative ways, that preserve and enhance - while creating business innovation and renewal. Technology and smart infrastructure helps optimize resource use and drives sustainability. The city has a regional leadership role, as a forward-looking creative community. Housing is more diverse with deliberately selected zones of higher density. The community nodes are connected by a strong network of multimodal corridors.

Scenario name (A):				
Local Economy and Industry Characteristics – 2040	Built Environment and Landscape Characteristics – 2040			

Scenario Characteristics - Dimensions to Consider

Social Fabric and Community Characteristics

- Population makeup / demographics
- Key social infrastructure housing, childcare, schools, parks, amenities
- Community safety and wellness
- Workforce and skills profiles, workplace models and opportunity
- Community vitality and celebration of history; arts and culture feel and 'vibe'
- Community inclusiveness and values
- Access to healthcare assets and healthy foods
- Role of educational institutions and models of education

Local Economy and Industry Characteristics

- Businesses and industry sectors (manufacturing, logistics, retail, education, health, technology, recreation, tourism)
- Type and size of industries distribution across Littleton
- Hard infrastructure (roads, water, transport, energy systems)
- Development patterns in the community
- Level of innovation and investment
- Regional appeal and competitiveness
- Small business ecosystem

Built Environment and Landscape Characteristics

- Housing types, retail availability, affordability
- Neighborhood character
- Transportation systems, mobility, and geographic location
- Natural resource usage and river access
- Adaptation to climate change / severe weather events
- Streetscapes, parks, green spaces, and recreation amenities
- Green economy implementation, energy systems and sources
- Key buildings and assets what's being preserved, uplifted, catalyzed on

SUGGESTED TOPICS

Cross-check with final Version in packet



Headline News (Scenario A)

Social Fabric and Community Characteristics	Local Economy and Industry Characteristics	Built Environment and Landscape Characteristics	
2025	2025	2025	
2030	2030	2030	
2040	2040	2040	



Avoiding potential pitfalls.....

- Stay in your swim lane (your scenario)
- Don't try to 'fix' the scenario
- We are doing objective forecasting and predictive don't get emotionally hooked
- We are exploring possible futures; not deciding on preference
- Scan and predict widely don't get micro-focused
- Make it a group discussion, everyone has a perspective to contribute







Key Roles

- Facilitator
- Timekeeper
- Recorders
- Presenter(s)



Suggested Scenario Group Timeline (elapsed time - minutes)

0:00 min	Group to meet and scope out scenario (10m)
0:10 min	Develop Characteristics & Narratives (35m)
0:45 min	Develop Headlines News – 2025, 2030, 2040 (10m)
0:55 min	Short scenario name and description (5m)
0:60 min	Return; ready to present

Plausible Scenario Matrix 2040

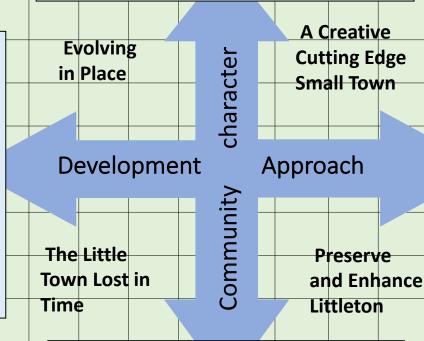
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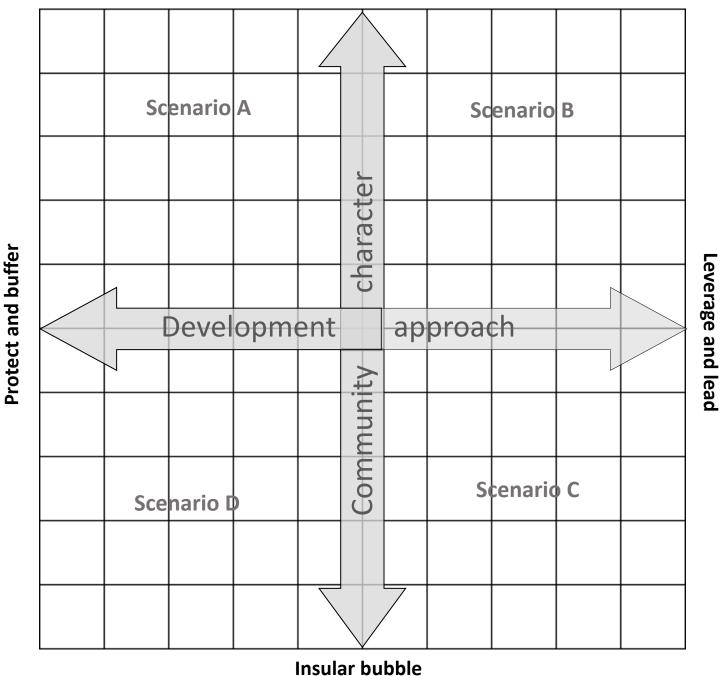
Littleton CEDS Expected, Preferred and Least Desirable Futures Heatmaps



Expected, Preferred and Least Desirables of the Future – What do you think?

- **1. LEAST DESIRABLE FUTURE** The Least Desirable Future is the future that you think will be most undesirable (or least optimal or least desired) future in 2040.
- 2. **EXPECTED FUTURE**: The Expected Future is the future you expect most likely to eventuate by 2040, if existing trends and trajectory persists.
- **3. PREFERRED FUTURE**: The Preferred Future is the future you think is optimal and creates the best outcome for Littleton economic development in 2040.

Proactive adaptation





FUTURES

• LEAST DESIRABLE FUTURE (L)

• EXPECTED FUTURE (E)

• PREFERRED FUTURE (P)



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Possible High-Level Strategic Themes

What are some of the high level strategic themes or actions that could be pursued to achieve the preferred future for economic development in Littleton over the next 10 years?

1.

City of Littleton, Colorado Comprehensive Economic Development Strategic Planning Process

WE ECONOMIC

Littleton

STRATEGIC PLAN

colorado

COM

STEP 1 Explore	STEP 2 Future Scenarios &	STEP 3 Develop Draft	STEP 4 Strategic	Final
Perceptions	Implications	Strategic Plan	Roadmap	Presentation
 Evaluation of existing economic conditions Market trends analysis Key stakeholder interviews 	 Stakeholder Survey Littleton CEDS Think-Tank Identify Preferred Future 	 Business Survey Focus Groups Draft Plan and Recommendations Draft Toolkit 	 Future Summit Final Economic Development Strategic Plan Report with Toolkit 	• CEDS Plan
Benchmark Report	Scenarios of the Future Think-Tank Report	Draft Final Plan Report & Toolkit for Implementation	Final Economic Development Strategic Plan Report	
April – July	July - August	August – September	September – October	October
	Focus Groups			~

Littleton CEDS - Next Steps

Strategic Pillar Focus Groups

- Recap on Think-Tank Preferred Future
- Explore Strategic Pillar topic
- Identify key desired outcomes and objectives
- Identify key strategic actions and initiatives



- Bemis Public Library
- Morning, Afternoon and Evening Sessions
- August 7 & 9, 2023

