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## Session Outline

Challenges Facing Rural Communities
Rifle: Bridging the Past to the Future
Rifle's Downtown Strategic Plan
Observations

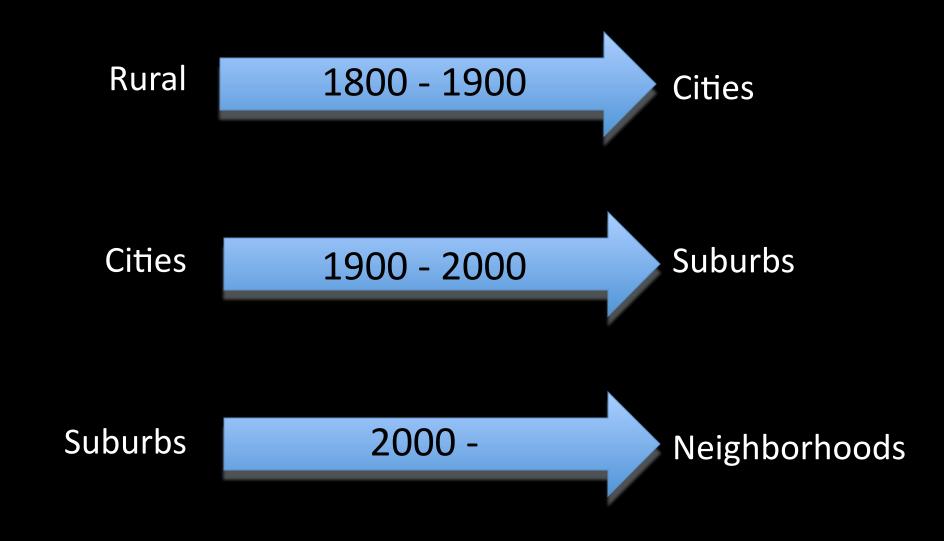
### **Challenges Facing Rural Communities**







### Development Patterns In US History



## Quality of Life - 1900



## Quality of Life - 1950



## Quality of Life - 2000



## 21st Century "quality of life"

Walkable, mixed use, transitserved, complete neighborhoods

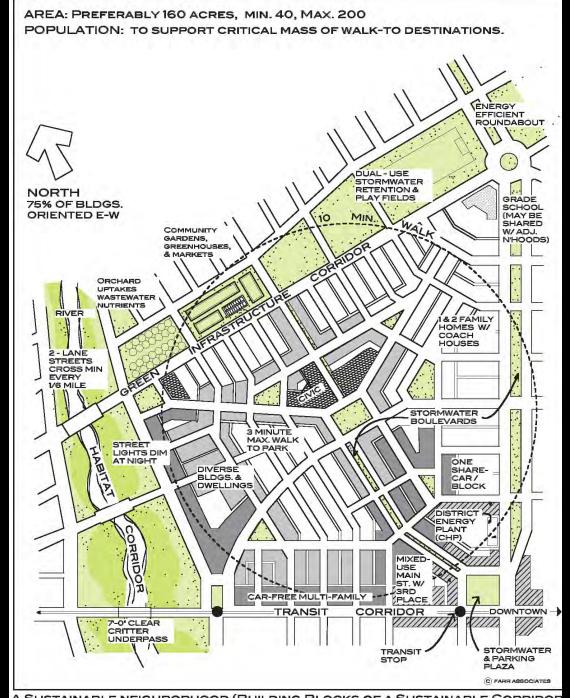
### **Economic Vitality...**

Complete Neighborhoods (quality of life)

Regional Accessibility (jobs/opportunity)

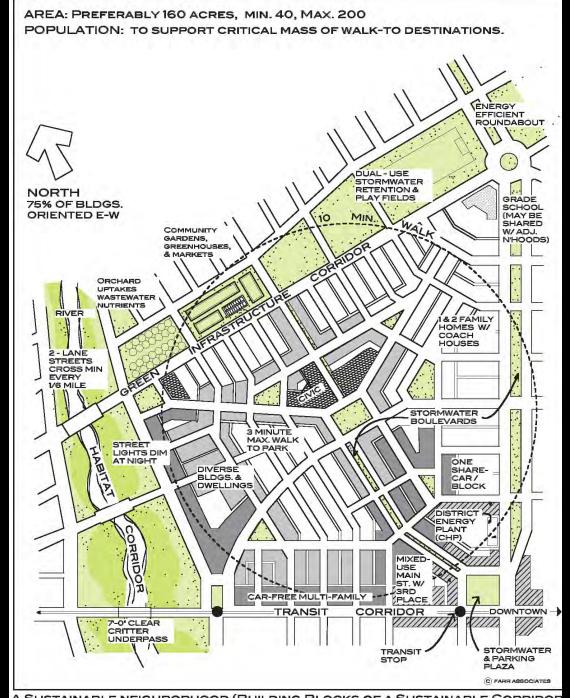
# the neighborhood

- ¼ mile radius
- 160 200 acres



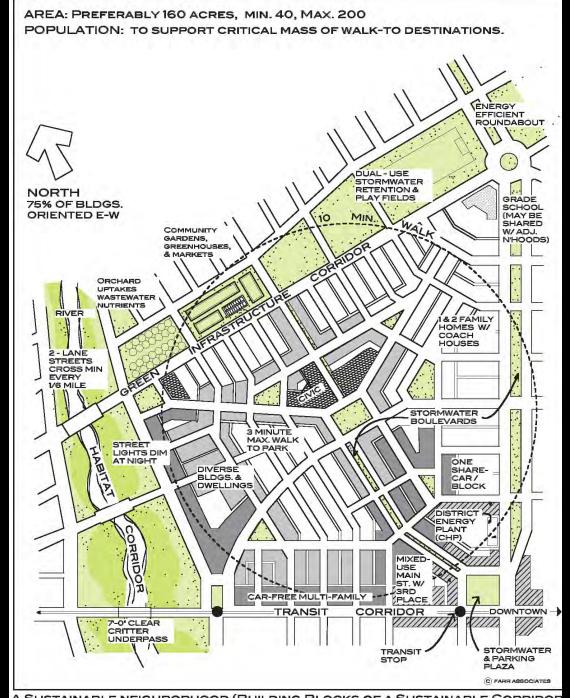
## the complete neighborhood

- schools
- local retail
- services
- parks
- diverse housing
- transit



## the complete neighborhood

- walkable
- mixed-use
- transit-served



#### **Economic Vitality...**

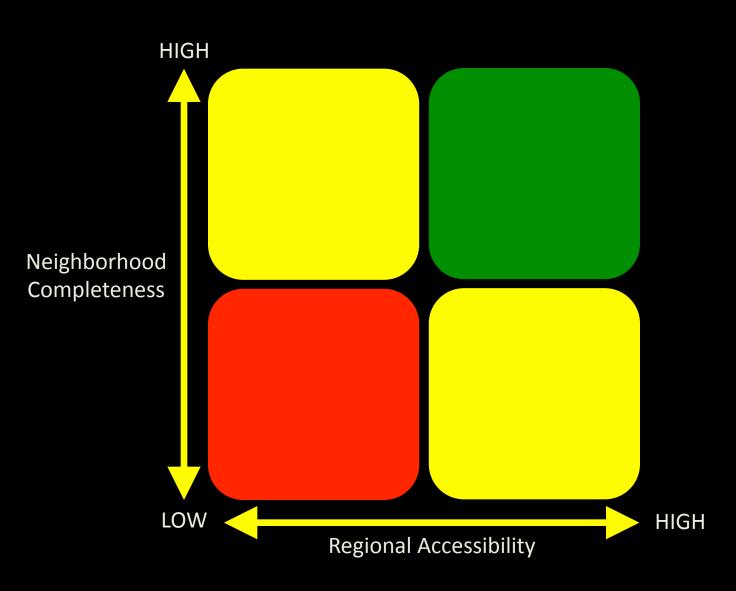
Complete Neighborhoods (quality of life)

Regional Accessibility (jobs/opportunity)

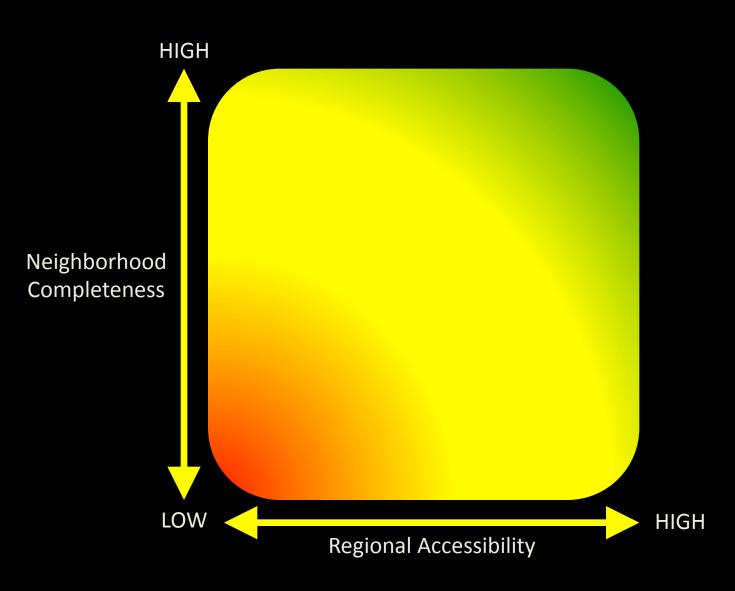
## For 100 years, primary jobs have concentrated in regional employment centers



