Boulder City Council Candidate Forum

Shine Restaurant, 2027 13th Street, Boulder

October 8, 2015 from 5:30- 8:30 pm

Co-sponsored by Boulder County Arts Alliance and Boulder Art Matrix

(Sally Eckert from Boulder Art Matrix Welcomed everyone)

Jeffrey Nytch (Moderator, Director, Entrepreneurship Center for Music at University of Colorado, Boulder): Thank you so much everybody. Thank you all for being here. Thank you

candidates for joining us this evening, A couple certain notes about our format. When I

found out how many of you there were going to be, I thought how are we going to keep

all of this from not lasting until Tuesday? What we’re going to do is have something that

has perhaps a little more structure than it might otherwise have been in the interest of

making sure that everybody has a chance to speak and to answer the questions fully. I

have a few questions that I think you already have seen, and we will look at those three

questions one by one and you will have - how long did we assign? - two minutes for each

person to speak, and I have my faith full timekeeper right here. So I am going to ask your

indulgence in speaking to that time frame. You will get a little 30 second warning chime,

and then we will send someone in to muzzle you if you go over at that point.

So I will ask for your cooperation for that. And then we will be picking questions that

have been submitted from the audience. So, if you haven’t already, we have a little station

in the back there where you can write your question on a card and stick it in the basket

and some of our volunteers will bring some samples up here for me and we will field

those questions from you. We probably won’t have time to get through all of them but we

will try to get through as many as we can. So, I believe that is everything you need to do

on the format. So why don’t we just start with the first question and since this is our first

time, when you answer please introduce yourself as well.

Alright so the first question, I tweeked this a little bit, what challenges do you see for the arts in Boulder and what steps would you take to make arts and culture in Boulder more successful? And Lisa why don’t we just start with you and then we’ll just move around the horseshoe.

Lisa Morzel: So, I’m Lisa Morzel, and I’ve been serving you on the City Council for

sixteen years and arts has always been kind of a central thing to me as a council member

and as a former fine arts major and as a painter, I’m very much of the arts. So here’s

what I would suggest. I think what we’re doing right now in the 2016 budget is

we’re hiring an arts program manager to manage our culture, our community cultural

plan - that is essential and we haven’t done that ever. And the second thing is I want to

recognize is the North Boulder Arts district. University Hill needs to become an arts district. I want to get adequate funding into our programs, we’ve never had enough funding for the arts, and that’s been very frustrating. I want to have a decade for the arts. And why don’t we look at this next ten years as our decade for the arts. We can take amendment number 2A, a ballot issue tax that passed last year, lets extend that not only for capital needs for arts but for arts

programming. Over a ten-year period of time that would generate about $92 million. Anyway I am very much in favor of the arts I want to see a mural mile in Boulder, I want to take our blank areas and make them into paintings, something that can enhance our public spaces.

Jeffrey Nytch: 22 Seconds to spare, let’s keep that going. You’re ringing the bell a little

before, that’s the thirty second warning.

Jebbs Bold: Hi everybody, hi. I’m really happy to be here. And I think I would like to

start off – oh yes, my name is, I’m so nervous, Jebbs Bold. I want to start by saying I

think we need a bolder Boulder. And everybody knows that because we have that

organization bolder Boulder. I’m the bold in that bolder Boulder. I could be that bold I am

that bold, and I am bold. So, I’d like to start off by saying I think the best thing that we

can do is recognize that everyone in this room is an artist. Everybody is beautiful,

everybody produces beautiful things. And the most important thing that I’ve learned is

that like aspiring to be an artist, I can’t believe I didn’t call myself that before. I had no

self esteem, we need to like celebrate that, every single person can walk out of this room

and say you’re an artist, you’re beautiful, you produce beautiful things this is amazing. I

love this place I want to protect each other, and that’s like super important, that’s so

important to us. And so how do we do that ya know? We need money! I can’t make any

money as an artist. It’s so hard and it’s like everybody is struggling ya know. And why is

it that art is so under appreciated in that way? We have these art auctions that says this is the valuable art but everybody else who is a real artist is struggling ya know and can’t be recognized for their art. That’s bull crap, that’s grade A bull crap. And I think the first thing, the next thing we do is give everybody a bunch of money. We should have a general fund that goes to everybody that sells their art to the city. And we should put it everywhere, we should put everybody’s art everywhere. It’s just so logical. Am I over time? – 13 seconds – ok so I’m going to perform a little song that just goes like this – thank you.

