



## Think-Tank Part 2

# 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

July 17



July 18





An aerial night view of a city park. On the left, a large Ferris wheel is illuminated. In the center, there's a paved area with some tables and chairs. To the right, there's a body of water with some structures. Overlaid on the right side is a white network diagram with nodes and connecting lines.

# 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)*

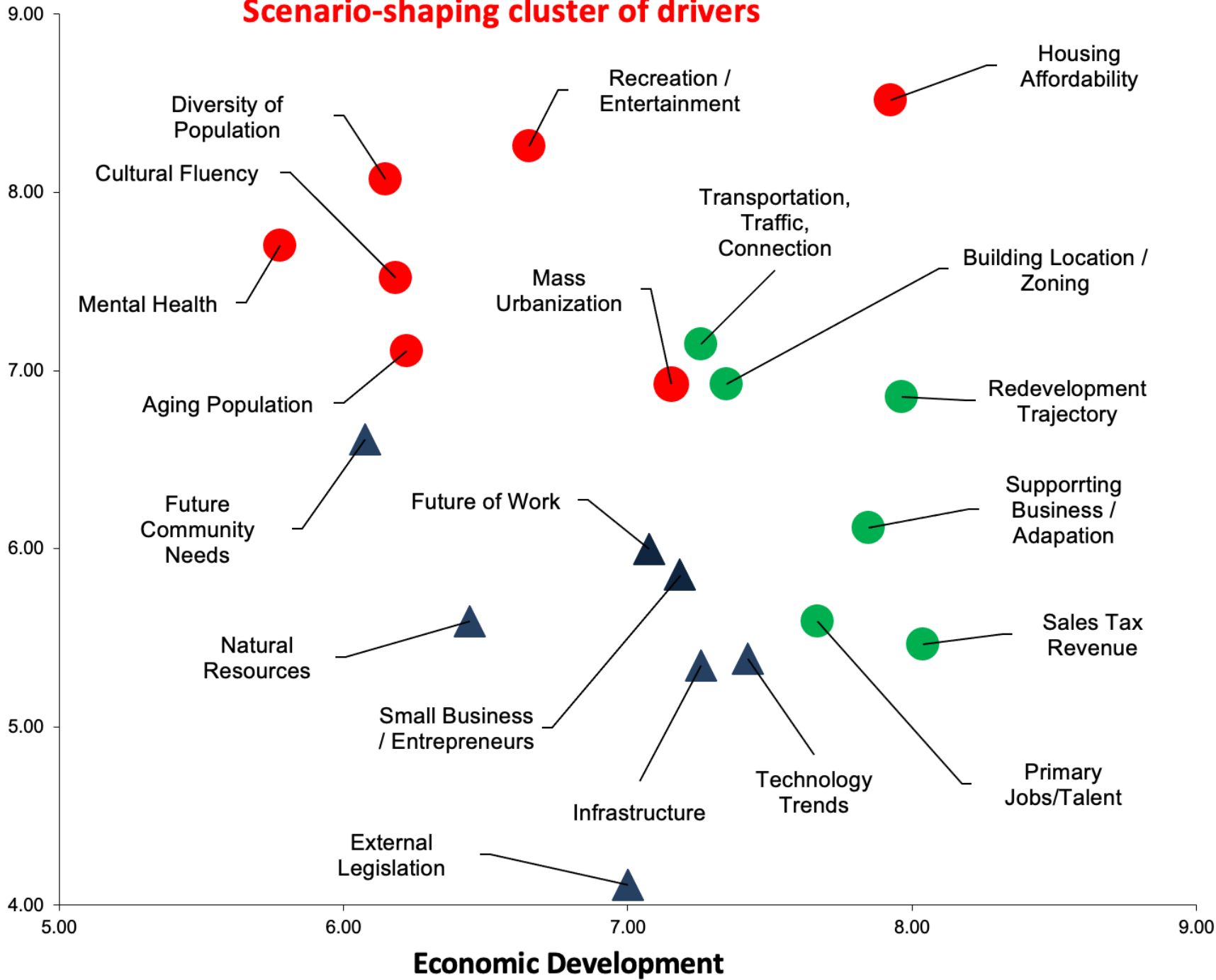
DRIVER	DRIVER NAME	Community Fabric	Economic Development
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			