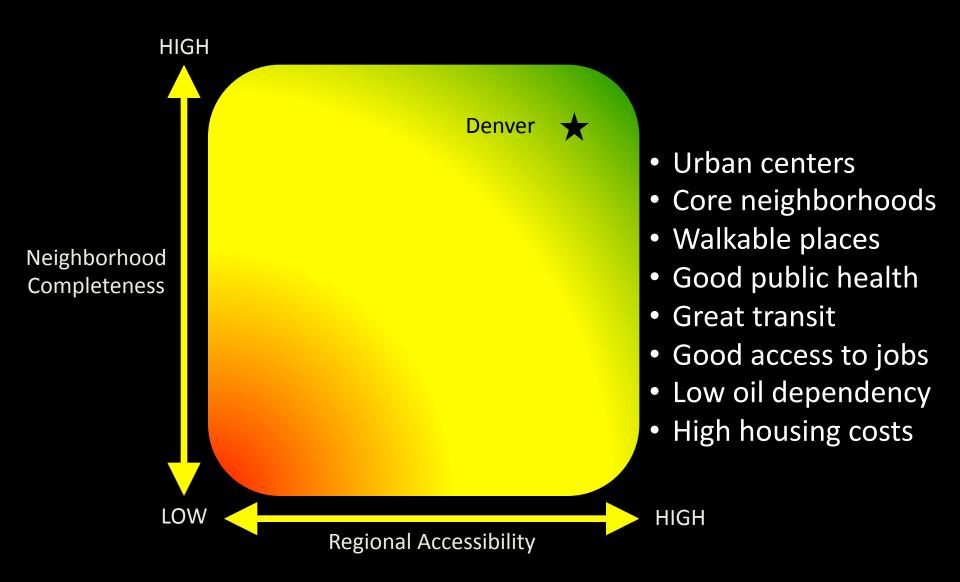




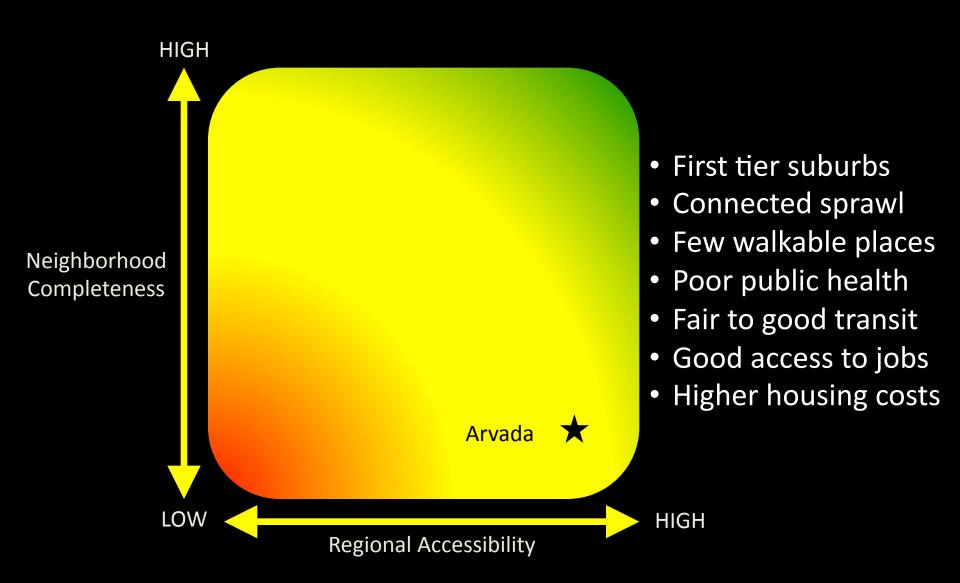




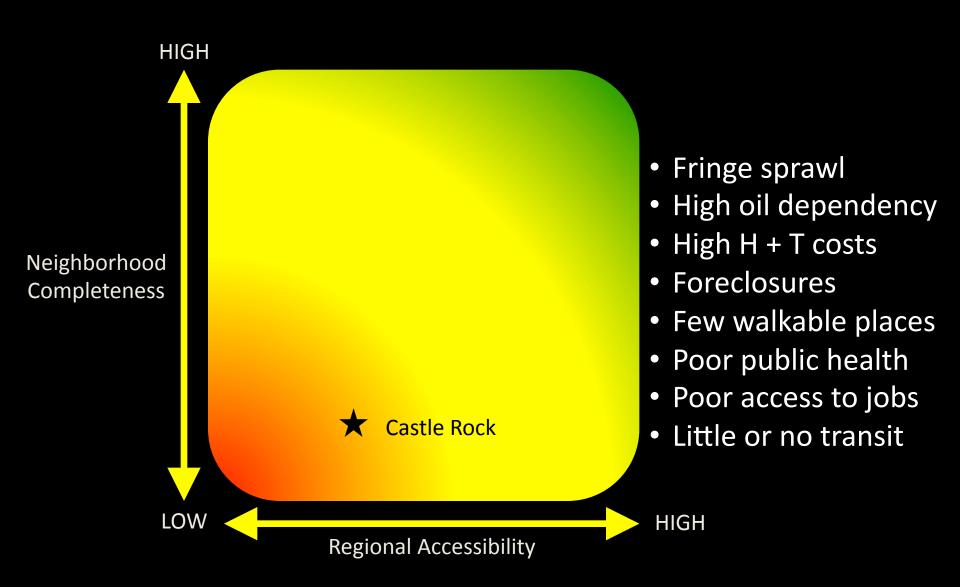




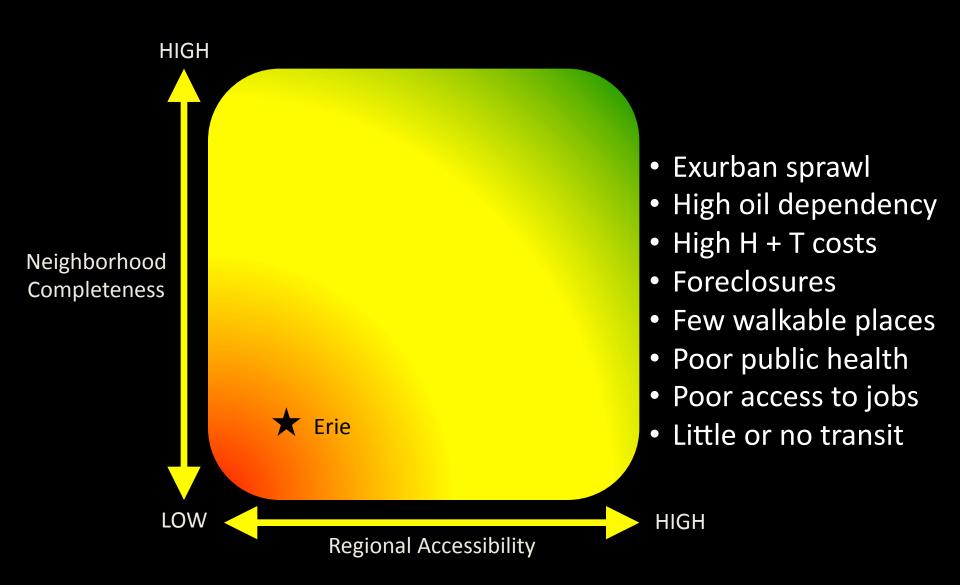




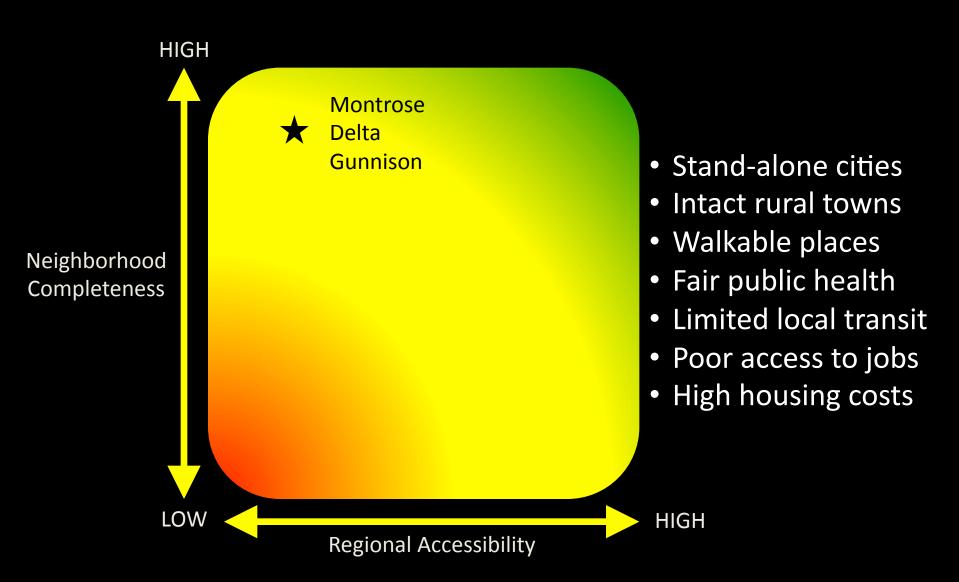






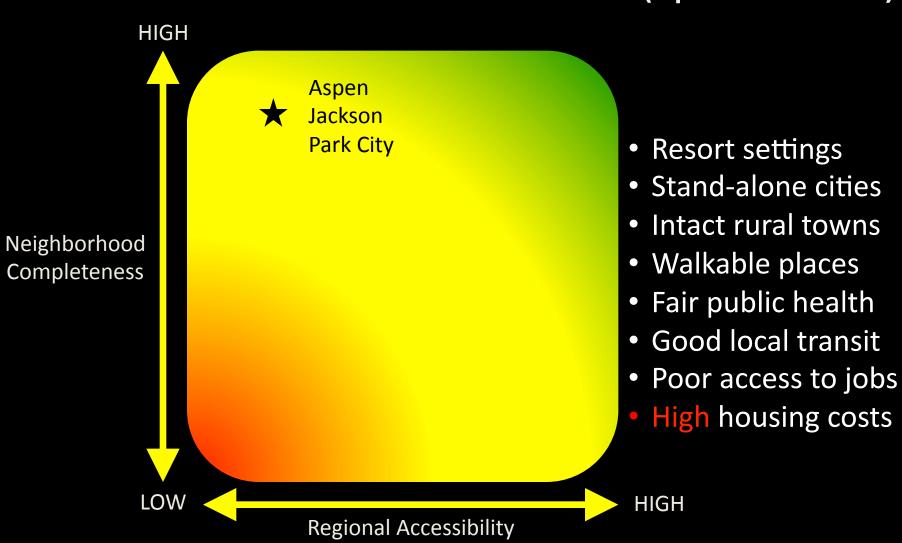




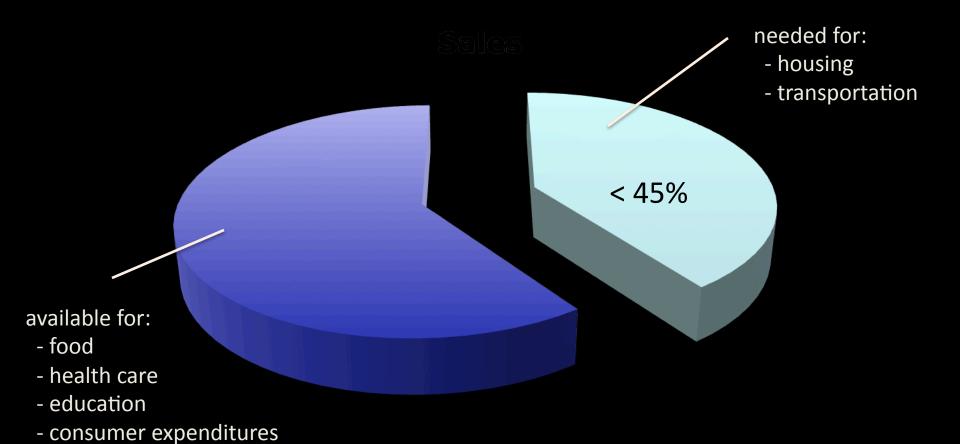




## Place Types (special case)



#### how it should be

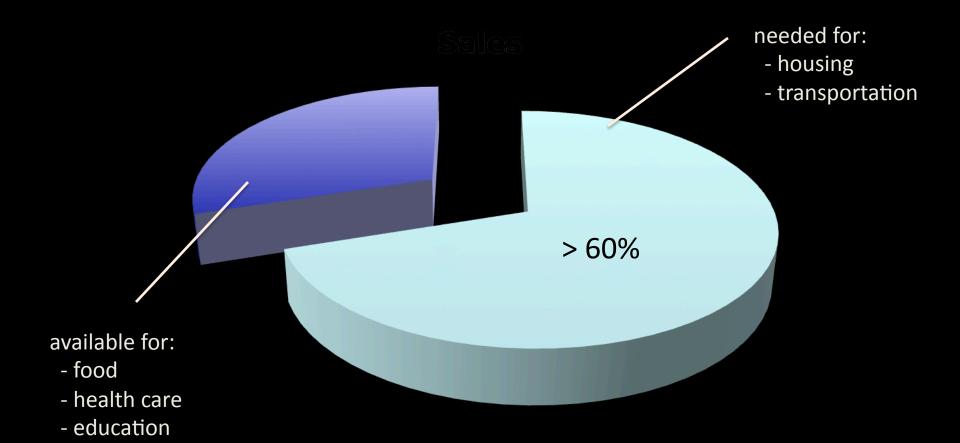


- recreation

- savings

H + T Index

#### many rural households



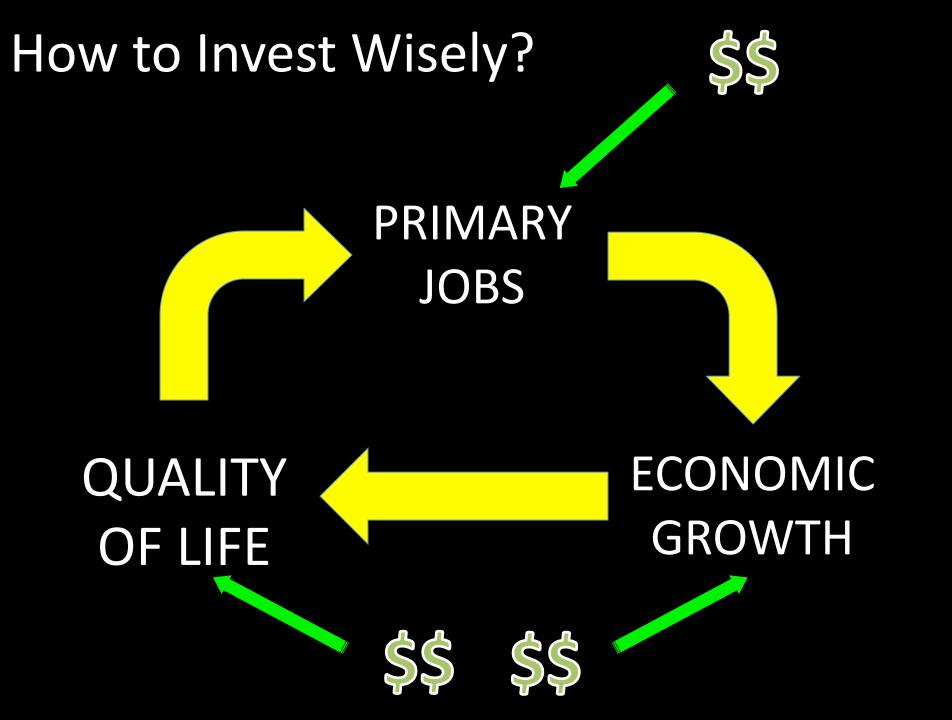
recreationsavings

- consumer expenditures

H + T Index

#### Primary Challenges for Rural Places

- Limited access to primary jobs
- High housing + transportation costs (H + T)
- Limited tax base to support investment



