

Overview

The Stakeholder Working Group Workshop was held on Thursday, November 21, 2013, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. at the Glenwood Springs Community Center. There were 21 participants from businesses, local agencies, and the community. The meeting included a presentation and project update about recommendations and decisions that have been made since the last SWG workshop. Afterward, there was a discussion of upcoming decisions and what was important to the group about those decisions.

Update on Activities

Craig Gaskill presented an update on the following:

- Environmental Assessment update.
- Pedestrian bridge – how the decision considered SWG input.
- Bridge type and why – minimize impacts through Accelerated Bridge Discussion, reduce risk.
- Number of bridge piers on the Grand Avenue Bridge (5) – why.
- Location of bridge piers in downtown (inside) – why.
 - Suggestion from the group that pier caps in the downtown section would create a more historic feel and historic elements and finishes would be desirable.
- 6th and Laurel intersection design – how the recommendation was made
 - There are concerns within the group about how bicyclists and pedestrians would go through the roundabout.
 - Suggestion from the group that the entry area and circle should have low vegetation to allow visibility of business signing.
- 8th Street detour – why it is being pursued and coordination with the City.
- Pedestrian ramp – input received, considerations.
- Pedestrian/bike connections at North River Street.

Upcoming Design Decisions

Craig Gaskill reviewed the decision decisions are will be made over the next few months:

- Bridge pier form
- Bridge super structure
- Design elements – railing, lighting, monumentation
- Retaining walls
- Landscaping

Discussion

Pat Noyes led the discussion related to the upcoming design decisions to obtain the group's input on:

- What needs to be considered in making these decisions?
- What is important to you in these decisions?
- What information do you need to support these design decisions?

Comments received during the discussion included:

Grand Avenue Bridge and Pedestrian Bridge

- How will the piers look - color, texture, shape
- Light standards on bridges
- Banners
- LED lights in railing
- Heat pedestrian bridge deck
- Consider DDA's pallet of materials for downtown
- Color of Grand Avenue Bridge
- Potential for damage to the hot spring aquifer from piers
- Noise levels

Pedestrian Ramp from Pedestrian Bridge to 7th Street

- 3D image of ramp alternatives or show existing with overlay
- Need 3rd party ADA expert to weigh in on ramp/elevator debate
- Look at ramp going west along 7th Street
- Engage wheelchair users in the ramp discussion

700 block of Grand Avenue to 7th Street

- Reflective ceiling plan for south side to show
 - Lighting
 - Finishing
 - Structure
 - Relief
- View looking north from west 7th, from the train, from 6th Street

Entrance to Glenwood Springs from I-70

- Landscaping treatment at off ramp with attractive signing
- How will 6th Street be tied into the improvements - how far back

Pedestrian Connection at North River Street

- Lighting and design for pedestrian/bike underpass approaches. Need to maximize views of the sky
- Trail tunnel design features
 - Lighting
 - Artwork
 - Reduce attractiveness for homeless

Visuals

- Show depth dimensions graphically
- Visual of pedestrian bridge from I-70 coming into Glenwood Springs
- What will signing look like, particularly at 6th and Laurel
- Need drawings of all elements and treatments of the Grand Avenue Bridge and pedestrian bridge

Public Input

- Larger community and public input
- Provide graphic options in advance of meetings
- Create strong visual presentation for website, TV or other graphic media
- Use newspaper to keep information going out