

# LITTLETON COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (CEDS)

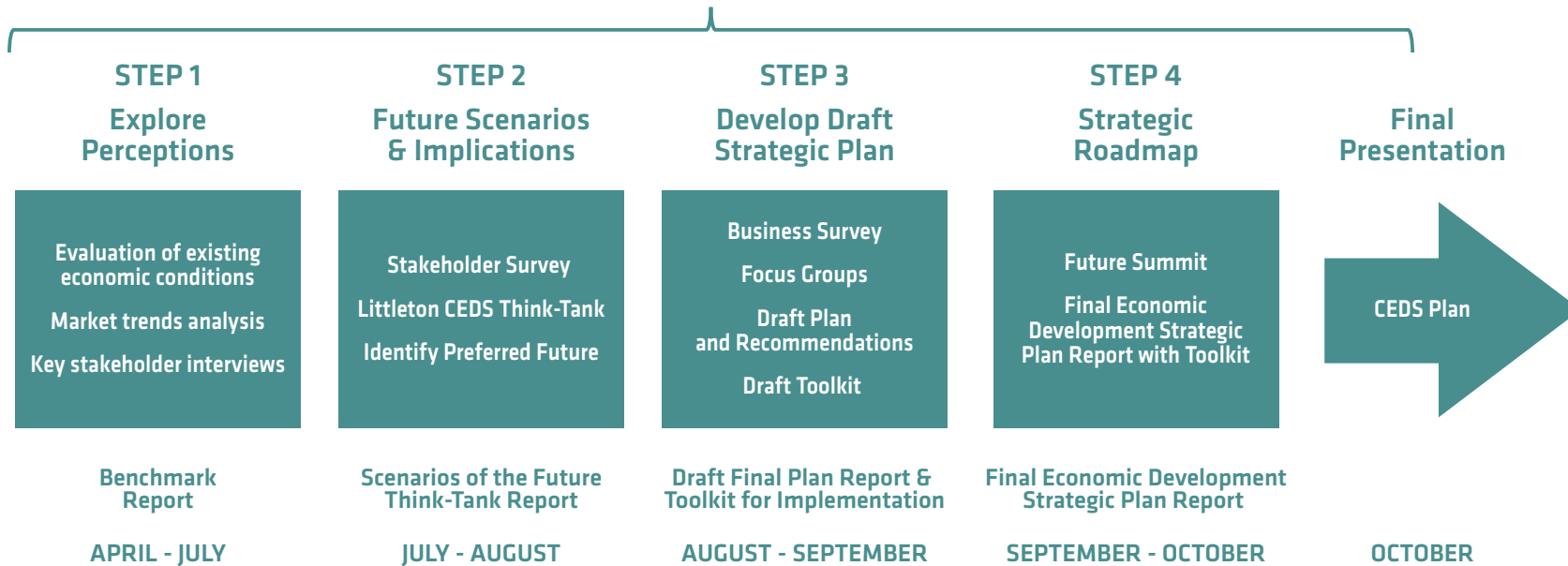
## ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) aims to position the City of Littleton on a continued path of an economically diverse, resilient, and vibrant economy that allows people of all backgrounds to live work, play, and visit.

The planning process is intended to provide a basis for developing economic development priorities and initiatives specific to Littleton with consideration to how Littleton works with neighboring cities and the greater Denver metro area. The resulting CEDS Plan will become the guiding document for the City's economic development priorities and programs over the next ten years.



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



## GET INVOLVED: ATTEND A FOCUS GROUP

The strategies and actions that will propel Littleton to the Preferred Future will be built out in Strategic Pillar Focus Groups that will take place on August 7 & 9. All Focus Groups will be held at the Bemis Public Library. Please see Focus Group dates and times below.

**Business Vitality & Adaptability**  
August 7, 9:30am - 11:00am  
*Strategizing for bringing new businesses to Littleton, fostering entrepreneurship, and support the city's existing business network*

**Enhancing Historic Character & Fabric**  
August 9, 10:00am - 11:30am  
*Leveraging Littleton's architectural assets to strengthen the city's brand and identity*

**Workforce and Talent Attraction**  
August 7, 1:30pm - 3:00pm  
*Ensuring a modern workforce and talent pool for Littleton's employers and employees*

**Incorporating Industrial and Flex**  
August 9, 1:30pm - 3:00pm  
*Adapting the built environment and infrastructure for continued industry growth and diversification*

**Fostering a Livable Economy**  
August 7, 6:00pm-7:30pm  
*Fostering the future for the people who live, work, and play in Littleton*

**Regional Economy Positioning**  
August 9, 6:00pm - 7:30pm  
*Proactively leading Littleton's economic position in the Denver Metro region*

To register for a Focus Group, visit the project portal:

[bit.ly/Littleton-CEDS](https://bit.ly/Littleton-CEDS)