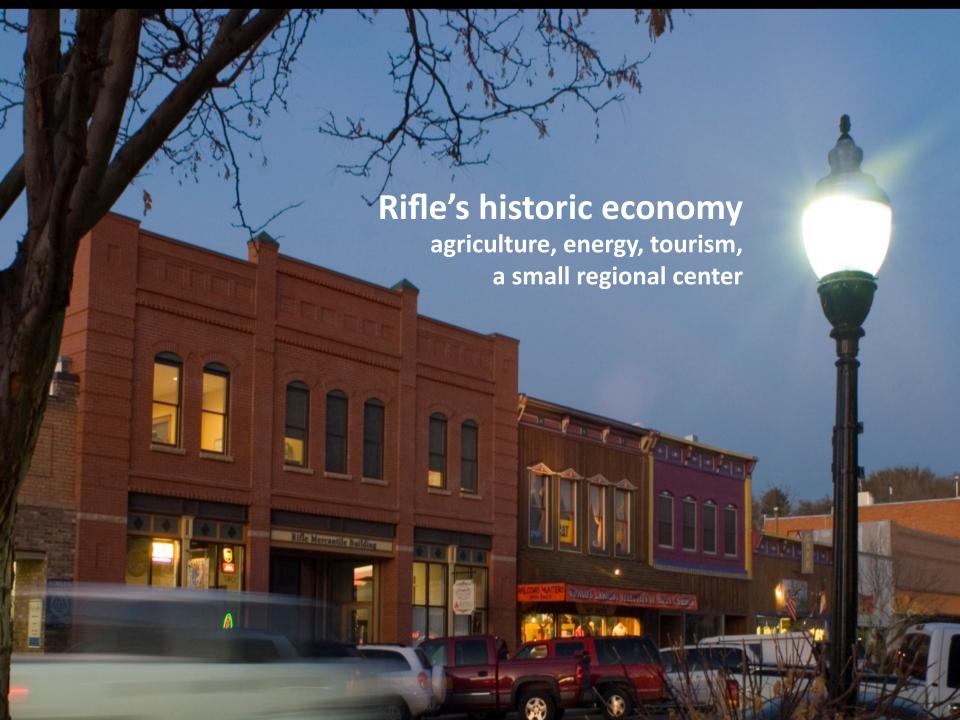
#### Rifle: Bridging the Past to the Future





## Rifle's Story Nathan Lindquist, Planning Director







**The Colorado River** 

The old and the new



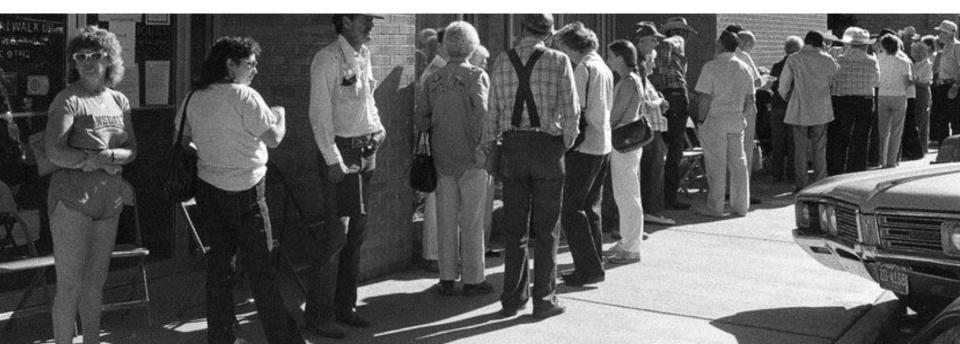


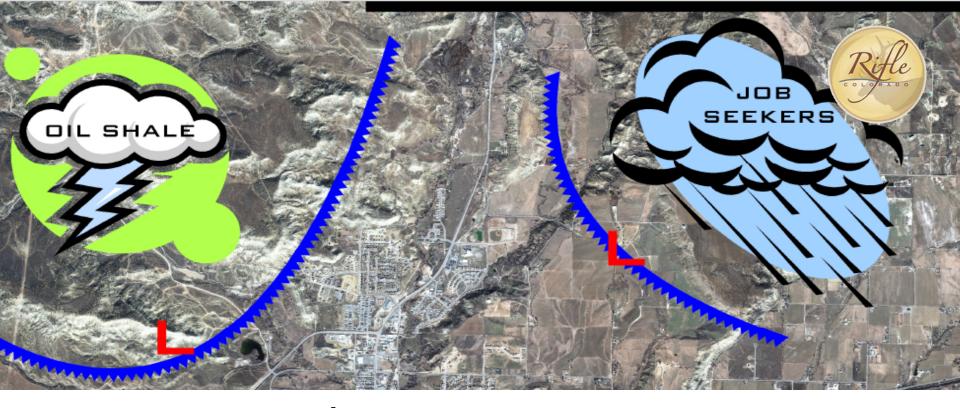
1975-1982: The oil shale boom





1983: The oil shale bust





### **Another BOOM economy**



## A diverse economy How does a western slope town get there??



## 2002: Starting from square one visioning and strategic planning



#### Rifle in 2035 is a community that:

- Has preserved its small town values and cohesive sense of community;
- Has a sustainable and growing economic base that offers ample employment, housing, and business opportunities;
- Is well-planned, environmentally responsible, and comprised of diverse neighborhoods that are safe, secure and have convenient access to services and amenities;
- Offers a premier and integrated system of recreational, educational, and cultural activities for all ages and income levels;
- Is the regional center of commerce, culture and education;
- Has achieved a high level of resource efficiency and sustainability.



Mayor Keith Lambert 2001 - 2009

### Why all the strategery?



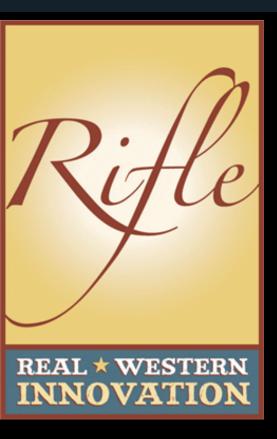
- Team building between Council and Staff
- Integrates new staff and council members
- A forum to hash out big picture disagreements without losing direction
- Its worth it to pay for good facilitation





### **Energy innovation**

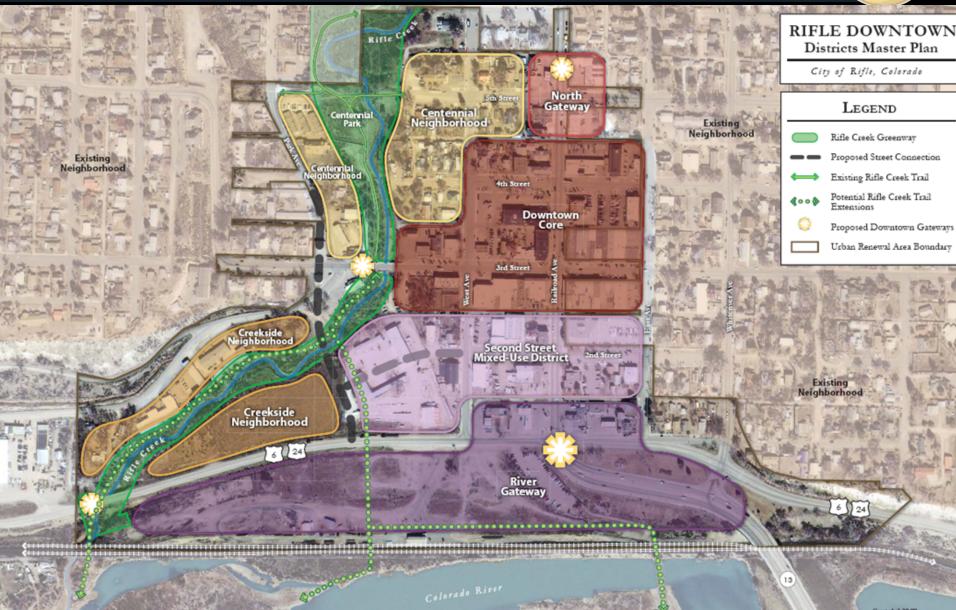




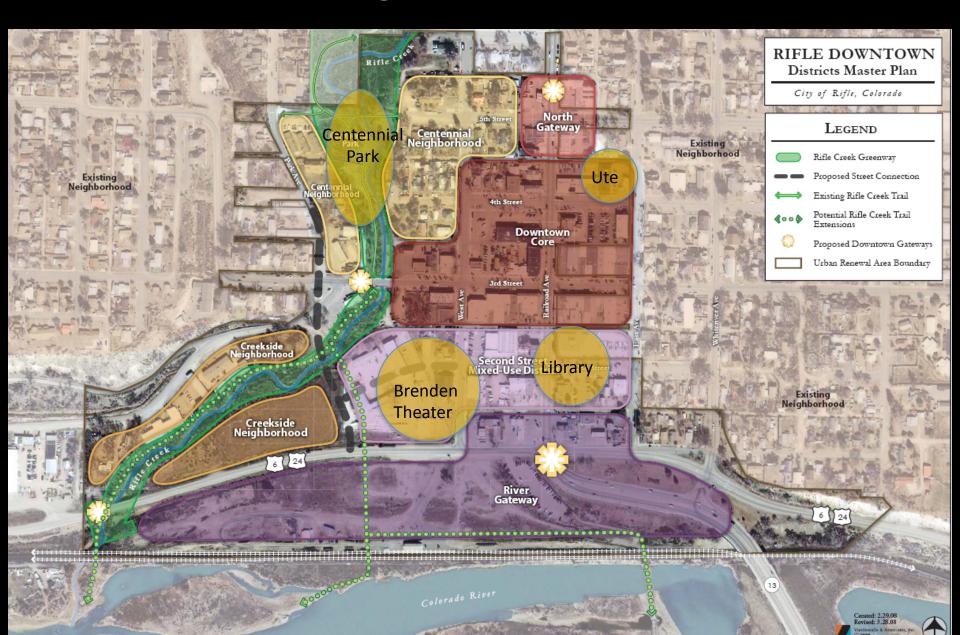


#### **Downtown Master Plan**





### Building downtown amenities



### Old Rifle Creek Theater





### New Ute Event Center







### Example of urban design improvements





### Example of urban design improvements



### Old Valley Lumber Site





### Brenden Theaters w/commercial pad sites





### old library





### new library





### Rifle Creek floodplain





### Centennial Park





### Industrial building on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Lot





### new event space at 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Lot





## Rifle

### Continue the street grid and connect to the river



### Downtown Zoning Code

- Form-based requirements
- Use regulations based on neighborhoods
- Density consistent with market realities
- Detailed requirements give developers certainty and allow easy approvals process
- Variances and PUDs prohibited