Tim Plass: Wow I don’t know if I can follow that. I don’t know if I have it in me. But,

my name is Tim Plass and I am currently on the city council and in a previous life I was a

professional photographer. And so I have been an artist and I know how hard it is to make

money out there. I actually currently have an exhibit up at the Manitou Heritage

Center of historic regions that I did down there on large format four by five photographs

so yeah thank you. Ya know challenges in Boulder? The cost of housing and living here is

definitely a challenge, that’s a big deal. I think another challenge is that the city hasn’t put

as much money into the arts as they should have and we need to rectify that. And, finally,

making sure that we recognize diversity and neighborhoods in our heart and outreach. All

really important things to me and I think that the Community Cultural Plan is a great place

to start and the things that are outlined there are just right on target I think. Support

cultural organizations, reinvent the public art program, create and enhance venues, all

those things that go on and I think that’s just really key to what we need to do. I agree

with Lisa, the North Boulder Arts District is key, the University Hill Innovation District is

also something that I would really like to see happen, and just celebrating neighborhoods

more I think too. And in terms of venues ya know I think that we should look for

additional venues here. There’s been talk of a performing arts center - I think that’s an

exciting possibility. Boulder Community Hospital: we’re going to get the site on

Broadway what can we do with that? That can be super cool to integrate some type of

venue in there. I know I got the bell already so I’m going to get yanked soon so I think

I’ll stop before I get yanked and turn it over to Leonard.

Leonard May: My name is Leonard May I am an architect and I am also a member of the

planning board. Culture is what elevates our awareness of the world around us. It is the

essence of civilization and it is the common thread that binds society together and gives

meaning to people’s lives. So in that context, the $700,000.00 that we spend on arts and

culture is clearly inadequate. And I think, Lisa stole my words, that’s exactly what I was

going to say about extending 2A to have a ten year life and have the fund the revenues

from that go for soft cost as well as capital expenditures. And then to echo Tim, as

Boulder becomes more and more expensive, affordable art space and housing space for art

has become scarcer, and without artists you can’t have much of an art scene so addressing

affordability is a foundational issue to have a vibrant art scene. We should also be

developing a strategy for capacity building which we are doing as part of the master plan

development to support arts and cultural non profits they are an essential part of that plan

and harnessing the groups like Decade For the Arts and Create Boulder will be important

in developing an arts and cultural strategy and leveraging city resources. Thank You.

Bill Rigler: Hi I am Bill Rigler and I live in north Boulder. In the history of the

world the value of societies have always been measured by a degree of support for the

arts. And by that standard Boulder is not yet a great society but it can be and it should be.

Right now in Boulder the creative class is more than 9,000 people or nearly 10% of its

population. There are 130 artistic and cultural organizations in Boulder that together have

a direct economic impact of more than $20 million. Again we can and should do

better. As Tim and Lisa and others have mentioned right now we are seeing our creative

class being squeezed out because of high housing prices. We need to fix this. And we

need to address this now by making sure we are giving work force housing and affordable

housing to the artists and the lifeblood of this economy. What I really want to do is make

sure that we are nurturing a creative class and a creative identity for Boulder that’s based

around public art, visual art, performance art and music. And most importantly, I want us

to be a culture that takes risk with our art. Let me tell you just a little bit about myself if I

may. I am the Director of Marketing and Communications at Naropa University, and I have

been very, very pleased to have played a really big role in the resurgence of arts in Naropa

University. We were a title sponsor at the Literature Festival.Two of the most highly coveted endorsements in this election cycle are from Open Boulder and Better Boulder and I received both of them as a result of my support for the arts. As well I moved to Boulder three years ago to serve as the Director of Communications and spokesman for former vice president Al Gore and his global climate change and before that I had spent several years in New York City where I was Chief of Staff at the Rockefeller Foundation.