Rating the importance  
of each driver –  
individual scoring



# Scenario-shaping cluster of drivers

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

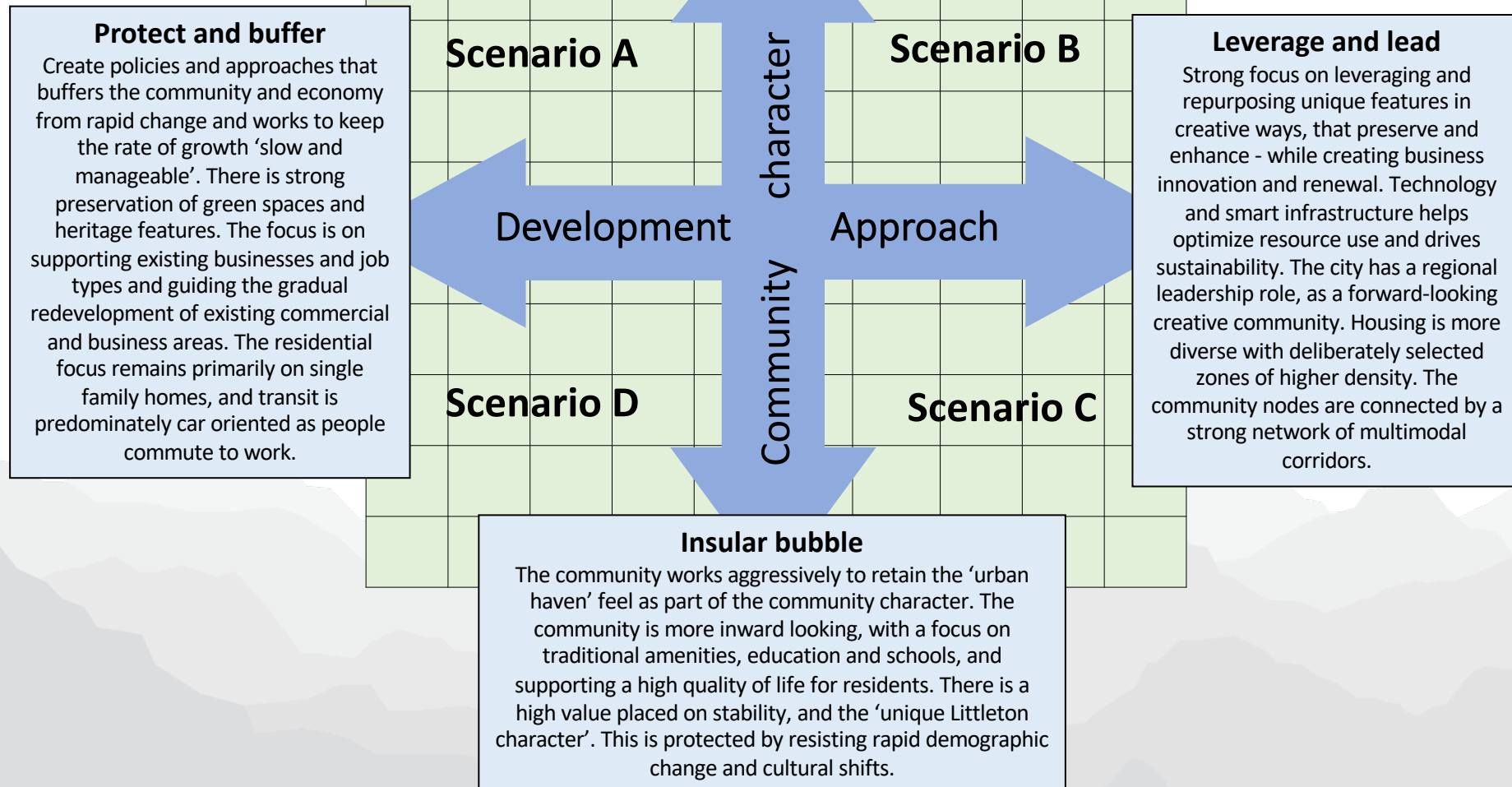
- Housing affordability
- Diversity of population
- Recreation and entertainment
- Mass urbanization
- Cultural fluency
- Aging population
- Mental health