### "Required", "Preferred", "Discouraged", "Prohibited"

Building Design Element	Required	Preferred	Discouraged	Prohibited
(a) Architectural style	Preservation and restoration of High-Priority Preservation Sites consistent with preservation standards in the CBB Glessary Consistent on all exposed sides Additions in same or complementary style as existing building Pre-manufactured buildings shall meet all requirements of and be similar to conventional buildings in function and appearance; including foundations, facades, architecture and interiors	Preservation and restoration of all other historic buildings consistent with preservation standards in the CBD Glossary Single stylistic approach Styles historically common to downtown Rifle Simplified, nenetylistic designs conforming to sub-district rhythms, forms and proportions	One-story buildings     Replication of a former building in the City     Multiple styles on a single building     Styles emphasizing exaggerated references to historic details (e.g., Postmodern)     Styles emphasizing unarticulated facades     Contemporary Folk styles     Neo styles     Nonstylistic designs not conforming to sub-district rhythms, forms and proportions	Franchise architecture     Replication of existing building in the City     Styles predominate in other regions not indicative of Western Colorado     Bold, stylistic expression
(b) Facade and articulation	Facades facing streets with recess, offset or pilaster at least 1' in depth or projection every 40'     Rectangular footprint     Rectilinear and simple building form     Main entry as primary focal point     Pedestrian scale of first floor facade	Noncomer buildings with symmetrical primary facade  Corner buildings oriented to intersection  Large building facades broken up to be reflective of traditional lot widths (50')  Upper floor balconies accessible to occupants  Articulated components	Angular or curved walls as dominant or repetitive element     Overly complex geometry     Clearly disruptive to rhythm on block     Single facade design wider than 100'     Greater than 15% unarticulated wall plane on primary facade	Greater than 40% unarticulated wall plane on any facade
	Differentiation of first floor from upper floors on primary facade     Harmonizing rhythm of lower and	Less than 15% unarticulated wall plan on primary facade     Less than 25% unarticulated wall	Greater than 25% unarticulated wall plane on secondary street facade	

### Design guidelines

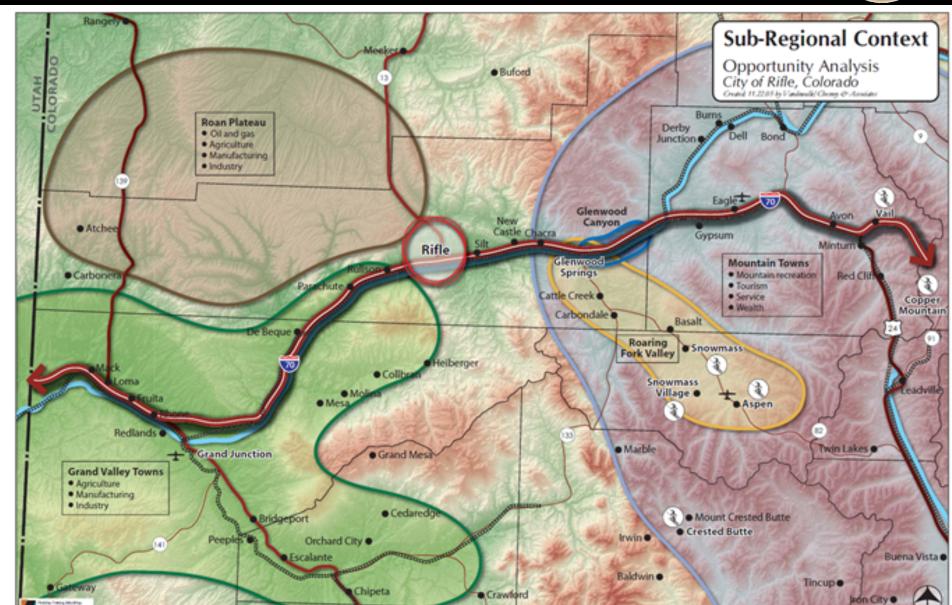
Figure 16-18-220-1



- Consistent façade rhythms
- Brick as primary material
- Articulation of façade
- Three-dimensional details
- Vertically proportioned windows on upper floors
- Preservation of historic features.

### Rifle as a regional center





### Regional Leadership: partnerships





economic development corporation











## Rifle's Downtown Strategic Plan





**US HUD** 

# \$\$

**US DOT** 

Colorado DOLA



City of Rifle

### **Grant Project Steering Committee**

**RREDC** 

Colorado Mtn College

DDA

Colorado DOT

City Council

**US HUD** 

**Garfield County** 

Colorado DOLA

**RFTA** 

City Staff

### **Project Objectives**

Infill and Redevelopment

Mixed-Use, Walkable, Transit-Served

Shovel-Ready Capital Projects

Strategic Transit Development Plan

Initiate High Priority
Capital Projects

Bring Housing to Downtown

## "Shovel Ready"

- Site survey
- Concept design (10% 30% plans)
- Land owner coordination
- Utility issues, incl. stormwater
- Preliminary cost estimate
- Ready for final design & construction

### Interdisciplinary Approach

- Transportation planning
- Civil engineering
- Landscape architecture
- Economic analysis
- Urban design
- Energy analysis
- Capacity-building

### Phase I

### Phase II

### 2012

### 2013

- ✓ Market study
- ✓ TOD plan
- ✓ Transit plan
- ✓ Traffic circulation
- ✓ ID Opportunity sites
- ✓ Landowner coordination
- ✓ Action Plan
- ✓ ID priority projects

- ✓ Stormwater sketch plan
- Comprehensive survey
- ✓ Street Concept design
- ✓ Street Final Design
- ✓ Bicycle Master Plan
- ✓ Landowner coordination
- ✓ Final Action Plan
- ✓ Final Report Document

### Public Involvement



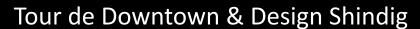


Structured Interviews

**Design Charrette** 







Rifle 3D Academies (2012 & 2013)

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Small Sites Mini-Charrette

2012 Bicycle/Pedestrian Mini-Summit

Bicycle System Plan Workshop

Rifle First Fridays







# Market Analysis

**Employment Trends** 

Income, Economic Activity

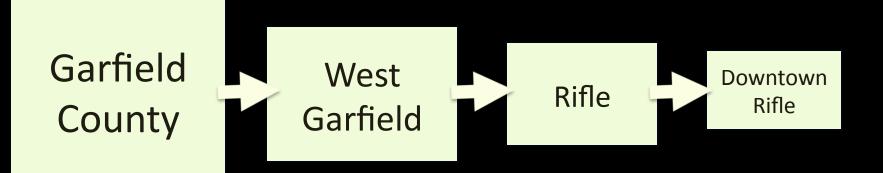
Demand Forecast

Residential

Retail

Office

Lodging

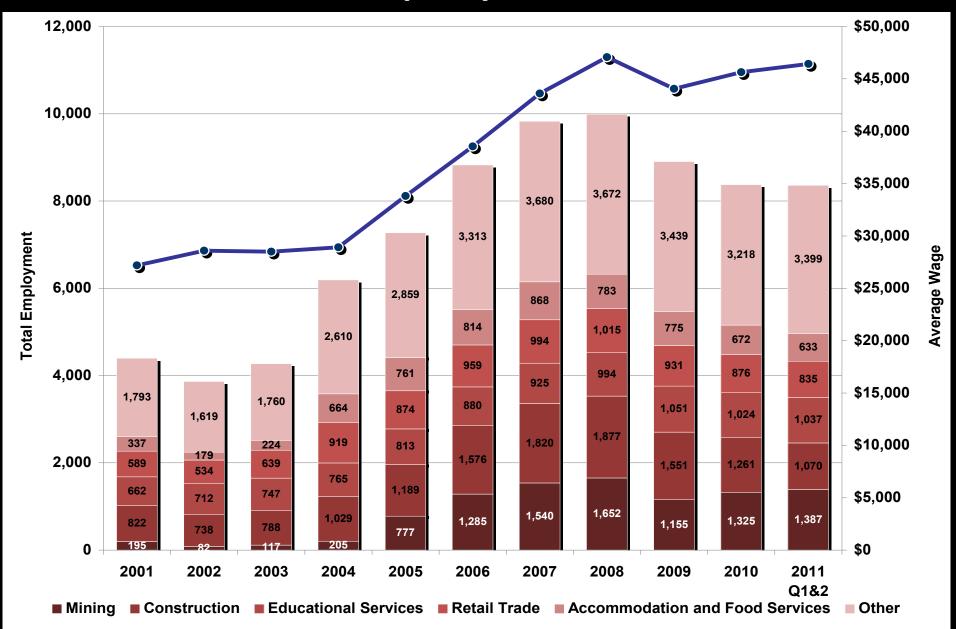




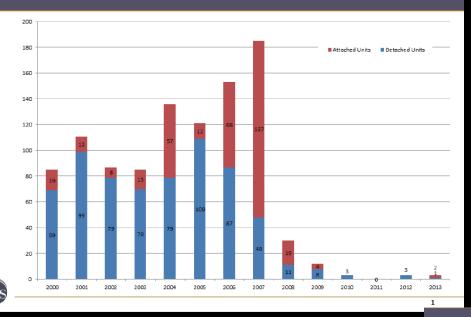




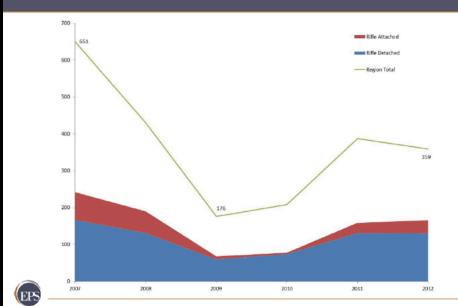
# Employment



### Residential Building Permits, 2000 to 2013



### Home Sales Volume











## Phase 1

Downtown Infrastructure
Redevelopment & Infill
Rely on existing Grand Hogback service