Jyotsna Raj: Well I actually am an artist and a good one. You can actually come to my

home and see my paintings and I think you’d agree with me, at least I hope so. I also am

very interested in other artist adventures including just reading. I am a little late today

because I am coming from a book group, which I run and organize at the Boulder Public

Library. It’s called the Great Indian Novel and it is highly fun. The books we read are very

fun and we have a core group of people who are very engaged in this. Sometimes we

even watch Indian movies based on these books and I even cook for them. So to

me, the arts mean a lot and I think the art is depending on a great deal on our economy

here. However, I think that we are under-invested in the arts. And 2A should be extended

and it should be extended to support programs as well as venues. And what I like about

North Boulder is that it is North Boulder and not just a core of town. And I think we

should have art venues all over town - in South Boulder, in North Boulder in East

Boulder. Because there are people there and if we expand our horizons we can do a lot

more. I was at the \_\_\_\_\_ today and they want to expand out to East Boulder where they

would have much more space. They have their kids right now right next to a residential

home and they would much rather have it somewhere else. So let’s support the arts, let’s

fund them well and let public art thrive in Boulder.

Ed Jabari: Good evening I am Ed Jabari. Thank you all for coming out

tonight. Thank you to the sisters here. I’ve come to Shine very often. Love to see all the

activities they are doing here. I think we need to promote a lot more of this type of thing

in private venues. And support that as a city. I am an environmental engineer, I am an

activist, I am a father but I am also an entrepreneur in the art and culture business. I have

a non-profit called the Secret Garden Cultural Plaza we’re located right on Broadway in

North Boulder right in the center of the North Boulder Arts District and a big part of that

organization. Myself I’ve played some guitar, sing and love to dance and I am also an

aspiring writer. But, at this point I’m kind of too busy living it to be able to write about it.

I also operate a studio with a good friend Morgan Harris, a bunch of music studios. We’ve

produced some albums we did a bunch of artist gatherings with top musicians from

Boulder and live artists and performers. I’m doing it at Secret Garden, I invite you all out

there to come out and see it. But we’re incorporating all aspects of what we’re talking

about up here. Cultural, permaculture, growing organic veggies. You know Culture really

encompasses everything we do, the arts is really an expression, our highest expression of

our spirituality and why we’re here on the planet and culture encompasses everything

else. What we teach our kids, how we interact with each other and the environment and

I’m trying to create a space for promoting the positive values around that. What I would

do is provide moral support, get people involved and active in the policymaking side,

overcome the different franchise that a lot of local artists feel aren’t being funded. People

need to see leadership and community-oriented projects being championed. Thank you.

Louise Pearson: My name is Louis Pearson, sitting in for Jan Burton. I am an artist and

musician, retired but living in Boulder. I met Jan through the arts as I serve on the board

of the artist series at CU. I have two adopted students in the music scholarship program, I

am a supporter of CMF [Colorado Music Festival] and another art groups and Jan and I both collect local art, both visual and sculpture. Jan Burton is the arts candidate. She serves on the

boards at the CU college of music and the Colorado Music Festival where she created the

mash up music series at Chatauqua. These community-building events involved Boulder’s

restaurants, breweries and food stores and attracted 1,200 new, mostly younger, attendees.

Jan Burton makes Boulder a vibrant arts community not only through these organizations

but also by hosting musicians living in her house and organizing house concerts in a wide

range of musical genres. Jan notes that Boulder is in the top 8 art clusters in the country

and we have some of the most innovative arts organizations anywhere. The city can help

in promoting cultural events and encouraging philanthropy. The current calendar run by

the city doesn’t include some of the best events and activities. By supporting the arts and

culture more forcefully, we can make a difference in attendance and fundraising - the

most critical areas for these organizations. In addition, Jan believes that many of our arts

organizations are hurt by not having places to perform. Though the Dairy Center [for the Arts]’s new build-out will help that, it would be a great asset to arts organizations and the public to

have a performing arts center of some kind as part of a civic center downtown. Finally,

Jan would encourage the city to work with the Boulder Convention Bureau and local arts

organizations to create international music competitions, public sculpture competitions

and highlight the arts to bring visitors to Boulder. Thank You.

Cha Cha Spinrad: Hi I am Cha Cha Spinrad. I am not the famous Boulder Cha Cha but

I am a Boulder artist named Cha Cha. The biggest hubs of creativity that I have seen in

Boulder are in houses where folks live together, typically more than three unrelated,

which is illegal. So actually one of the biggest things that I see to promote art is to

remove that barrier and allow folks to live together and if they are living together then

their creative minds are put together and more creativity comes out of that. I also support

multi or mix use areas so that artists can maybe have a studio down below and then an

apartment above. I think that helps an artist’s ability. And of course we need more art spaces to

be able to perform and see art. Another thing to add on to that is a less difficult permitting

process so that folks can perform art in public spaces and have a big gathering. I’ve been

asked to sing but we have had forums a lot lately and my throat is really dry so I

apologize. [singing] Dear Boulder I’m a good Boulderite, I work towards the . . . . singing . . .