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





## Scenario name (A):

**Social Fabric and Community  
Characteristics – 2040**

**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

SUGGESTED  
TOPICS

## 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

Cross-check with final  
Version in packet

## 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





## 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)



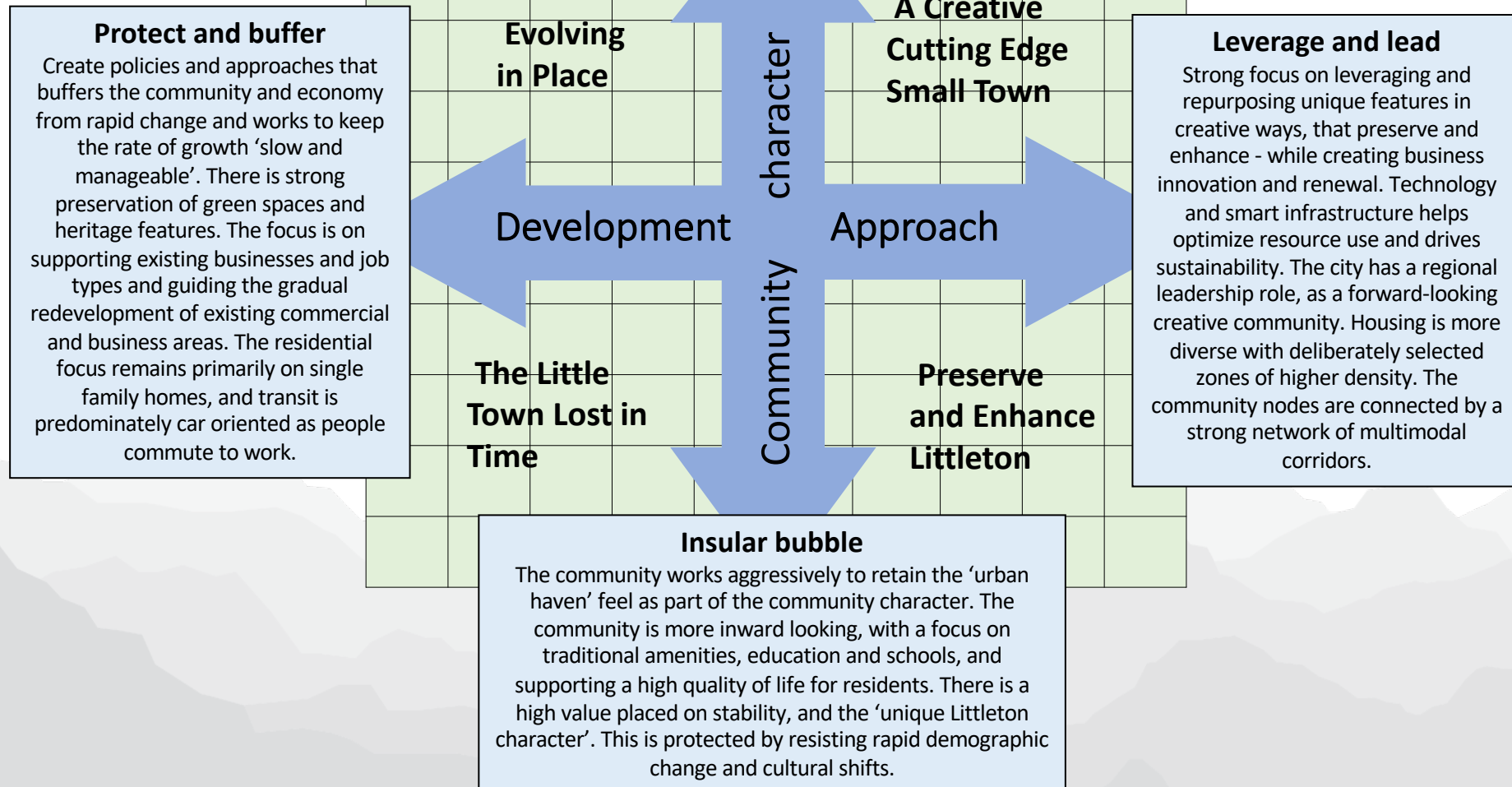


## **Suggested Scenario Group Timeline (elapsed time - minutes)**

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





# Littleton CEDS

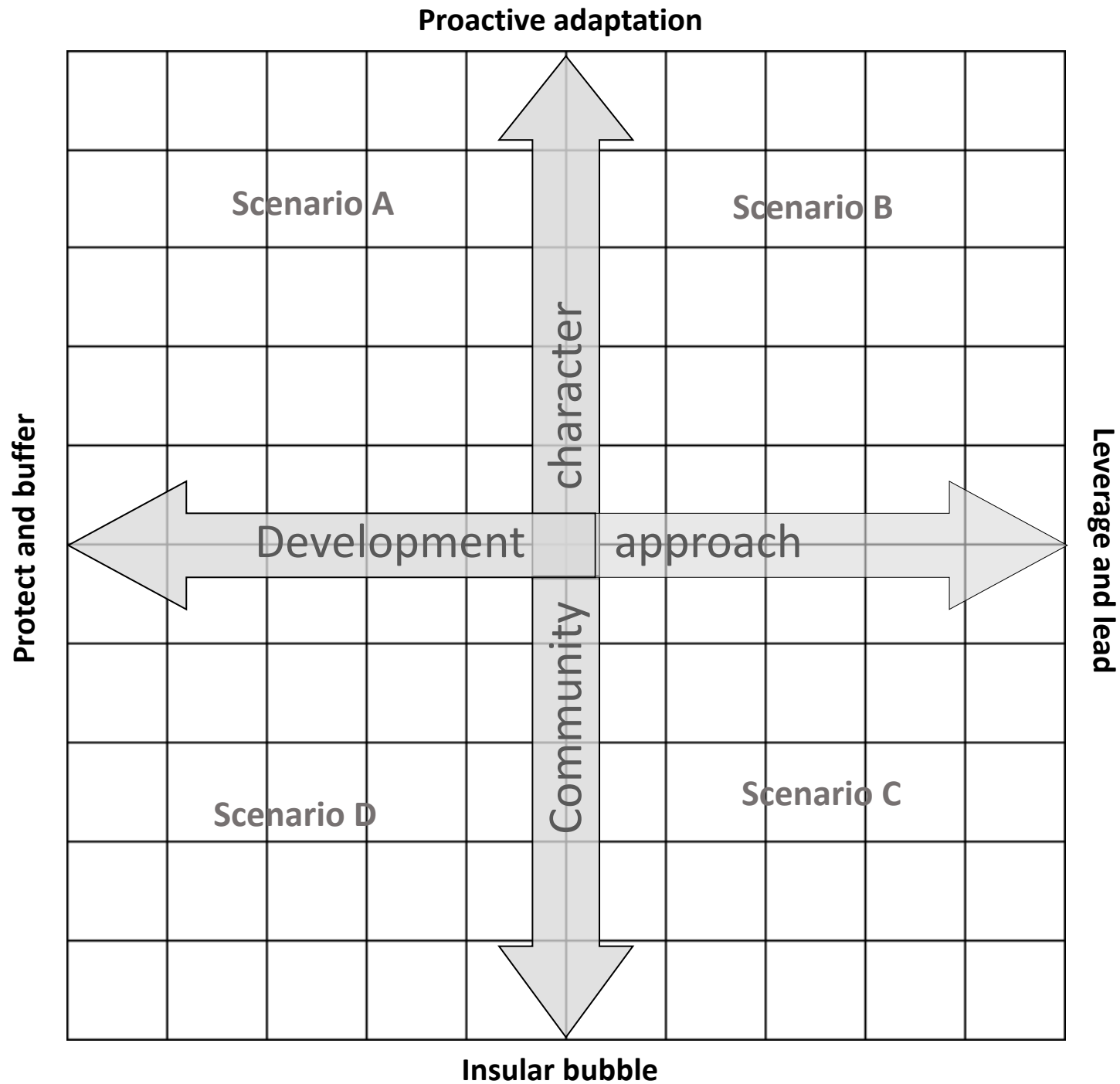
## Expected, Preferred and Least Desirable Futures Heatmaps



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.