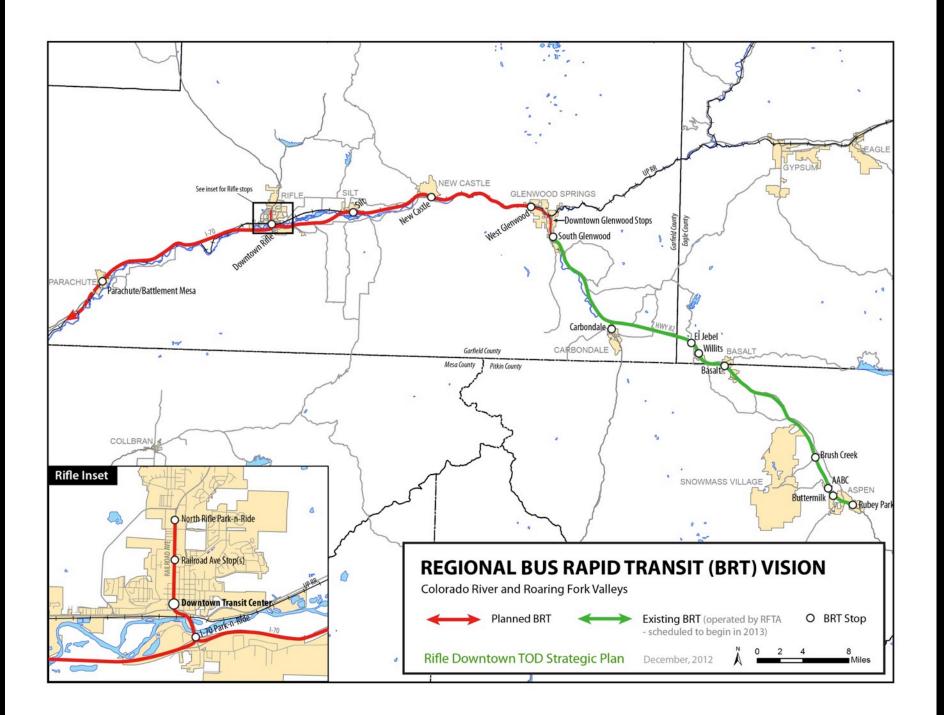
## Phase 2

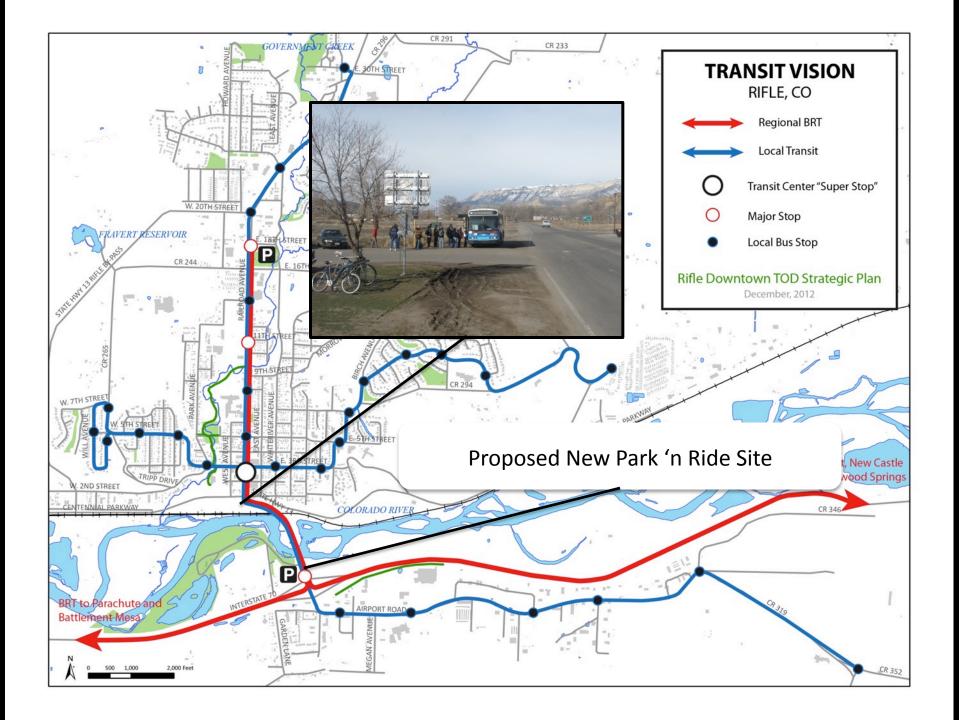
Move park 'n ride to roundabout Increase Grand Hogback service levels



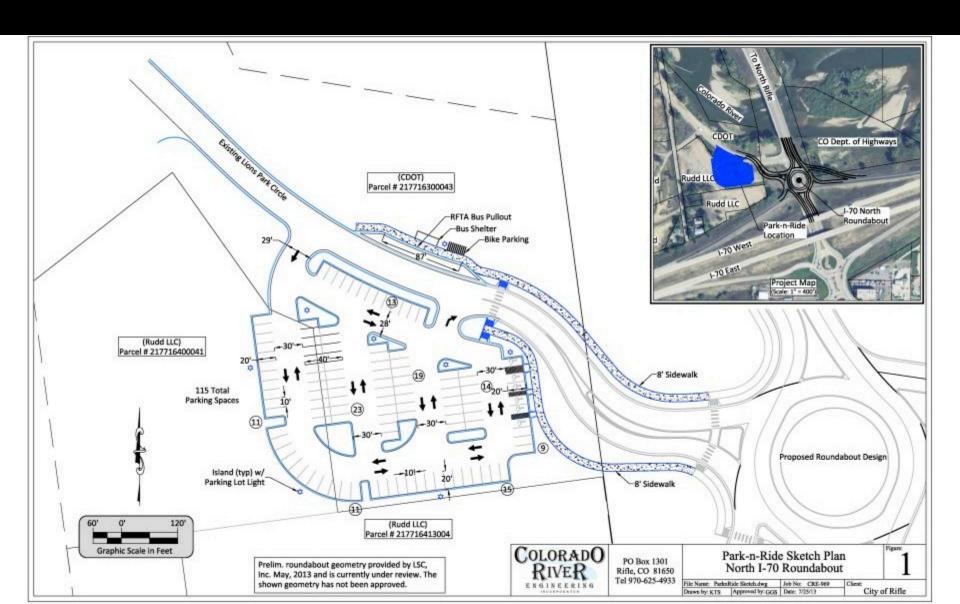
## Phase 3

Begin development of BRT extension Initiate local service



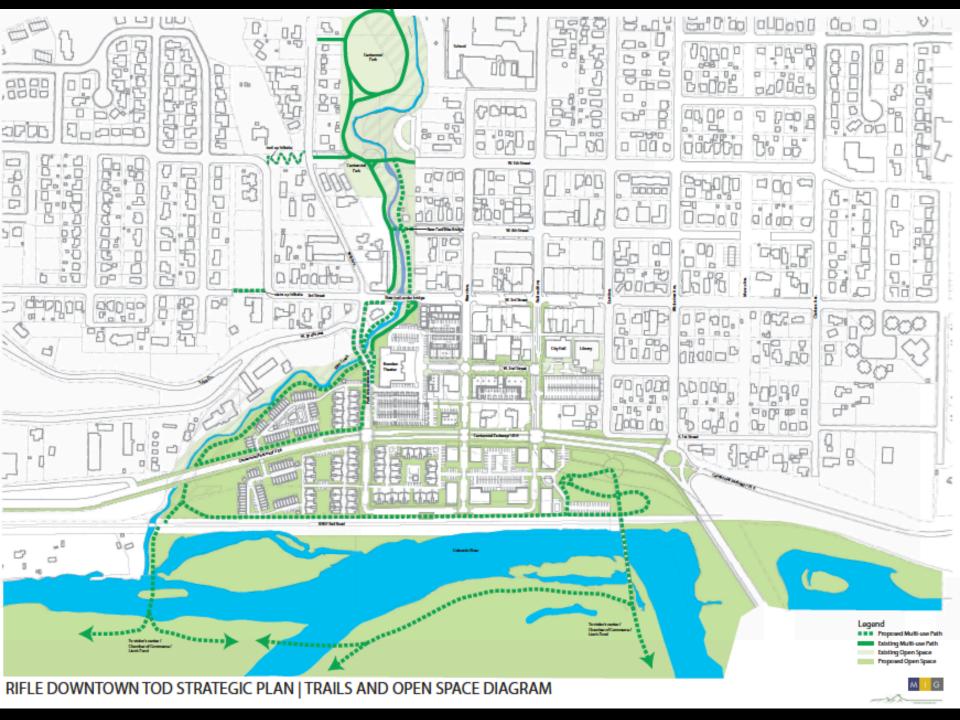


# Park 'n Ride: Rough Concept (will change)









# June 7<sup>th</sup> Outreach Events

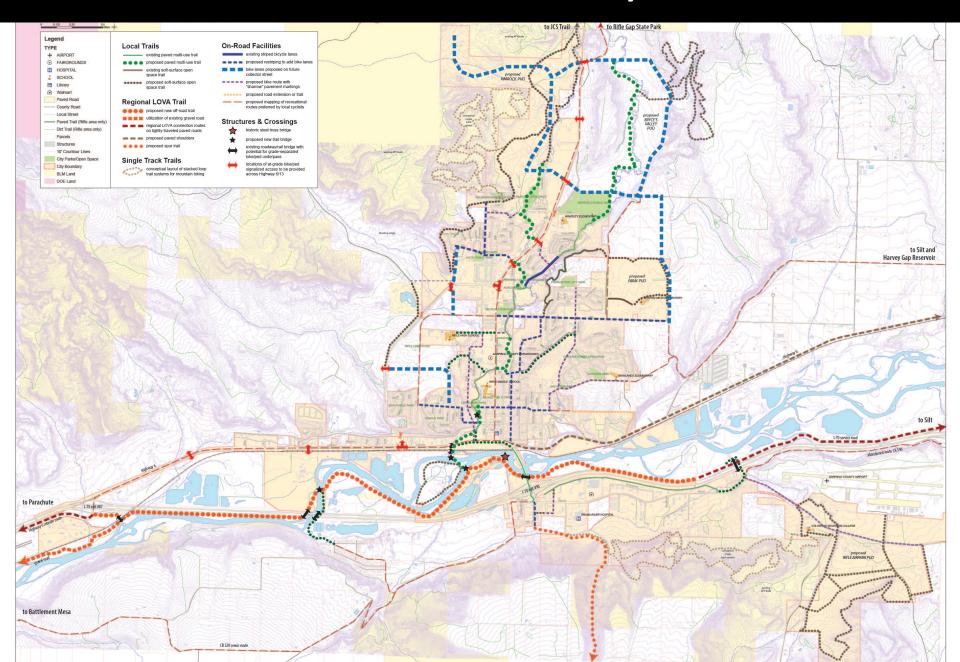






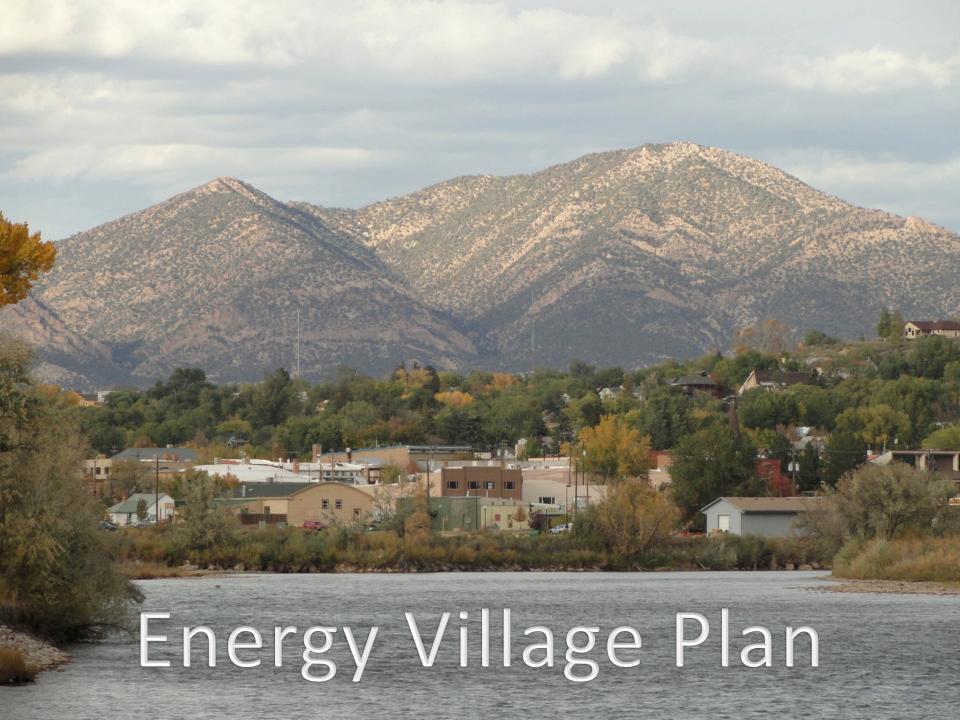


## Bike Master Plan – City of Rifle

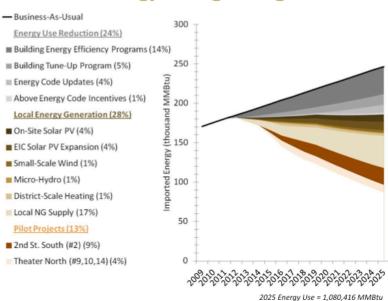


# 12 Bicycle System Plan Priorities

- Complete missing gap in Rifle Creek Trail
- Link Palomino Park to Downtown
- Build trail to Rifle High School
- Begin developing Rifle section of LOVA Trail
- Construct fairgrounds trail
- Complete a trail connection to Colorado Mtn College
- Add bike lanes and sharrows throughout Rifle
- Study Morrow Drive options
- Pursue new trails on ditch rights of way
- Pursue mountain biking trails on BLM lands
- Enhance access to Rifle Gap State Park
- Map and market rural/Garfield Co routes



### **Downtown Energy Wedge Diagram**



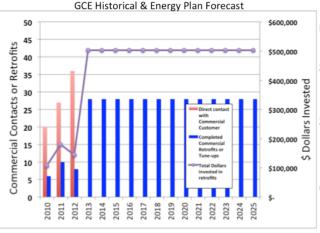


#### **Commercial Programs - DOWNTOWN**

Since 2010, a majority of businesses in Rifle have been personally contacted by CLEER staff regarding commercial energy upgrades