Jeffrey Nytch: And next interpretive dance, no . . .

Suzanne Jones: Thank you for being here. My name is Suzanne Jones and I am one of

your council members and I don’t sing. But I have to start by saying how cool is this

right? Standing room only for the first arts candidate forum - that’s awesome! And we’ve

been doing a lot of forums together and a lot of them are a lot less attended to than this.

And I think that’s an indication of how even though art and artists have been a part of

Boulder from the get-go, this I would say that things are blossoming. This is emerging

into the spotlight as the defining element of Boulder, and that’s a really awesome thing to

see. One of the cool things I get to do on Boulder City Council is serve on the Dairy Arts Center

board, so I get to witness first hand all the cool things that are happening in this town and

also how hard it is to make ends meet both for artists and for art organizations. I think

there’s a lot we can do as city to support that. We’re doing our Community Cultural Master

Plan, that’s awesome, thanks to Matt Chasansky back there. And I think it will help us

define what is the role of the city and the role of the community in supporting artists,

public art and art organizations and those are all important elements. So I think that’s

really awesome. I think that the fact that the voters were generous with their support of

2A is an indication of the desire of the public to see more art and the willingness to fund

it, and I think we need to make that happen. I also think we need to integrate more, in

every redevelopment that we do, whether it’s the Boulder Community Hospital,

the University Hill revitalization, public art needs to be an element of that. And also as we

deal with affordability issues, how can we make sure that we’re looking at the artists and

the creators among the community as those who we are trying to support? So I think

there’s a lot of really exciting things happening in Boulder, and I am really glad to be

a part of them. And I also think there’s a lot of cool grassroots things emerging like the

Nobo arts district, like First Fridays, that the city can help support.

Michael Kruteck: Hello, I’m Michael Kruteck, I’ve been living in Boulder for the past 15

years, I am the CFO of Pharmica Innovative Pharmacy and I am artistically challenged.

And perhaps that’s why I appreciate the arts, whether it happens to be music, fine art,

visual arts, performance arts, it doesn’t really make any difference. I think my family and I

tend to get out to a lot of events here in Boulder. I was also on the e-town board trying to

figure out how to get e-town hall up out of the ground and that was a pretty sucsessfull

fundraising effort. And I know that that’s been a real \_\_\_\_ to the community. But what we

have here is that I believe that we need to go ahead and fund the arts and I believe that we

need to increase the funding for the arts and I believe that we should be extending the

ballot of 2A. The challenge is, as Sally indicated earlier, is that we’re here to listen and

we’re here to compromise. So when we talk about funding things we need to figure out

where other things are not going to maybe get funded. And so we need to go ahead and

fund the arts, we need to figure out where that’s going to come from and we need to be

practical about how we look at it - from where else we are going to get that funding from?

And so what we need to look at also are some methods that are not necessarily funding

methods to go ahead and create art spaces. One of those is that we need to encourage

developers to create creative place making spaces where, maybe like the Armory that has

been proposed up in North Boulder. We need to think of a way to be a magnet for local

talent as well as for regional talent so that we’re creating spaces that is attractive for

people to come, not just so that we’re sustaining the people that are already here. And we

need to go ahead and collaborate with other community resources. Whether that happens

to be the profit sector or the non-profit sector including the Convention Bureau to go ahead

and try to get everybody involved in making this an artistic community.