## FUTURES

- LEAST DESIRABLE FUTURE (L)
- EXPECTED FUTURE (E)
- PREFERRED FUTURE (P)





## **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.**

|

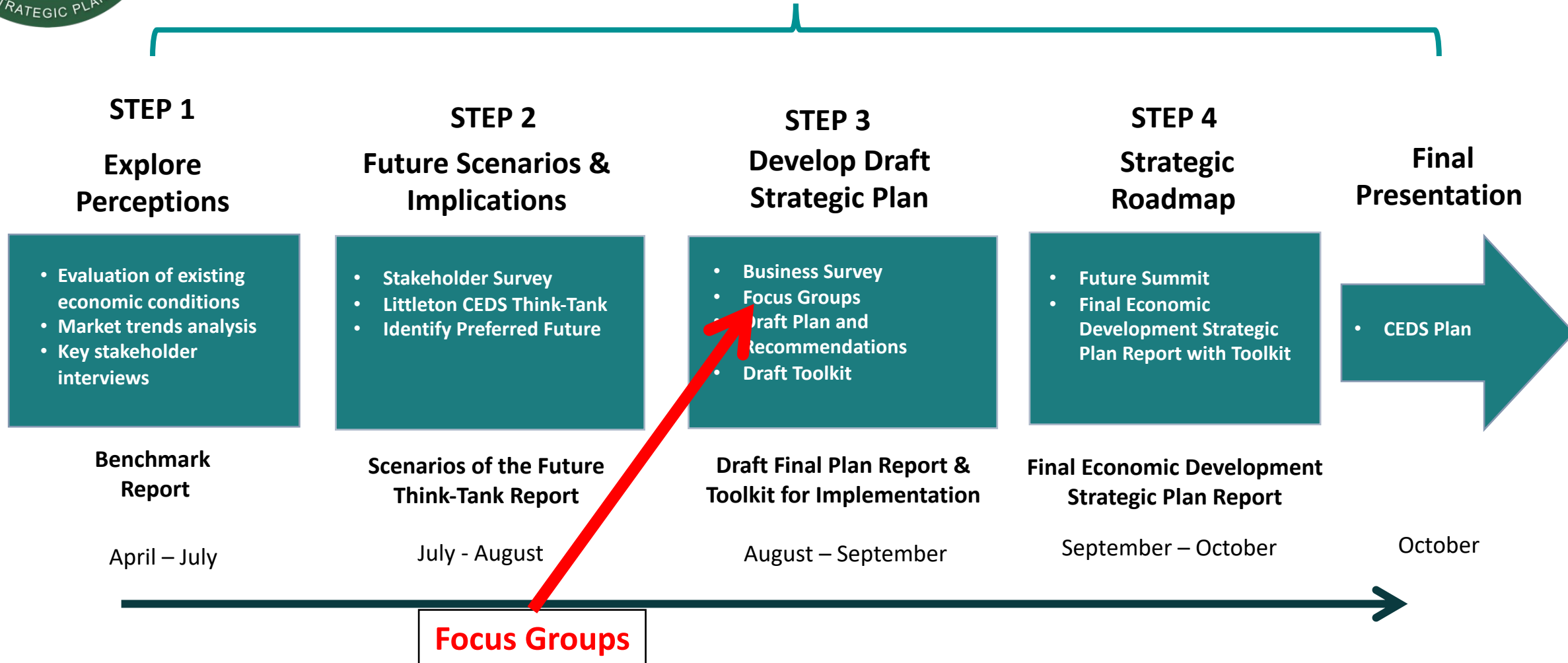
**2.**

**3.**





## City of Littleton, Colorado Comprehensive Economic Development Strategic Planning Process





# 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**

August  
7 & 9

