

FoCo Forum Wrap Up – May 13, 2015

1. What perspective do you have now that you didn't have before tonight?

- Martin Carcasson's discussion of discourse really stuck with me.
- Some hope that Dr. Martin Carcasson can help lead fruitful discussions so some consensus decision-making is achieved.
- Thinking about the topic of Ft Collins' future in a more "manageable" way.
- Ramifications of "good plans"
- The statistics presented were educational. Seeing the growth and issues.
- Growth (population) forecast for CO and Larimer County are much higher than I expected. Growth is inevitable (in desirous area)
- Look at the numbers: where is our community going? Families with kids are low. 18 – 24 and 65+ high. Look at the population of tonight's event...
- Demographics. Boulder constrained growth might have some benefits.
- That we are individual and have different opinions and approaches. Occasionally, there were head nods.
- History: heritage of Ft Collins
- Be intentional; be inclusive; affordability must be acknowledged and focused on for more action
- Ramifications of increased housing prices on community
- I didn't know much about the history of FoCo – in terms of the level of growth and when /why those growth spurts were. Also didn't know about our German heritage here.
- Diversity in future.
- Some ideas + emphasis on intentional density in parts of town
- Potential lessons learned from Boulder's planning. Role on construction dialogue.
- We are in agreement on the following: get money out of politics, get rid of Citizens United, put homeless in homes so they can clean up and get a job. (It is cheaper than paying the homeless).
- Millennials – patterns of change. Homeownership not as desirable, tiny home/ resource sharing, need more inclusion.
- Young people are participating – yay!
- That FC is and will always be a haven for newcomers.
- I have faith that there are good people working on these issues professionally and otherwise, and believe that we will actually be moving in an inspiring direction to address FC's future and current concerns.
- The idea of preserving heritages is much broader than I had imagined. Ideas include: Ag, buildings, neighborhoods, languages, art, cultural traditions, working class heritage, and more.
- Other views from different age groups, re: housing, growth
- How effective UC connections can be to community
- Goals of forum were well presented
- That FC has a dynamic future thanks to those who are committed to working together for a bright future.
- How much the city plans to expand in the coming years
- I gained a better perspective on the diversity of challenges facing the city moving forward. On a positive note the participants seemed engaged at working towards solutions.

2. What's the best idea /conversation you heard?

- Still pondering. Lots of interesting ideas but nothing stuck out.
- None yet.
- Conversations about keeping a sense of community despite growth
- Bringing major players together similar to Bay Area Council
- Look for ways to preserve agricultural heritage and small historic neighborhoods (off N. Lemay)
- Dynamics of group decision-making model! "Wicked" idea/concept
- Needing the "Groan Zone" to achieve the best possible decisions.

- Thought the demographic data was important and interesting. Martin Carcasson's presentation on process was important too in creating the foundation for future meetings.
- Groan zone part of process
- Excellent wicked problem/groan zone overview by Martin. Great input from Elizabeth and her handout. Leslie Ellis perspective, re: Boulder
- Education, communication
- Millennials don't necessarily want to "own" their own home and traditional "American Dream": design for communities resource conservation
- From Martin – about the need for better quality of conversation and the need for more people who can facilitate high quality conversations.
- Outdoor activities downtown. More. Like the presentations about demographics and deliberation (too short).
- Balance Boulder's open space approach with some incentives to make growth happen on edges as well as center.
- "Woodward Governor" incentives for developers to build affordable housing.
- Get a better representation of FoCo at these meetings
- More transit in FC, east – west Max line
- Raise the minimum wage so more people can stay in their homes
- What if there was a cap on how much a house could be sold for? Otherwise short-term profitability can drive the income/affordable housing gap.
- Get rid of money
- Working towards more freedom and encouragement of collective community living (e.g.: non-family collective housing) for agriculture/ self-sufficient inspired lifestyles as well as affordability.
- Involve more people, include diverse groups
- The ratio of those working and living in FC
- The idea of zoning and what to do in the future in the city of FC
- How the 18 – 25 year-olds will dive different housing options – ie: small housing