Town Hall: Community Engagement
Chat Questions/Answers

9:06 AM: Dan Burkhart
CM Credit again? Thanks.

9:15 AM:
Yes, CM credits are being offered. The event number is on the webpage.

9:33 AM: Amy Johnson
For Amanda, could you say more about asking the same question twice or even multiple times? I have seen some resistance to that.

9:33 AM: Cindy Schultz
Does anyone have suggestions for creating graphic material? We have used Canva but it has its limitations, for sure. We're small community and have limited graphic capability but we recognize a lack in that area.

9:34 AM: Karen
Our community has postponed a second, final community meeting for a food assessment. If we conducted this in a webinar format, what types of tools could we use for people to share feedback?

9:37 AM: Tamra Allen
Is there a good polling tool for gauging support for different topics - beyond survey monkey?

9:37 AM: Amanda Nagl
Karen, this is Amanda. What type of information are you looking for from members of the public? What phase of the project are you in?

9:38 AM: Analiese Hock
Brian, Can you help to explain why some communities in Colorado have been able to move forward on quasi-judicial hearings whereas others have remained hesitant from a legal perspective. (e.g. Denver vs. Westminster)

9:40 AM: Karen
We have a draft plan and would like feedback on near, mid, and long-term "opportunities" - a more aspirational version of "actions"
9:41 AM: Rebecca Everette - Fort Collins

Are certain types of quasi-judicial items more appropriate to hear remotely than others? E.g., development projects that are permitted in land use code subject to a review process, vs. more significant zoning decisions, vs. variances from code requirements?

9:41 AM: Darcie White

Cindy- Most folks use Adobe Creative Cloud for producing graphic material, it does require a bit of training, but includes multiple tools.

9:42 AM: Shelia Booth, APA Colorado

Lucidpress is also an option for graphics. Its easy for non tech persons to use.

9:44 AM: Logan Simpson

Tamra - Here are some choices Survey Gizmo, Survey Monkey, Menti or Bang the Table. - Bruce Meighen

9:45 AM: Amanda Nagl

Karen, If you want to do the entire plan and receive feedback, you may be looking at an option that allows comment within the pdf, like Konveio. If you are looking to break apart the components of the plan and address them individually, you probably have more options...post a section and choose by section if you want people to discuss in a forum format or if you are just looking for individual comments or responses, perhaps a more controlled tool that may allow individuals to see one another's comments but not engage in dialogue back and forth. If you go with the latter, consider ways to present the plan as a video summary as well where you highlight the areas of biggest impact and allow for q/a to follow. These are general reflections as there are many influential dynamics of a particular project.

9:47 AM: Tamra Allen

Brian - Could you expand on the statement that an "Applicant should be given opportunity to continue to an in-person hearing"

9:47 AM: Dominic Mauriello

Brian: Some communities do not make their video part of the formal record. Today, while Town of Vail hearing are recorded by a third party, the Town does not make it part of the record

9:48 AM: Rebecca Everette - Fort Collins

Tamra - I think he means that applicants should be given the choice to wait until a future meeting, in person, rather than requiring a remote meeting

9:48 AM: Tamra Allen
Thanks, Rebecca.

9:49 AM: Rebecca Everette - Fort Collins
Thanks, Brian!

9:50 AM: Laurie Stirman
Is there a concern legally with only permitting prior submitted written documents at a variance hearing? Also, if the public can call in to make public comment but can't see the materials live?

9:52 AM: Connolly, Brian J.
Tamra--the reason I suggested that applicants should be given the right to an in-person hearing is that online hearings and their logistics have not really been tested in courts. While we're fairly confident that we can do online quasi-judicial hearings, an applicant might be concerned that a subsequent challenge would invalidate the decision for one reason or another. So, it's good practice to allow an applicant to make the decision as to whether he or she is willing to proceed with an online meeting.

9:54 AM: Tamra Allen
Thank you, Brian.

9:54 AM: Connolly, Brian J.
Dominic, you're absolutely right that video is not always part of the record, nor is it required to be. But the transcript of the hearing and the written materials (including Powerpoint presentations, etc.) are always part of the hearing. One of the benefits of an online meeting is that someone reviewing the meeting record (i.e. a judge) can review the hearing tape and see the materials that are being referred to, without having to guess which exhibit, etc. is being discussed.

9:59 AM: Connolly, Brian J.
Laurie--unless the board's procedural rules require the proceedings to include public comment, it is probably acceptable to allow only written materials to be submitted at a variance hearing. If you're having a phone-only meeting, it is probably best to make the packet available beforehand, and make sure you're clearly referencing documents that you're reviewing on the phone.