Aaron Brockett: Hello everybody, my name is Aaron Brockett. It’s great to have you all

here. This is wonderful, there is such an energy to the room. I really appreciate it and

really love it. So I live in North Boulder in the Holiday neighborhood. I live there with my

wife and two kids, 9 and 12. I am a computer programmer by day, my wife and I own a

small software company. What is less known about me is that I majored in music in

college and I’m a choral singer. I did that for 20 years and I spent 8 years singing in

Boulder, and if I had as much courage as Cha Cha, I would do some singing. So before we talk about challenges, I want to recognize some of the success in town. We have amazing art organizations in town, to me very near and dear to my heart is the Nobo Arts District that’s right where I live, doing amazing things up there. We have so many phenomenal cultural organizations, you know performing arts and public art and visual artists and open studios that are going on this week, so we’re doing amazingly well but we have real challenges. And those include, ya know, funding problems, which I will get to in our next question, we have a lack of venues. We make it hard to do art in this community, and that’s a problem. And then there is affordability is a huge issue for our community as a whole and for keeping artists in this town. And that’s one of the big things we need to work on is affordability in housing and also in affordable studio spaces for artists and there have been some potential things like new development like the Armory. There are other things we can do that we should work hard on. But one thing that I want to highlight is that we should make it as easy as possible to do great

things, when people have great ideas. And right now the city often stands in the way

when people have phenomenal ideas, so we need to make it easy to do public art and

murals and performances and, ya know, make the bandshell easy to use. So I really think

we as a city, above all when it comes to the arts we need to make it easy.

Cindy Carlisle: My name is Cindy Carlisle, thank you all for coming. I was on the City

Council once before a million years ago. I was the City’s first liaison to the Boulder Center

for the Visual Arts and in conjunction with that I had asked the mayor, I said “Look at all this

stuff that Loveland has. What’s with boulder?” She said, “Ok, you want to go be a liaison?” I said, “yes.” And then there was the conference of cultural (what was it called?) Conference

on Cultural Affairs which was at the Chamber of Commerce. I don’t know what

it’s name is now but I was there to supposed to be watch dogging that the money came

through for the artistic part as well as the conference services. So I think there is money

there. When I was on the council I found money for what has been the Boulder Center for

the Visual Arts, so that they could get an elevator sprinkler in place, etc which opened it

up. And so there is money within the city, and I guess that’s the second question. I thought

it would be nice if Bruce just sort of donated the armory so that we could have a whole

campus up there. We were there Friday night at the studio arts group and the idea of

having a campus where people can come and work and exhibit is really phenomenal. I’d

like to see more interaction between the University of Colorado and the city because there

is a wealth of talent up there and one of the things the university has done is to work in

the schools where we have had a lack of funding in the schools for the arts and music to

try and substitute for some of that, supplement, and there are things that can be done that

just sort of raise the level all together.

Julie McCabe: Hi, so I’m Julie McCabe, I got into this race because of transportation and

I’m going to work that in and do my speech tonight. First of all, obviously people in

Boulder love art because of our support of it through dedicated taxes like 2A. So once

you move beyond those kind of dedicated taxes the question is how are we going to fund

arts with the general fund and things like that. And it’s here where I’m going to ask you

all to be the citizens that I think we are and its to think about where we spend our money.

I don't know if you all know but RTD in 2014 took $22 million from the city in

sales tax, and the budget at that time was $1.2 million for transportation, non

maintenance. When you have that much money leave the city and go down and support

Denver commuter rail it obviously puts a cramp on how much money we have floating

around our community doing things and that’s because tax in the sense are fundable

dollars and we need to husband all of our money that we are trying to make available to

the community in a very careful way. What I’m asking you all to do is to think about how

else we spend our money in Boulder. I mean we need to do a lot of things in Boulder. One

of the things that’s going to come about as a result of this election is we are going to have

a conversation about how Boulder will grow and I already know in single family

neighborhoods we can do innovative things to increase housing choices in our single

family neighborhoods. Also, when you go to a developer and you ask a developer to do

things for you, there has to be something on the table for that developer and I’m asking

you to think about that because it’s about money and what our priorities are and how we

balance our priorities. And so Im asking you all to be good citizens and pay attention to

issues other than just your art issues.

Jared Kaszuba: Hi I’m Jared Kaszuba. I am not a politician but I play one on TV. I am a blue collar worker here in Boulder I work for a company called Wild Goose Engineering. We

manufacture beer canning lines. I’m proud to say I work for an American manufacturer.

