

Fountain Urban Renewal Authority

OLDE TOWN AND INTERSTATE GATEWAY AESTHETIC DESIGN GUIDELINES & URBAN RENEWAL VISION

Big Ideas Public Survey Summary

Are you a resident of the City of Fountain?

Yes: 30 No : 12 Left Blank : 2

Do You Support: Santa Fe Design Concepts

Yes: 39 No: 0 Maybe: 4

A Roundabout Concept at Santa Fe and Ohio

Yes: 30 No: 9 Maybe: 5

Ohio and Main Street Design Concepts

Yes: 34 No: 0 Maybe: 8

Civic Park Concepts along Main Street

Yes: 36 No: 1 Maybe: 7

GENERAL COMMENTS:

“Our family has been in and supported this valley since the mid 1930’s. My husband and I met at Fountain High School, married then moved to Colorado Springs. We moved back to Fountain and what we thought would be home in 1992, only to watch the community crumble, be overrun with blight, negligence, and lack of planning.”

”This is needed and necessary to keep Fountain unique and with a small town feel. Love it!”

“I’m going to put specific support behind the civic park concept because there are so many families in Fountain that would use that, and it would bring them downtown.”

“Safer commute via car and walking while keeping traffic safe and flowing.”

“We need the garage sale concept on Ohio off the sidewalk; it looks like persons are being evicted on a daily basis”

“I think the design plan would add a lot of character and it would bring more people to fountain and it would model places people love like Manitou Springs.”

“I love roundabouts – less fatal accidents – less traffic jams!”

“Unsure about parking for Main Street and the Aragon Elementary School.”

“No one likes roundabouts. The other concepts could help with curb appeal and attract more people.”

“The train will cause problems – no options on 2 mile long trains.... We already have a \$55,000 water fountain in front of City Hall that doesn’t work due to no maintenance. We need to upkeep and repair what we have before we invest more in new design plans – Over Tax!”

"Traffic patterns for student drop off and pick up at Aragon needs work."

"Overall improvements are attractive"

"Love the roundabout! Seriously"

"Safety concerns"

"Roundabouts look nice but are a horrible idea for a main thoroughfare like 85/87. The semi-trucks that travel this route will have major issues navigating through. Especially if I-25 closes because of an accident"

"See note below-concerned about walking and crossing streets"

"Fountain has to change or business will fold up and property values will decrease"

"Traffic circle is no good for that intersection to busy. A traffic light would be more cost effective in that location."

"The existing street image is not inviting at all. The concepts are good and would really help the overall image of the town"

"Because it is time in order for the City to attract people and businesses to the Olde Town area"

"As Santa Fe Avenue is a main artery through Fountain, it is important that anytime we have a chance to aesthetically improve the landscape and make the avenue more appealing to those traveling it, we should consider such a concept that has been presented. Love a Good Roundabout design, it's a great idea to improve traffic flow and pedestrian safety. The latter two is of a low priority however if & when the first two come to fruition then the Ohio & Main Street design concept would be choice to pursue further."

DO YOU THINK THE DESIGN CONCEPTS PRESENTED WILL HELP TO IMPROVE ECONOMIC VITALITY AND PEDESTRIAN EXPERIENCE OF THE GATEWAY AND OLDE TOWN DISTRICTS?

Yes: 29

No: 0

GENERAL COMMENTS:

"Today's visitors are "welcomed" to our Town through entrances of either run down old buildings and indigent flops or sewer ponds. I have heard grumblings that we don't need changes and yet we have had changes through neglect and acquiescence. Cleaning up both Gateways to town by providing interesting, visually pleasing, and comfortably functional introductions to our community would be a plus. Our citizens, business owners, visitors and neighbors will surely be interested, safe and pleased to be here."

"The looks of an area will increase the number of people that want to stop."

"It will increase the curb appeal of the city. It keeps the potential for hodgepodge pockets of industrial centers from driving or segmenting the city."

"Area is a "get home" or "pass through" area which is void of services and offers nothing for persons to stop and gather."

"I think Fountain has a lot to offer and is growing rapidly. The more the city does for recreation the more businesses are interested in coming there."

"People have disposable income here and would love to have a place close by to bring their families and walk, hang out and spend money."

“So travelers know where they are and gives better views where all city of fountain events take place.”

“I think Main Street needs to be improved. There are many historic houses on the north end.”

