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**MINUTES**  
**CITY OF FORT COLLINS**  
**FUTURES COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Date:** May 13, 2019  
**Location:** CIC Room, City Hall, 300 Laporte Ave.  
**Time:** 4:00–6:00pm

**Committee Members Present:**

Mayor Wade Troxell  
Julie Pignataro

**City Staff:**

Darin Atteberry, City Manager  
Jeff Mihelich, Deputy City Manager  
Jackie Kozak-Thiel, (Staff Liaison)

**Presenters:**

Andres Duany

**Additional Staff Present:**

Lucinda Smith, Environmental Services  
Lindsay Ex, Environmental Services  
Molly Saylor, Environmental Services  
Sue Beck-Ferkiss, Social Sustainability  
Meaghan Overton, CDNS  
Rebecca Everette, CDNS  
Ryan Mounce, CDNS  
Cameron Gloss, CDNS  
Noah Beals, CDNS  
Dean Klingner, PDT  
Shawna Van Zee, CDNS  
Kai Kleer, CDNS  
Sylvia Tatman-Burruss, CDNS  
Brad Yatabe, City Attorney's Office  
Arlo Schumann, CDNS  
Ruth Rollins, Planning and Zoning  
Tom Leeson, PDT  
Missy Nelson, CDNS  
Karen McWilliams, CDNS  
Maren Bzdek, CDNS  
Todd Sullivan, CDNS

Clark Mapes, CDNS  
Clay Frickey, URA  
**Community members:**  
Susan Mcfaddin, Seven Generations  
Kevin Jones, Fort Collins Chamber of Commerce  
Ted Shepard, community member  
Bruce Hendee, community member  
Elizabeth Radman, community member  
Nathalie Rachline, Transportation board  
Max Moss, Montana  
Ray Martinez, RM Consulting  
Dale Adamy, FCParity

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### **Meeting called to order at 4:06 pm**

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

Julie moved to approve February minutes. Mayor Troxell seconded. Motion passed unanimously. 2-0-1.

**Chairman Comments:** None

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#### **Summary**

- Reimagine community engagement—from an equity perspective consider who has privilege and who needs privilege
- Consider what level decision-making should occur at, including the city-level or neighborhood level.
  - What does distributed decision-making look like?
- Enable Bureaucracy to act and support community architecture
  - City as a Platform
  - Co-Creation
  - Work with small developers and enable them to compete with larger ones
- Consider what affordability in the Fort Collins community includes. Examples include making connections to buying local and having a healthy resilient economy
- Track indicators that will reveal our state of balance
  - If we are out of balance, make decisions that will help to drive/restore balance

#### **Think Tank Item 3-2019: The Future of Community Architecture**

##### **Andres Duany DPZ Architecture**

- Engaging the youth in community decisions:
  - Provides brief overview of NIMBYism which occupies public discussion
  - Older generations tend to be more involved in public discussions and decision-making
    - Focus tends to be on how things have gotten worse over time, which is rational based on their experiences

- Engage the youth to provide a different perspective
  - Use social media and other avenues that older generations don't utilize
  - One example is to begin public discussion with the youngest participants in the room; they set the tone
- Planning is a long-term activity, engaging the youth becomes important part of the process
  - For example, in Birmingham Michigan began planning 25 years ago—25 years later—people who were 20 are now 45 and have been involved in the process.
- Democracy requires diversity in terms of who participates in the public process
  - When one group and their opinions are privileged over others, this results in decisions that are not in the best interest of the community.
  - Example provided of building a daycare:
    - Immediate neighbors may have a problem because of the increase in traffic, etc., but they have a vested interest not to have the day care
    - Day-care may have larger community benefits so those community members should also be part of the discussion.
  - Take the time to ensure that public deliberation and processes reach diverse community members and the youth.
- What is the Cities' role in responding to climate change?
  - Science and statistics suggest that we are going to hit irreversible tipping points, when these points are hit, it will be a shock for many communities around the world.
  - Mitigation will not be enough at that point; need adaptation and resiliency.
  - Consider what the risks are in the Fort Collins community and plan for it:
    - Wildfires, flooding, or running out of a resource
    - Make plans and have dates by which community needs to have things done.
- Consider what level decisions should be made at—i.e. the Theory of Subsidiary that states that decisions are best made at the most local level that can competently do so
  - When it comes to Green Policy and Immigration, states like California and others are making decisions beyond what the federal government is doing because they are better equipped to make those decisions
  - Provides an example about regulating chickens in Miami: Miami made a city-level decision that chickens are not allowed:
    - Many community members enjoy having chickens and have them anyway
    - In this case, the block, or neighborhood is the best level for that decision to be made.
  - City officials and staff could write a list of the kinds of decisions that need to be made in our community and evaluate at what level that decision should be made at.
    - First action is what are the decisions that are made in the next 25 years,
    - Determine best level for that decision
    - What mechanisms are in place to allow that level to convene?