#### Commercial Building Retrofits & Dollars Invested



#### Energy Plan Assumes:

71 businesses downtown

#### 2 Commercial Programs Xcel DSM + GCE

Xcel DSM + GCE Xcel tune-up program

#### 20% penetration rate

every business every 5yrs both programs

#### GCE history:

\$18,000 avg investment per business







# **Five Leading Opportunity Sites**



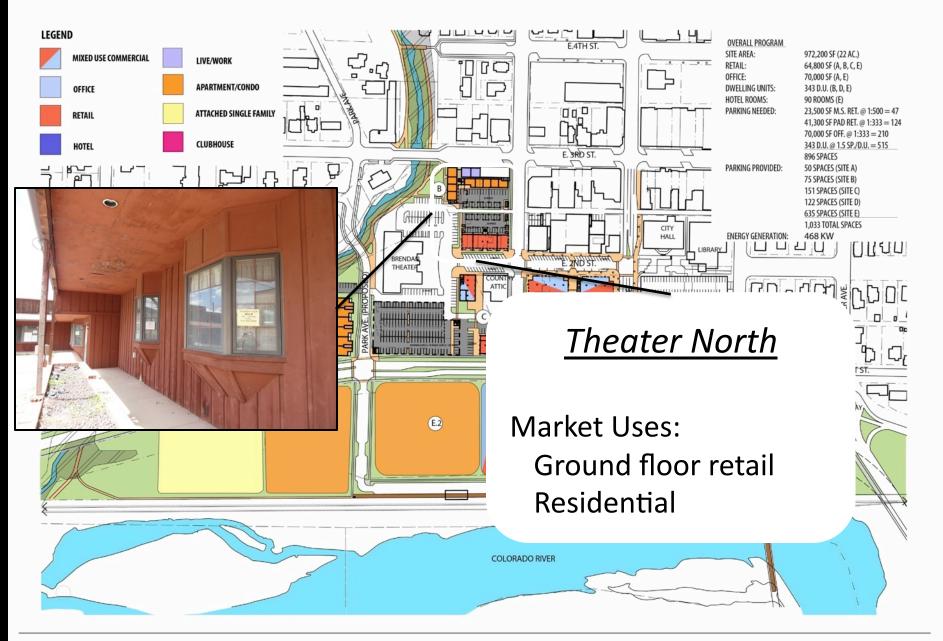










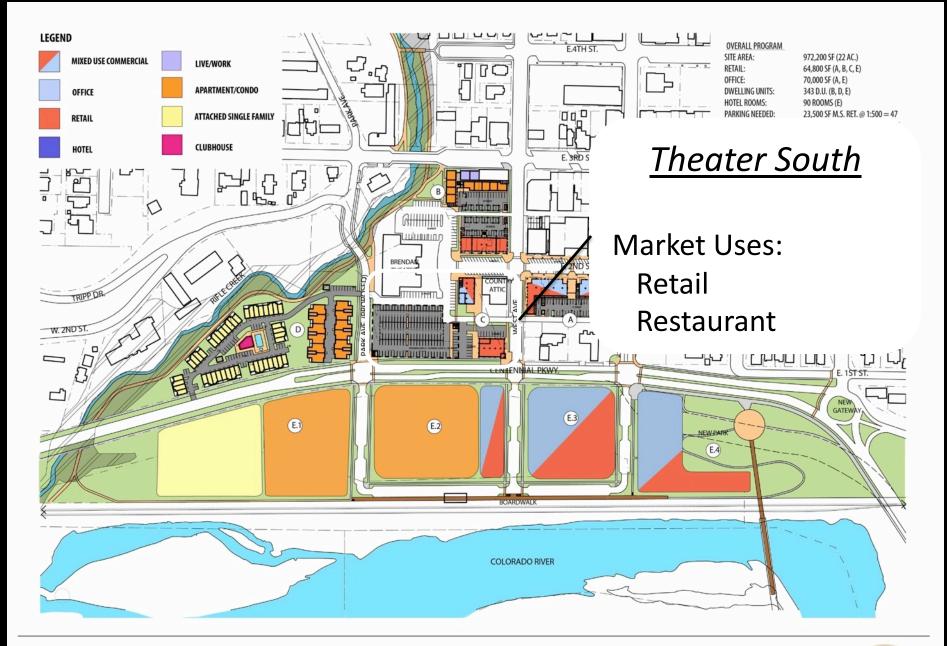










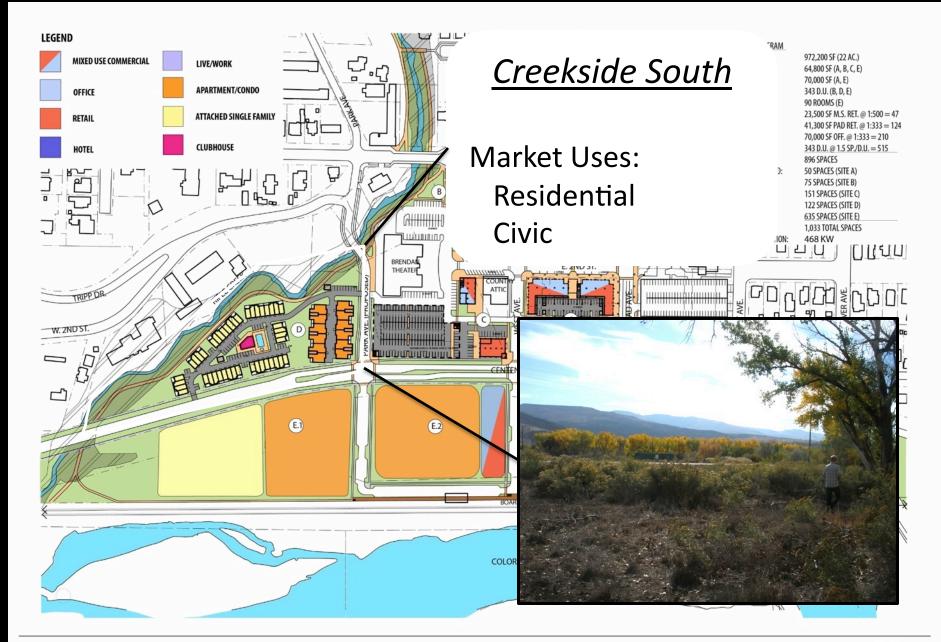
















#### RIFLE DOWNTOWN TOD STRATEGIC PLAN | CREEKSIDE SOUTH SCHEME |

RIFLE, CO | JULY 24TH, 2013 | FOR THE CITY OF RIFLE | DRAFT



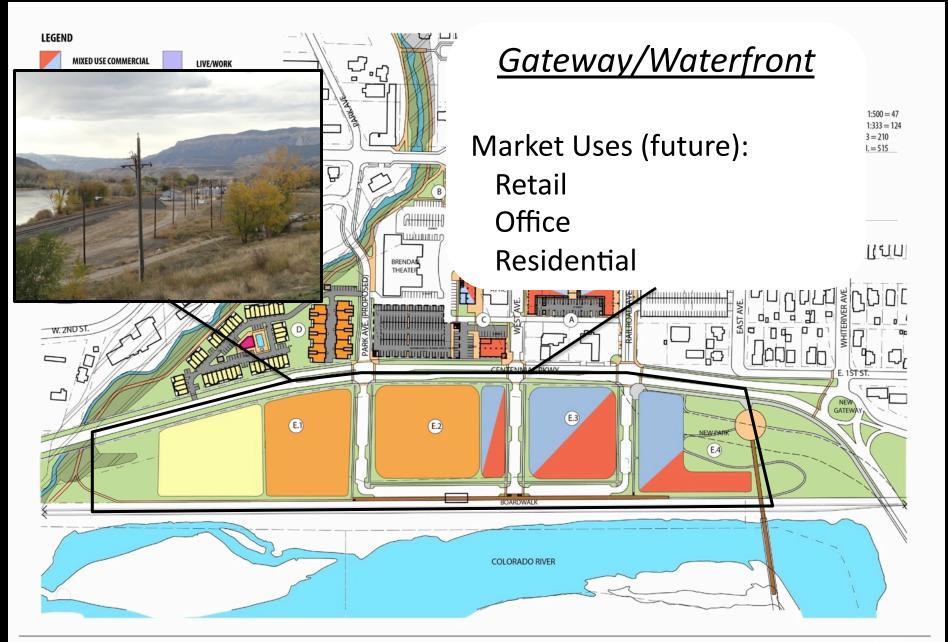
RIFLE DOWNTOWN TOD STRATEGIC PLAN | CREEKSIDE SOUTH SCHEME 3

RIFLE, CO | JULY 24TH, 2013 | FOR THE CITY OF RIFLE | DRAFT



RIFLE DOWNTOWN TOD STRATEGIC PLAN | CREEKSIDE SOUTH SCHEME 4

RIFLE, CO | AUGUST 21ST, 2013 | FOR THE CITY OF RIFLE | DRAFT







# April 2012 Charrette



### **DESIGN PRINCIPLES**

#### 1. Embrace the Colorado River

- a. Recreation, views, accessibility
- b. Reactivate the historic bridge

### 2. Catalyze Market Opportunities

- a. Short-term, mid-term, long-term
- Diversify jobs and housing, without precluding good things from happening
- c. Apply for grants

### 3. Implement District-Wide Utility

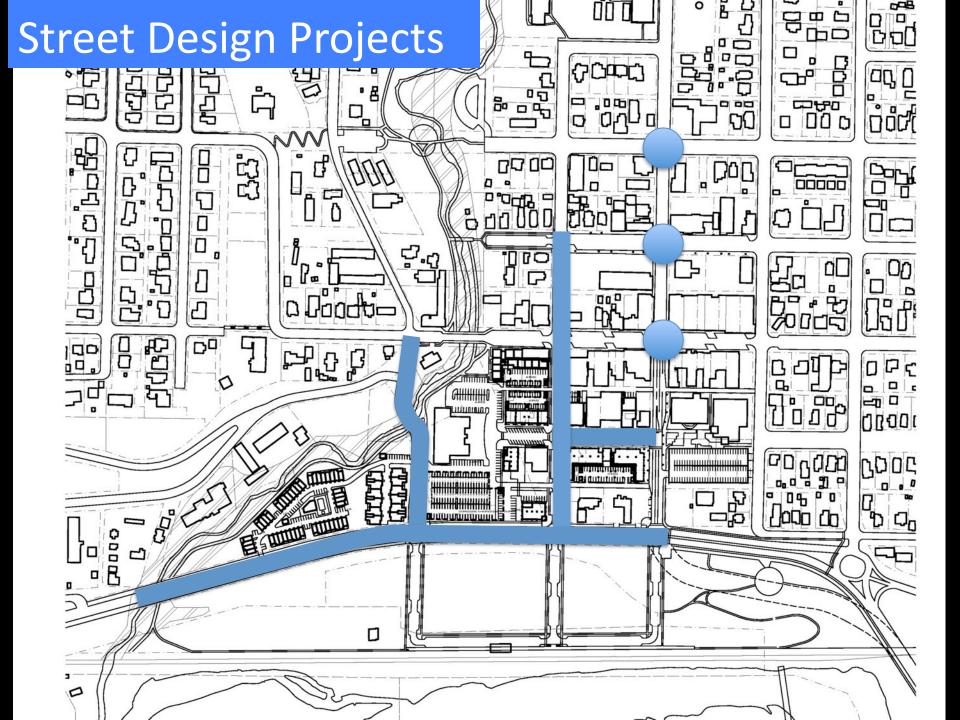
- Sustainable infrastructure parking, storm water, energy
- District-wide development issues, remove bureaucratic obstacles

