

# Phase 1 Engagement Summary

August 2024 – December 2024



# BOULDER A FUTURE

BOULDER VALLEY COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATE

## Phase 1 Purpose

The purpose of Phase 1 was to orient the community to the Comprehensive Plan update process, build excitement, communicate the importance of participating, and set expectations for future engagement

Phase 1 was launched by sharing information about the process and asking questions about community priorities, social connection, big ideas, hopes and dreams for the Boulder Valley, and what our community wants to learn more about

## Communication & Engagement Tactics

Two tactics were used during this phase, including:

- City-wide What's Up Boulder open house
- Community Kickoff open house and online questionnaire

These events were communicated via:

- social media
- outreach through Community Connectors-in-Residence
- newsletters
- Inside Boulder News
- utility bill inserts
- posters (at city rec centers and several trailheads throughout the Boulder Valley)

## Who we heard from

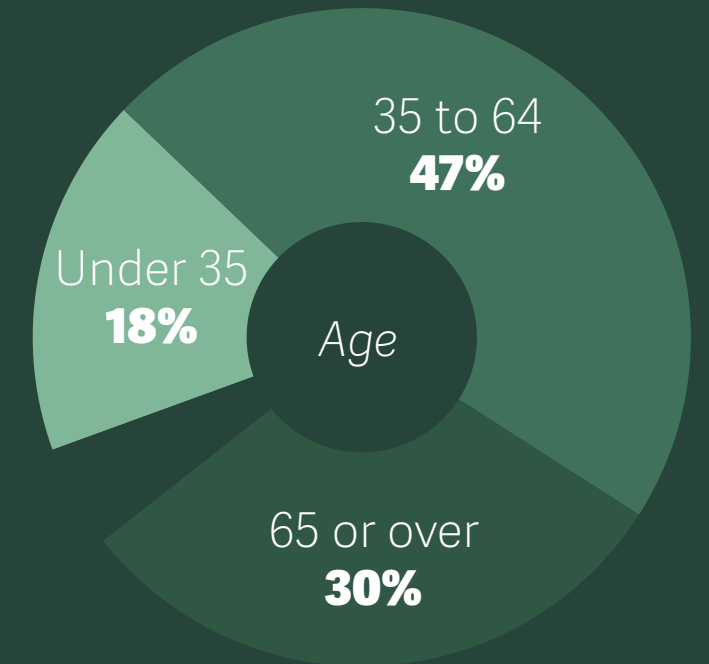
# 550

People were engaged in-person and online



Identified as White

Identified as Hispanic or Latino/a



3% Identified as Asian

2% Identified as Two or more Races

1% Identified as Black or African American

## How will this feedback be used?

Feedback received during Phase 1 helped identify what existing conditions community members were interested in learning more about. The comments also provided early indicators to inform a revised community vision and set of focus areas for the Comprehensive Plan update

## What about past recent engagement?

The project team is also considering feedback received during previous recent engagement efforts. These include several recent department plans, Community Connectors-in-Residence, the 2024 and 2025 Annual Budget, Lifelong Boulder and Growing Up Boulder's efforts across many different youth led projects over the last 10 years, including its most recent effort around the Child Friendly City Initiative (CFCI)

The City and County are in the process of making all websites and applications more accessible. While much progress has been made, some features in this document may be inaccessible for certain people. If you would like assistance accessing this document, please contact the project email address: [future@bouldercolorado.gov](mailto:future@bouldercolorado.gov) or call (303) 441-4124



# What's Up Boulder

September 8, 2024  
East Boulder Community Center

~100 Participants

## event summary

Community members described Boulder in three words - and learned about the BVCP and how to stay involved in the process

### what we heard – 5 key takeaways

The most used words to describe Boulder Today were:

Community

Beauty

Fun

Accessible

Kind

Nature

Exciting

Fitness

Safe

Energetic



What's Up Boulder Event



What's Up Boulder Event



What's Up Boulder Event



# Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan Community Kick-Off & Online Questionnaire

October 19, 2024  
Dairy Arts Center  
~210 Attendees  
248 online responses

## event summary

The Community Kick-off Event was an open house for all community members. The event included a presentation of local demographic trends by the State Demographer and an interactive performance by MOTUS, a local theater group

Community members also had the opportunity to meet with project team members and provide feedback at seven stations, each focused on a different topic

## what we heard – 5 key takeaways

### 1. Community members are prioritizing the advancement of Boulder’s LIVABILITY, SUSTAINABILITY and SAFETY goals

Within these goal areas, community members feel the following topics need the most attention:

- Affordable living, including housing density and diversity
- Environmental sustainability, including climate action and water resources (supply and demand) planning
- Safety, including crime and public safety, and pedestrian and bicycle safety



Community Kickoff



Community Kickoff

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# Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan Community Kick-Off & Online Questionnaire

October 19, 2024  
Dairy Arts Center

## what we heard – 5 key takeaways

- When envisioning the future of Boulder, community members have described a place that acts as a model for ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY, and a DIVERSE COMMUNITY OF PEOPLE who have ACCESS TO HOMES, SERVICES, and opportunities to make SOCIAL CONNECTION with others