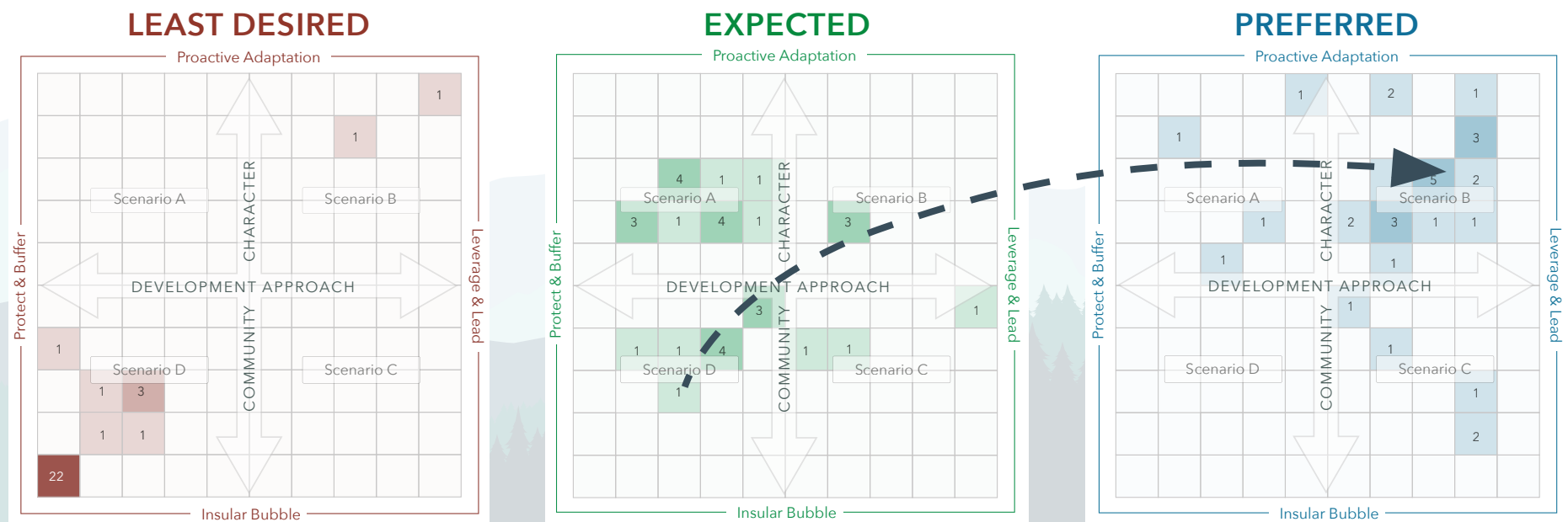
## FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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## LITTLETON'S ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT VISION FOR THE FUTURE

The City of Littleton launched its comprehensive economic development strategic planning project in April 2023. The process thus far has produced a Benchmark Report, a Stakeholder Survey, and a two-day Think-Tank where community members and stakeholders explored plausible scenarios for economic development in Littleton. At the end of the Think-Tank, participants were asked to weigh in on Least Desired, Expected, and Preferred Futures for Littleton with consideration to the scenario descriptions developed at the Think-Tank. Below are the results of this initial visioning process. The arrow indicates the pathway required to get from the Expected to the Preferred Future for economic development in Littleton.





# SCENARIOS OF THE FUTURE: SUMMARY SNAPSHOT

## LITTLETON COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

**SCENARIO A: EVOLVING IN PLACE** This scenario forecasts a future that is shaped by policies and approaches that protect and buffer the community and the economy from rapid change, while proactively absorbing and managing growth by enhancing community services and amenities and pursuing a future-ready mindset.

### SCENARIO SNAPSHOT – FUTURE IMPLICATIONS

- **Conservative growth with a focus on building social infrastructure**, and amenities that build community connectivity.
- **Residential remains primarily single family homes** with existing homes containing multiple families or multi-generational family members.
- **Support for local and small businesses is high**, but it is difficult for new and larger businesses to break into the market.
- **Transportation connectivity lags** as transit remains predominately car oriented for commuters.

### SCENARIO B: A CREATIVE CUTTING-EDGE SMALL TOWN

This scenario forecasts a future where the community is welcoming and forward-thinking with leadership that encourages cultural heritage, technology and engagement. The community leverages its unique assets while leading and adapting for future residents.

### SCENARIO SNAPSHOT – FUTURE IMPLICATIONS

- **Investment in innovation and renewal increases** as the community embraces technologies, improved accessibility, and smart infrastructure.
- **The community celebrates its diversity** as new residents of different ethnicities and backgrounds move to and set up businesses in Littleton.
- **Housing is more diverse** with higher density areas and intentional design that fits the location.
- **Natural resources are protected** and the community targets clean manufacturing to fill large commercial spaces.

**SCENARIO D: THE LITTLE TOWN LOST IN TIME** This scenario forecasts a future where the community works hard to retain its 'urban haven' feel and unique Littleton character by creating policies and approaches that protect and buffer the community from change and growth. This creates a disjointed future where resistance to change causes the community to fall behind and fade.

### SCENARIO SNAPSHOT – FUTURE IMPLICATIONS

- **Downtown core experiences high turnover rate** as other communities are more attractive and support business more.
- **Population remains stagnant as population ages.** Families move to Littleton for the schools and 'small town feel', and inward looking community.
- **The City maintains robust parks and trail system**, and traditional community amenities.
- **A no-growth policy increases costs** for local business and residents. In the short term, the community becomes a destination for a luxury lifestyle, and lower-income residents are forced to move.

**SCENARIO C: PRESERVE AND ENHANCE LITTLETON** This scenario forecasts a future where the community leads the region in creative economic development strategies by leveraging its unique assets while at the same time working aggressively to retain its insular bubble and 'urban haven' feel.

### SCENARIO SNAPSHOT – FUTURE IMPLICATIONS

- **Economic development takes a 'small biz incubator' approach** where the focus is on maintaining and growing existing businesses.
- **Growth is deliberate and selective** as the community seeks to retain its historic downtown and single family homes.
- **Existing buildings are retrofitted** for solar and new energy options supported by City programs and funding.
- **Educational programs are better aligned** with business and industry with a focus on apprenticeship programs.