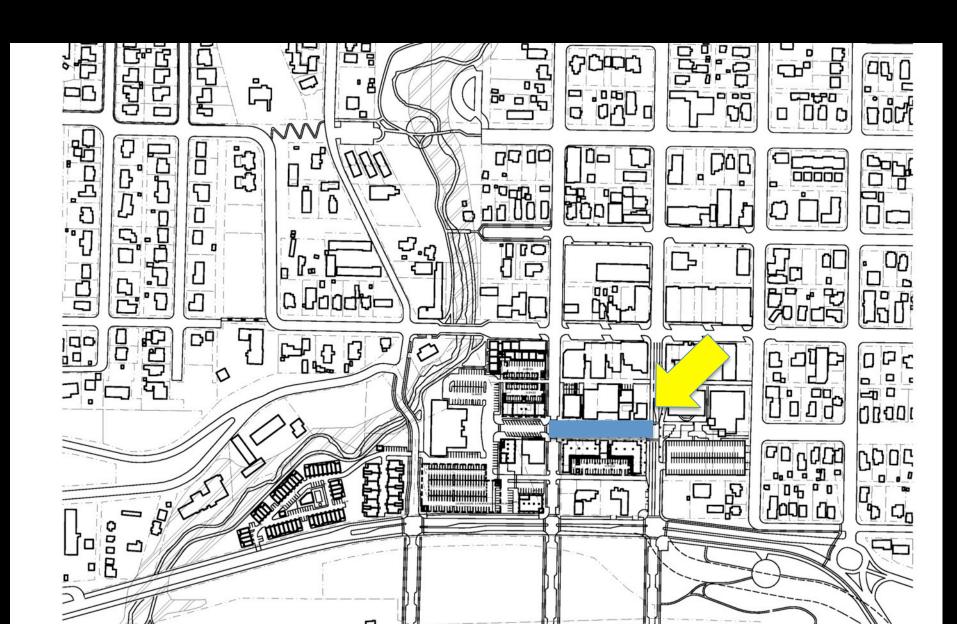
#### 4. Put the Pedestrian First

- a. Pedestrian, bike, bus
- b. Must be desirable 'pedestrian propulsion'