That’s pretty hard to find these days and we have it right here in Boulder. I’m also a renter

in Boulder so I understand the struggle for affordable housing doesn't just involve home

ownership it involves the renters as well. And one of the biggest issues artists face is

some of the rental spaces being unaffordable. I mean you never heard of the term overfed

artists or anything like that. I am also a musician, a writer of short stories, a photographer

and I really strongly support the arts community and I believe like Aaron said the

bandshell, what an underused landmark we have here in the city! I mean we could have

taken $200,000 away from the funding of rightsizing and put it towards the

bandshell. I don't know, just an idea. We really should be utilizing the bandshell as well as

other vacant buildings and lots that we have already. We don’t even need to build new

structures we just need to better utilize what we have. And the question was in a few

words so the few words I have is inject more money, that’s the most important thing we

can do.

Bob Yates: Hi my name is Bob Yates. Actually we’ve had twelve of these things I think

by my count, this is the funnest one so far thank you for being here. We’re having a good

time up here at least. You know Boulder has the highest concentration of artists in the

country. Isn't that amazing? And actually I think in the room we probably have actually

the highest concentration of artists in the country right now at this very moment. I

retired from a big corporate job about four years ago so that I could dedicate all my time

in service to the Boulder community and I've dabbled a little bit with culture and the arts

in the past four years. I was Chairman at Parks and Recreation Board and we saved the

pottery lab with the partnership of Studio Arts so thank you very much Studio Arts. I serve

on the Board of the Boulder History Museum, and we’re obviously creating a brand new

museum of history and art, culture and science in downtown Boulder and we raised $6.5

$8 million we need to do that so thank you for your contributions. I serve on the

Board of Chatauqua, I guess that’s why I was late tonight, didn't have a chance to meet with

many of you because we were up on Chatauqua signing a new 20 year lease to maintain

Chatauqua for this community. And I serve on the Board with Suzanne of the Dairy Center

for the Arts and if you haven't driven by 26th street you should drive by because the wall

is down. Its a big mess, but it will be absolutely beautiful. Give it six months. But the thing

I’m probably most proud of over the past four years is leading the developmental

measure of 2A and I think I almost called every one of you in this room to ask for your

endorsement and your support so thank you very much. To a wonderful and

overwhelming victory last year. And we did a good job we raised $10 million for

arts and culture but that is just the tip of the iceberg. And we’ve created a new

organization led by Deborah Malden and Sacha Millstone and other people in this room

called Create Boulder in a partnership with Matt Chasansky to create a wonderful master plan

and we’re going to fund that master plan. And we’ve done a really pretty good job here in

this community at open space and this needs to be the decade of the arts. I think of the

money we’re going to raise and dedicate to the master plan as “open space for the soul.”

Jeffrey Nytch: One round of questions. Ok I’m going to improvise a little bit, first of all

I’m going to make this our last call for any questions from the audience so Shauna is

going around with the magic basket and if you’ve got something for her raise your hand

and make sure she gets that. And we had three questions that we sent to the candidates in

advance and we just answered the first one. And what was interesting is that some of you

touched on things in the second question and some of you touched on things in the third

questions and so I’m going to a little dealer’s choice here. So for the next round of

questions you may choose one or the other. You may either choose to address the

question from number two which is: “What is your plan specifically to promote art and

performance venues within the City of Boulder?”

Some of you already addressed that in some detail so in that case you can answer the next one which would be: “What can the City Council do to support the arts that doesn’t involve money?” So specific questions about promoting venues and spaces and or I suppose if you want to answer both what can the City Council do to support the arts that doesn't require spending more money. So why don’t we just go back to Lisa.

Lisa Morzel: Ok so I am going to start out. I am an earth scientist. What are the three middle letters of earth? A-R-T! Yes ok so here’s where I am: It’s like, lets use the bandshell right now. We charge $800 for that use. That is just ridiculous. It is a landmarked facility. We should be

proud of it. We should be using it. We need to make our arts district part of an art district

and let the state recognize that it’s going to bring in money. We need to take our blank

spaces and paint them. We need to have art everywhere, I mean it should be everywhere.

Where I grew up in the middle of Kansas City it was everywhere. There was a 1% tax on

that went completely towards art. So art should be everywhere you look. We should, the

City could, support this by having a site where artists can post and sell their art. That

would be a very easy thing to do. We need to provide more live/work spaces for artists

as we have up in North Boulder. Lets use Valmont Butte for a derby art center. Ya know I

mean that is a site that the city owns and its going to be landmarked part of it and it

would be a great place to do kind of “messy art.” I don’t think that’s the right term, but I think

you know what I’m talking about: welding, glassblowing things like that. We need to be

able to use our existing facilities such as the library auditorium for performing arts for

things like Barrio E, these people don’t have any place to practice. And we’re doing the

Boulder Community Hospital. We’re going to have a community involvement, why don’t we

make art part of that? Art should be everywhere we’re looking. And last but not least we

should have an art directory that people can go and look up what kind of artists are in the

community. Let’s use our kiosks. Let’s use our public space to advertise the wonderful artists

we have in our community. We should be proud, and we should be using more of these, and

it generates so much tax its incredible.

