Black Forest Preservation Plan
Round 1 Meetings
July 7-18
DRAFT Report (Process) July 31, 2019

ROUND 1 Meetings

• **Seven meetings July 7-18**
  Sun   July 7   9 - noon
  Mon   July 8   7-9 pm
  Wed   July 10   7-9 pm
  Fri   July 12   7-9 pm
  Sat   July 12   9- noon
  Tues July 16   7-9 pm
  Thurs July 18   7-9 pm

16 hours contact time
70 Black Forest residents
11 also attended the Monday May 19 3 pm mtg by HLA

Advertised: July 3: Black Forest Community Club e-mail
          July 4 and 6 - NextDoor - 23 neighborhoods
          July 4 - organization e-mails in Black Forest
          July 4 - Black Forest Community News Website

Special Attendees:
    EPC Planning and Development Craig Dossey (July 12)
                               Mark Gebhart (July 16 &18)
    State Representative - Tim Geitner (July 18)
    EPCMPSC Members: Tim Bailey (7/8); Ryan Wanner (7/12);
        Matt Carroll (7/18)   -   Participants

Meeting Preparations:
Advertising requested that Participants send an e-mail to sign up for a specific session of their choice.

All Participants were sent Special Edition Working Analysis document extracted from the 1987 BFPP and 1999 Trails Addendum which included the concept Map with Subareas, Land Use Scenarios,a (grouped) Goals, policies and Proposed Actions. The Visual Matrix an Visual Areas Map was also included. Information was provided for online access of the full Planning Documents on the EPC site and on a private site which included indexing and Topical Color Maps (http://dawog.net/BFPP/bfpp.htm - this site has been online since the late 1980s). Participants were asked to print out the 33-page Working Analysis document, review, and bring it to the meeting.

Meeting Procedures:
Each meeting began with participants signing in with name, address, e-mail and (requested) phone number, how many years they had been in the Planning Area, and in which Subarea they currently lived.

All meetings had chairs and tables.

As Participants came in they were handed a sheet with three input questions to answer:
> **1. What are the characteristics of Black Forest that you like and want to keep?**
> **2. What are the characteristics of Black Forest that you do not like and wish to change?**
> **3. What are ten land use issues that concern you?**

Participants were given until 7:15 pm to write down their input. Then 45 minutes to an hour was allocated to create a facilitated listing on a flipchart for the first two questions (about 30 minutes for these) and the last 15-30 minutes for Question 3.* At the end of all sessions, these data were tallied in two groups (those verbalized andl listed on the flip charts) and written comments that contained additional items. This allowed capture of both verbalized and written information at each meeting.

Then a break was taken (about an hour into each session) and participants could look at the two posters. One had the original 1987 two-sided Concept Map (which had also th Land Use Scenarios, Goals, Policies and Actions, and the other had some History and Milestones of the cooperative citizen/CountyPlanning Effort for Black Forest from 1972 to the present, and some of the major challenges the Black Forest Preservation Plan has experienced (by decade).

Results
Following the meetings, each Participant received a e-mail thank you for their input and a copy of four chapters of Elliott (2011) Online Leadership Training Alliance Guidance Manual (Colorado Chapter American Planning Association) Excerpts from Colorado Land Planning and Development Law, Ninth Edition and PAS 578 Sustaining Places: Best Management Practices for Comprehensive Plans (American Planning Association).

Also addressed during the Working Analysis sessions were initial review of Land Use Scenarios for Subarea 1 (Timbered Area) and Subarea 5 (Spruce Hill and Hwy 83 Corridor), initial review of the first seven Goals of the 1987 Black Forest Preservation Plan, the identification of geographical "Hotspots", and several issues which had divided opinion (for example allowing shooting in RR-5 zones, adding more neighborhood commercial areas, and allowing accessory housing units).

Twenty flip-chart sheets were filled during the discussions over the span of seven meetings.

The data from the three input questions was committed to Excel Spreadsheets with separate spreadsheet segments for each meeting, and each question at each meeting. These were background-fill color coded so which meeting a particular statement came from could be tracked during the analysis. Below the flip chart data list for each meeting were additional written comments from the sheets turned in at the meetings.

These spreadsheets contain the raw data and consist of what people actually said or wrote down - i.e the words of the Participants. Any explanatory comments are in parentheses ( ). Few were needed because participants were asked to clarify what they meant if they contributed a general idea like "water" or "traffic".

No attempt to prioritize items was made at the meetings.

The next step was to group similar items in a separate part of the spreadsheet. The color coding allowed evaluation of which items/topics had the highest frequency.

These initial data will be sent out to the participants (in the next few days) for them to check accuracy and completeness. Participants will be able to see the raw data, (by meeting and question), as well as the data reorganized by topic. They can add items if they think of more. I expect more will be added as the El Paso County Master Plan Process progresses, or as outside events occur (such as the adoption of a Resolution just last week by the Colorado Springs City Council of an Interim Wastewater Treatment plan for Sterling Ranch. This Interin Waste Water Treatment which is part of a potential annexation process of Sterling Ranch and possibly four other adjacent properties east or west of Vollmer Road in the Black Forest Planning Area after wastewater connection is made (July 23, 2019 Colorado Springs City Council meeting).

After the data quality check next week, a full list for prioritization will be sent back to participants and they can individually vote on the top 20 items for each question. I will ask for volunteers to assist in tally of the results. These will be counted and compared to the frequency data to determine the top issues and opportunities, strengths and weaknesses and concerns of the identified items with regard to Black Forest based on the data as of August 2019.

More meetings will be needed for the Subarea Land Use Scenarios, and to finish the Goals, and discuss Policies and Proposed actions. Initial discussion suggested some reorgan1zaition of Goals, Policies and Proposed Actions Topics 8 and 9 pp 86-88 of BFPP), so Water/Wastewater are not within separate topics, and the yet-unknown structure of the overall high level plan.

This citizen effort is parallel and complementary to the Prescribed Outreach processes within the County's effort. It provides a local meeting venue and more opportunity for direct citizen participation in addition to the Online data collection methods provided by the Consultant.

An important outcome of this is better citizen awareness of Black Forest's planning history and a broader base of informed, engaged citizens to help determine the future of their local community and in-depth information for the Comprehsnisve Planning process..

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Dr. Judith von Ahlefeldt
July 31, 2019
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* The Tuesday, July 16 meeting included a visit by Mark Gebhart of DSD who initially was given the opportunity to explain the EPC Master Plan Effort. That meeting had 12 participants and I (erroneously) allowed too much time for interactive questions of Mark. Everyone was interested and participating but there was not time to do the facilitation listing at that session. However, participants had filled out their Input sheets, and a comparable flip chart list was created for that session from the first three (non-repetitive) items on each of the 12 sheets.