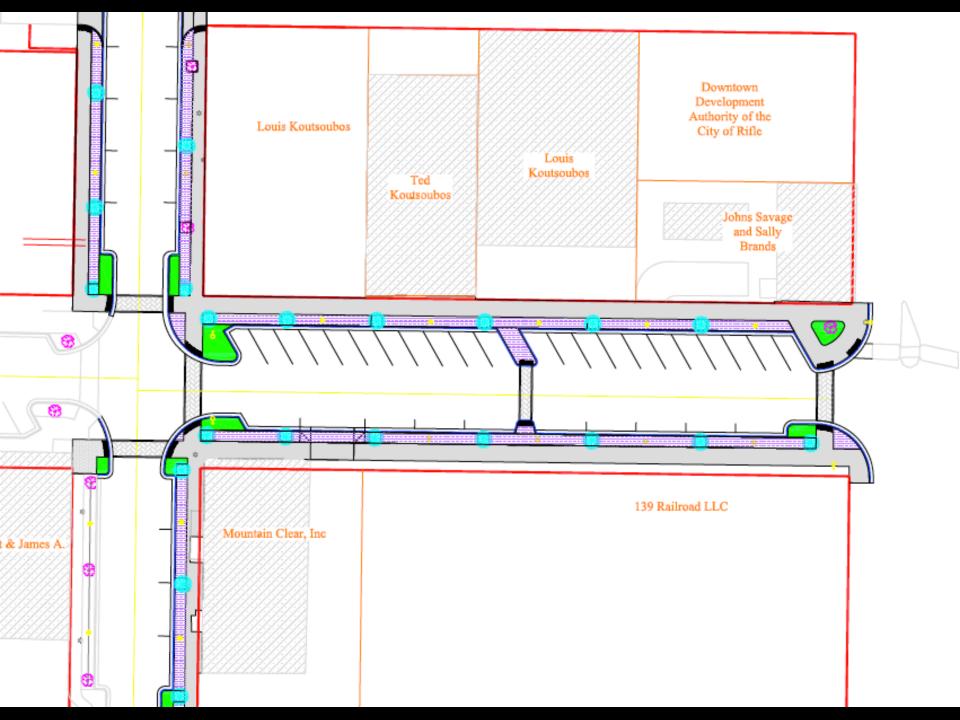
### 5. Leverage Placemaking

- a. Gateways Second Street, river area
- b. Rooftops, adaptive reuse, art

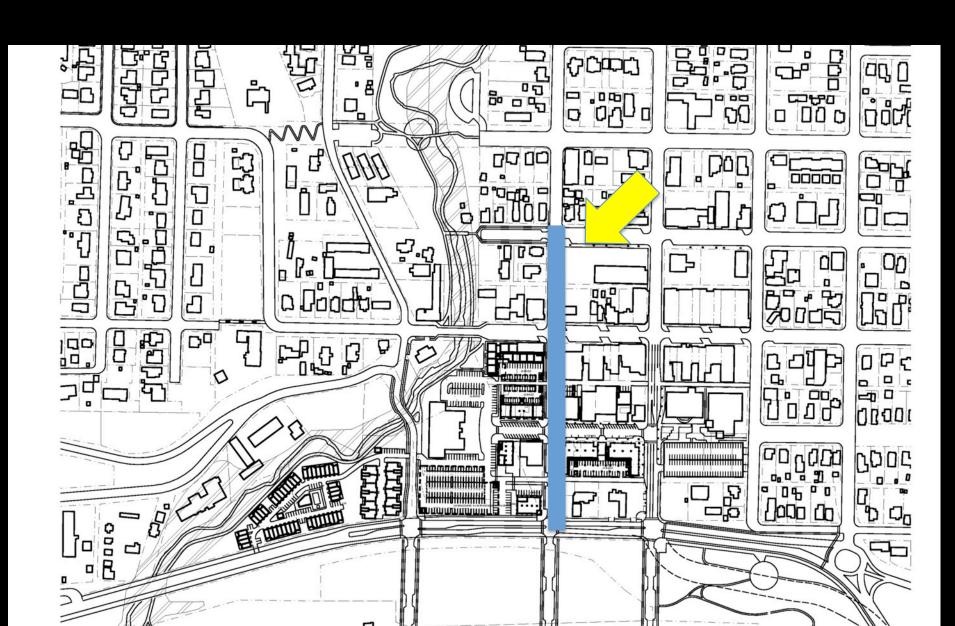










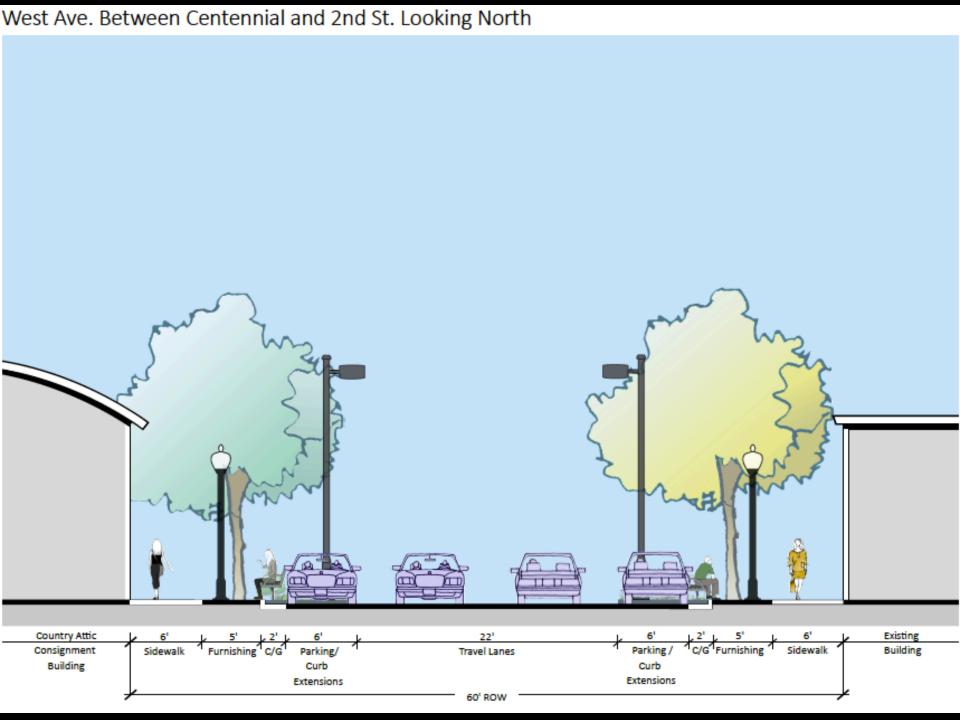


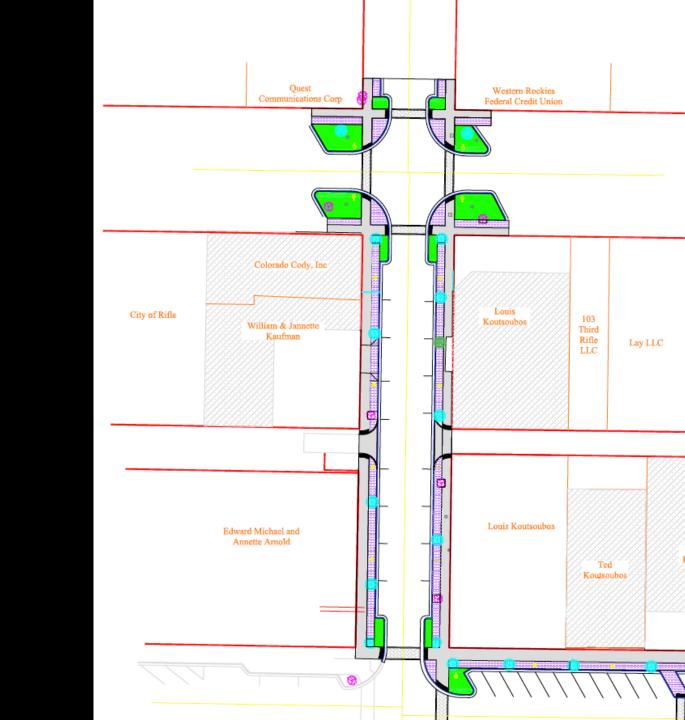
#### Project: West Avenue

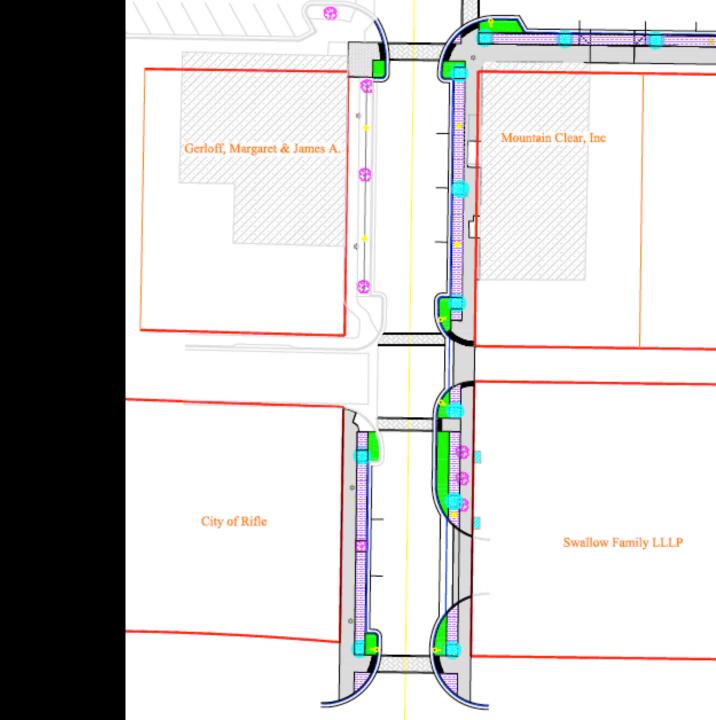
- Conceptual design
- Final Design



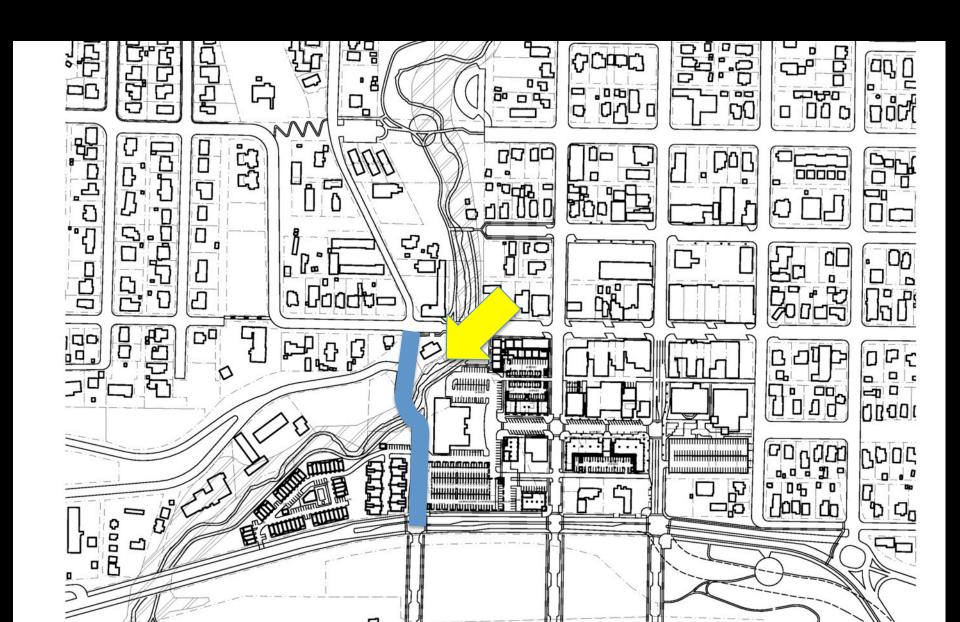








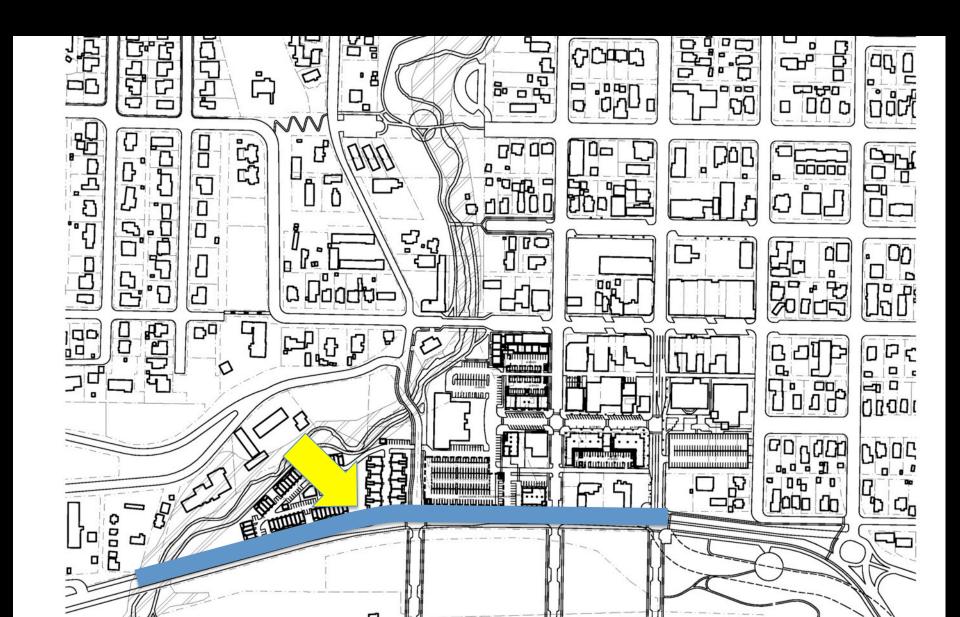
#### Park Avenue Extension







## Centennial Parkway







## Centennial Parkway at West Avenue 10' Sidewalk Furnishing Travel Lane Median Left Turn Travel Lane Furnishing Multi-Use Lane Path

#### Outcomes, Opportunities for Leverage

- 1. Connecting downtown to the Colorado River
- 2. Opportunity site plans, attracting potential developers
- 3. Transforming state highways into city streets
- 4. Final street design: West Ave & 2<sup>nd</sup> St
- 5. Bicycle plan (National Youth Bicycle Race Spring 2014)
- 6. Downtown stormwater plan, comprehensive survey
- 7. New park 'n ride location
- 8. Integrated transit vision, phased plan
- 9. Engagement by the Rifle community
- 10. Coordination with Garfield County, RFTA and CDOT
- 11. Promotion of Rifle at the state and national levels
- 12. 2nd Street community lot

#### **Next Steps**

- 1. Apply for construction grants for "shovel-ready" projects
- 2. Strengthen partnerships to "make things happen"
- 3. Partner with RREDC to begin developer RFP process for opportunity sites
- 4. Use special events to make downtown Rifle a local and regional destination
- 5. Find new ways to bring the Rifle community together



#### The difference between:

Spending

wants & desires

Investing

strategic direction

#### Strategic Direction:

Vision, Goals, Objectives

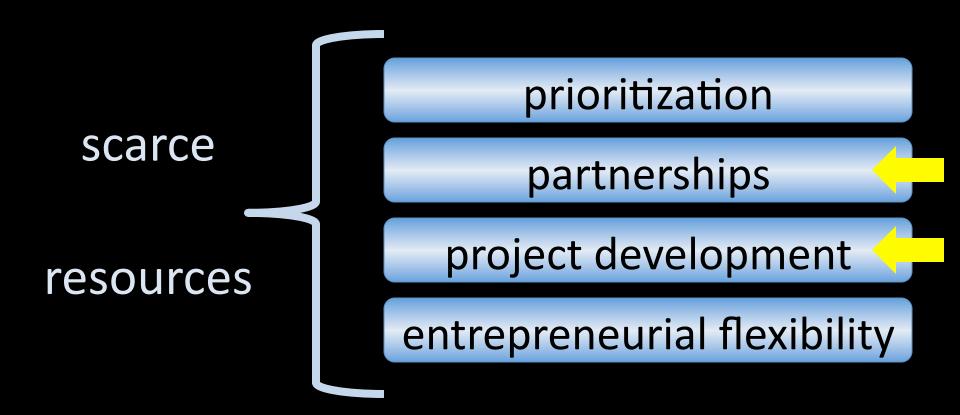
**Partnerships** 

mojo

Performance Monitoring, Reporting

Community Support

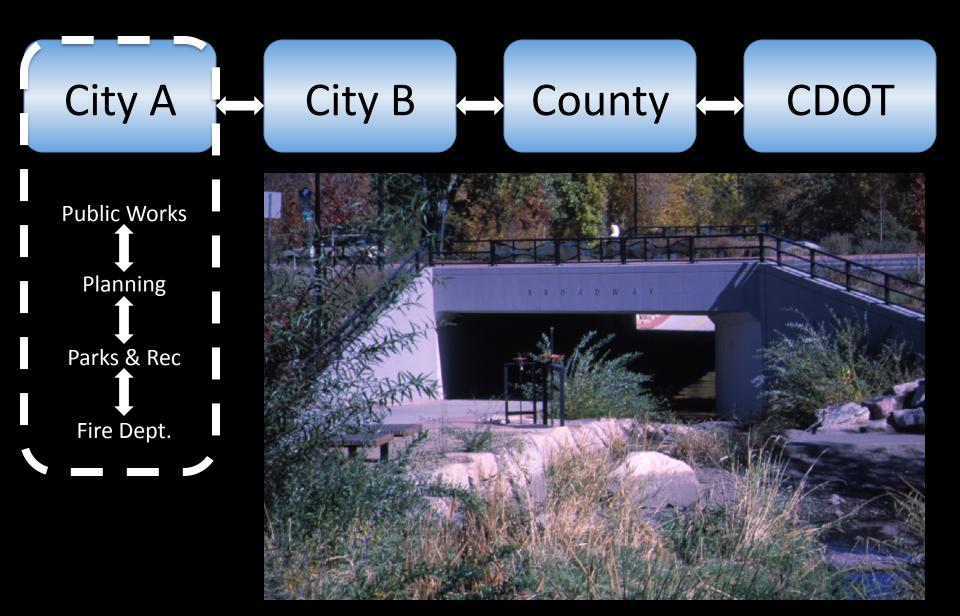
# Public Sector Capital Improvement Planning



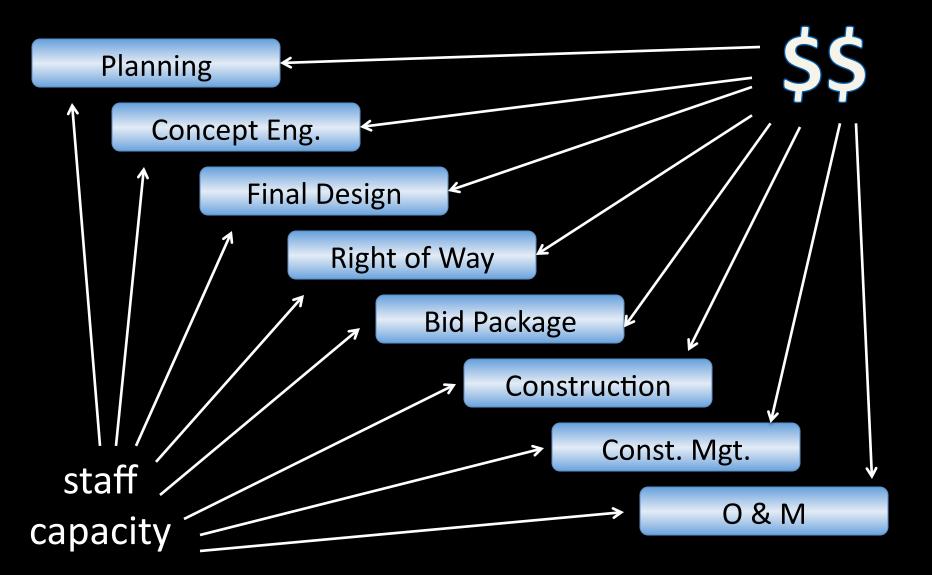
#### Partnerships

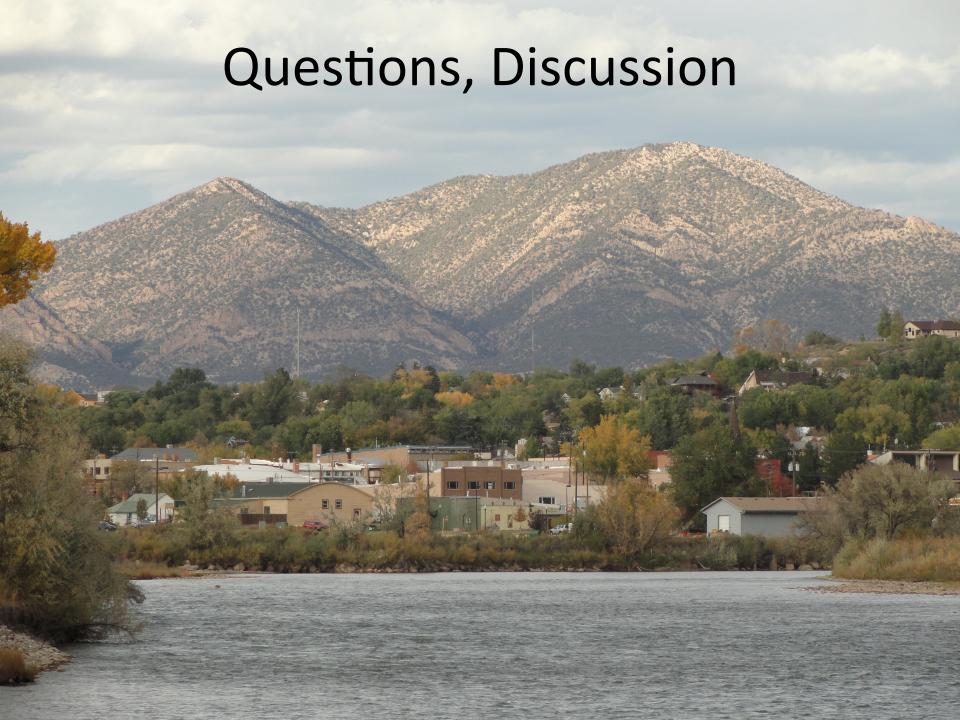
- Building support across communities
- Reducing inter-local conflicts
- Expanding sources of matching funds/timing
- Sharing local staff capacity
- Competing for federal discretionary grants

## Partnerships: Internal + External



## Project Development





## www.downtownrifle.net