- There are about a dozen different indicators for a healthy community and the goal should be to balance those things. If they are not in balance, then City government’s job is to help nudge the indicator in the right direction. Indicators include
  - Rich and Poor
  - Young and Old
  - Food consumption and production
- Localize decisions: Rather than thinking about how to save the world, consider how we save Fort Collins
  - Localize policies and activities that will aid in creating a community that will survive for several generations.
  - Map our important sheds such as our food shed, water shed, and security shed
  - Fort Collins is a great place to live and we can’t guarantee any other place.

### Comments/Q&A:

- Question about affordability in communities
  - Andres believes that affordable housing is the number one problem in America and is even more urgent than Climate Change.
  - Andres discusses his belief that there are too many rules which prevent small developers that have less overhead from being competitive.
    - Small developers tend to have more heart than big developers, meaning they aren’t all about the numbers;
    - Small developers love the place they work, and tend to build affordable housing
    - Enabling small developers will allow affordable housing to occur organically
    - This also goes back to the role of government—having an enabling bureaucracy.
- Mayor shares how Fort Collins tends to be aspirational and pragmatic. Everything our government does is related to what makes sense in our community.
  - Built around notion of climate economy—businesses that are a solution for Fort Collins but can also scale in other places.
  - Mayor gives the example that the City decided to underground powerlines 50 years ago.
- Discussion of the regional waste shed—how to think about it as a materials management issue rather than a waste issue.
  - Going back to level of decision-making, at the neighborhood or block level, people have to live with your consequences.
- Council member Julie Pignataro asks the question on how we as a community continue to be self-sufficient with population growth?
  - Andres goes back to his point about balance when it comes to growth and being self-sufficient. discusses the need to have balance in terms of socioeconomics in our community.

- Share the idea that we can turn our outcome areas into simple graphics and then we can have someone from the planning department makes maps that show how outcome areas affect balance.
  - Question was asked about Nature in the City. As Fort Collins grows from 170,000 to 250,000 in the next 20 years, how should we build nature in to that?
    - Andres reiterates that having nature in the City is fantastic; helps with real estate trees act as natural shading and cooling, and look beautiful.
    - Ensure that we don't bring wilderness into the city.
  - Question asked on Andres' thoughts about millennials and density
    - As a planner with clients with large projects that will span the next 20 or more years, Andres believes that millennial should be studied.
      - Recognize that there are two groups of millennials (younger and older) and that they do behave differently.
      - Millennials tend to spend money on experiences rather than tangible purchases. For example, a millennial will spend money at a brew-pub.
      - If opening 15 retail establishments then make 12 of them food and drink establishments.
      - Consider viewing Michal Cain documentary called My Generation—gives insight to how cool parents and grandparents were.
  - Discussion about how to ensure assets that are built now can be converted into other things.
    - Provides the example of a parking lot—Andres suggests designing not for current condition, but for its climax condition which can be urbanized later. Make sure parking garages can be converted later. Fantastic assets if designed to be
  - Question asked about what actions our City should be taking now that will help use 10 years from now.
    - Andres suggests being clear about all of our sheds.
    - Consider planning for longer than 10 years, think about 20 years or more in the future.
  - Consider which cities are like ours and consult with them to see if we are on track with some goals.
    - Universitycities.org—metrics for desirable University city. Add Columbus to this.
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**Additional Discussion: None**

*Meeting adjourned by Wade Troxell at 5:38 pm.*