The community wrote passionately about Boulder serving the greater nation (and world!) as a place that demonstrates adaptation to a changing climate and care for the natural world. Additionally, many described a future where they were part of a diverse community; could live affordably no matter their age, with access to quality homes, food and transportation; and have the opportunity make friendly connections with neighbors

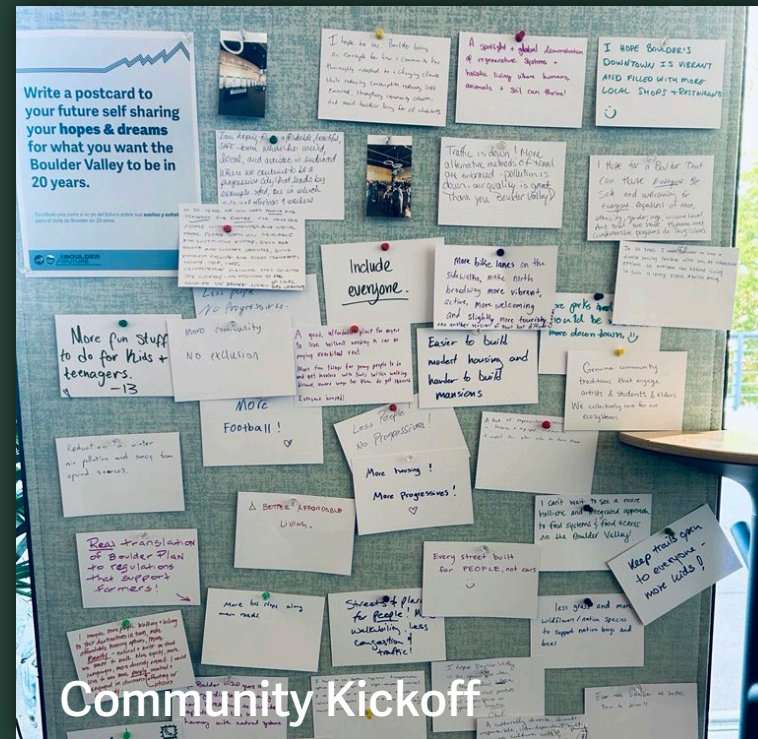
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Community Kickoff



Community Kickoff

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# Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan Community Kick-Off & Online Questionnaire

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## *what we heard – 5 key takeaways*

- 3. When community members were asked to offer a “Big Idea” for Boulder’s future, participants dug in on some of Boulder’s greatest challenges – particularly AFFORDABLE HOUSING, DIVERSITY and INCLUSIVITY, COMMUNITY CONNECTION and CLIMATE CHANGE

Here are a few interesting ideas from community members:



Community Kickoff

“Add an “information environment” element to the BVCP alongside built and natural environments. Emphasize importance of technology for emergency management and comms. Open data for transparency.”

“Work with older adults who would like to work. Small single senior housing.”

“Connect CU, the Hill and Downtown by moving Broadway underground and creating a walkable and bikeable space on the surface.”

“Programs to help young single mothers navigate and exit poverty. I would love to help in creating this effort to create a community where we pair mentors with families in need.”



# Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan Community Kick-Off & Online Questionnaire

October 19, 2024  
Dairy Arts Center

## *what we heard – 5 key takeaways*

### 4. Community open spaces and trails remain highly valued assets as community space

When asked about ‘finding community’ within Boulder, community members indicated that OPEN SPACE and TRAILS were the top location to connect with others. Other important places for experiencing connection include FOOD & DRINK establishments, PARKS and HEALTH and FITNESS CENTERS

### 5. Many community members would like to understand more about Boulder’s potential for growth

When community members were asked “What else would you like to know about Boulder Today?” many of the responses described interest in understanding if and how the Boulder Valley could and/ or should grow in the future. Community members want a greater understanding of the capacity of infrastructure to support growing populations and how change in policy surrounding growth could impact the community and its valued quality of life





# Community Connectors-in-Residence (CC-in-R)

Dec. 6, 2024  
Virtual meeting  
5 Participants

## what we heard – 5 key takeaways

CC-in-R shared great ideas for promoting engagement opportunities – e.g. through BVSD communication channels, Clinica Family Health and more

CC-in-R suggested that the BVCP team collect data from our local organizations serving under resourced communities for a more complete picture of our community today

CC-in-R expressed a desire to have ongoing, in-depth consultations throughout the process with the BVCP team

## event summary

BVCP team had a first consultation with Community Connectors-in-Residence (CC-in-R) with these goals:

- provide an overview of the BVCP update process,
- gather ideas on how best to promote engagement events to diverse communities
- seek CC-in-R feedback on how they want to be engaged in this process





# Phase 2 Engagement Summary

**COMING SOON!**

January 2025 – February 2025

**Thank you for providing your input during Phase 1!**

**Phase 2 is now underway!**

Please check out the [Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan website](#) for more information about the plan and details on how to stay involved, including upcoming opportunities to engage with us!



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FUTURE**  
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