“There are many people in and around Fountain who would enjoy and utilize the upgrades. I especially would enjoy a safe walking and running path linking to downtown.”

“I think it will also improve community health in our community because it would be more enjoyable to be able to walk around.”

“Brings in more for local businesses. Why are we not planning to get the Amazon distribution center in Fountain?”

“We have grown exponentially and have not made improvements to roads, shopping, availability or attracting business. Just more and more housing; area lacks basic services.”

“It would look, feel and provide a friendlier environment.”

“Not really – All of the city commerce is up on the Mesa as per City Halls decision. We’ve already had a bakery, ice cream, restaurants, café, and various shops that can’t survive with the Mesa shops.”

“Excellent idea! Fountain needs to attract more Mom and Pop, higher end shops and restaurants downtown and we need a microbrewery.”

“Some ideas are great, but more research on how it impacts safety and residents”

“Looks nice”

“I am a highly experienced space planner. Some ideas here work and some will not.”

“The better it looks the more people will want to be around”

“Cohesiveness/Structure”

“More welcoming and modern”

“Can’t hurt”

The existing conditions are not at all pedestrian friendly. These design concepts as presented are definitely needed”

“Because it encourages community involvement and brings people in to participate”

“The growth and the future depends on it”

“Creating a concept of place”

“Anytime you add or improve landscaping and other amenities that visitors, shoppers, and local citizens enjoy, you are going to increase revenues as a result of more activity and spending.”

OPEN-ENDED COMMENTS PROVIDED IN GENERAL

“Keeping the quaint and gentle community look would bring back the appeal and pride of our inheritance. I would like Sprouts Grocers, lighted walking paths, lots of benches, shade trees, and perhaps gas fire pits at historically interesting junctions. A little TLC would go a long way to keep our long time community members and entice younger generations bringing much needed live to

our town. I applaud your efforts and hope the value of investment is evident to those calling this home. Thank you for this proactive effort.”

“The city needs to get the roads in good order before spending on wants. If the roads are no good people won’t want to drive down to Fountain or through it.”

“Your ideas regarding the trails and the creek are key to your proposal. This influences the art and the foot traffic. It attracts residential homebuyers and more unique stores and businesses while at the same time boosting our industrial presence.”

“More open spaces, parks, and recreation and better roads.”

“The more you can do for family activities the better.”

“Roads and sidewalks need improvements. Crossings are not painted. Ohio and Main are not great.”

“I like the idea of doing something with the creek for people enjoy many vibrant towns that have streams and creeks that pedestrians can use.”

“As someone active in the community, and a parent with an active social life I can adhere to the popularity of a welcoming coffee shop with outdoor seating, kids play area, and safe walking access to downtown shops.”

“Put lights on streets that intersect Fountain Mesa such as Ohio C & S and Comanche Village”

“We need roundabouts on C and S and Fountain Mesa. Often traffic jams.”

“Roundabouts at Ohio and Fort Mesa. Take out stop signs between C and S and Comanche Village for Fountain Mesa. I would spend money in Fountain if shopping and residential were here.”

“There needs to be a lot more communication (Facebook, Twitter, News Letters, Etc.) to Fountain residents concerning this and updates moving forward. Town Hall meetings would be an avenue as well. I want to spend my money here, but there just are not enough resources or options.

“No one wants a roundabout where did that idea come from?”

“The roundabout is a trend that confuses people.”

“It’s possible 1) another Exit a couple miles south or meeting up at Mesa Ridge to redirect traffic going through town, 2) Flashers at crosswalks, or 3) an overpass pedestrian walk from Aga Park to the other side of Ohio; are other ideas for consideration.”

“City hall can’t even properly irrigate the trees planted on the east and west side of S. Main Street – and they want to plant more trees? How about your lottery money – Adams Overlook with the patio shack on S. Main Street – this is the City’s blight – not the residents!”

“Improving traffic flow and safety for Aragon Elementary needs to be a part of the plan. Also need to look at adding a better way to get people who live near the high school access to I-25 without taking Ohio. This would relieve congestion and improve safety on Ohio. Need a light at Ohio and Main Street. Suggest studying photos of old storefronts where city hall now stands for historic Architecture ideas. Awesome plan so far!!!”

“The area designated for “Blast Park” is horrible. A thin strip of land next to train tracks. We need more parks but not there”

“This is long overdue”

“A tunnel under the street or a bridge over for pedestrians at US85”