Jebbs Bold: Ok hi I’m Jebbs Bold again. I am going to try and answer both questions. Ok,

so what am I going to specifically do and what doesn’t involve money. Ok wait I screwed

up. Ok the first one, what am I specifically do it definitely involves money. So we’re

going to take money away from the police, the police are doing terrible things in Boulder

right now they are currently arresting black people five times the rate of any other race.

It’s terrible, we need to take money away from them. We need to hire fun police, I’m

serious, fun police. People who are going around encouraging people to have responsible

fun. Does that sound crazy? It could be crazy fun. Seriously. Ok next question, what

doesn’t involve money. That’s actually really hard. I don’t know there’s a lot that involves

money. Don’t try to coach me. Seriously, we need to abolish capitalism or something.

That’s what I feel like the answer is, just abolish capitalism, lets do that.

Tim Plass: Not sure I’m quite there yet. So I’m going to answer both questions I think.

Oh I’m sorry, I’m Tim Plass, I’m currently on the City Council. For money, yes we need

more money for the arts and it should be I think we could look at impact fees for new

development. And one of the things we’ve talked about in our comprehensive review of

impact fees is to look at something for the arts. And I think that’s a really interesting place

to go. And this whole idea of 1% for the arts I really think that that’s something we should

do too. And we need to decide 1% of what? Should it be the general fund or should it be

something else, and that’s a discussion that we need to have. We are in really good

financial times in this city and we have the capability of putting more money to the arts,

and we should put our money where our mouth is, I think so. For things that don’t involve

money, well maybe it could be things that actually save you money, I agree with Lisa

what she said about the bandshell, lower the price for using the bandshell. And maybe

put some facilities like back stage facilities on there so that you could have something for

performers to use. I think that would be really interesting. I think we could change zoning

too, to encourage some work situations. Is there something we can do for art, something

we enable the profit sector to more product that we want. I think that’s an exciting place

we can go, and I think we as council members can go to more events to support art. That’s

an important thing for us to do. I think we on council need to raise the level of the

dialogue, that’s a key thing for us, and part of that for me is really getting out there and

supporting our Community Cultural Plan. I think that’s key there’s great stuff in there

but we need to get behind it as a council.

Leonard May: Leonard May again and Tim, I think, touched on some key points which is

really about mindfulness which is in all the activities that the City carries out - its being

aware of how things are related to each other. And so as an example, internal, how things

are coordinated internally within city departments. We’re doing the specific area project

now so there’s a lot of opportunities there for doing public art and working that into the

general design. Public art spaces on planning board we deal a lot with the public realm

and how, due to place making that not only accommodate fixed art work, but also

performance spaces where people can generally congregate. And then there’s

programming and Tim again touched on that. The bandshell, the cost of it is an obstacle.

The City’s made no effort to program something that’s been sitting there largely unused for

many years. They need to be aware of these resources that we have and make optimal use of them. And I beat the 30 second timer.

Bill Rigler: I am Bill Rigler with Naropa University. I’ve been working at the

intersection of strategic communications now for 20 years and during that time I’ve

learned there’s one unbeatable truth and that is good marketing begins at home. I was

looking at the Facebook page for the City of Boulder government today and there’s been

zero posts about art and culture in Boulder for the past 6 months! Shocking. So the other

thing that I think is really crucial and this is where I would bring in my background as

Chief of Staff for the Rockefeller Foundation, is that it is about money and the way that we’re going to do that is by leveraging private and public partnerships. One of the things we looked at Rockefeller was that we would trigger multi-million dollar grants when we knew there was corporate sponsors involved. So a really key item we have to focus on is how do we create this enabling environment for businesses to come here to thrive here and to grow here. Some of you

have heard about 303 and 301 I would urge you to look very closely at both of these

initiatives and see what sort of impact these would have on business coming to Boulder. I

can think of no greater partner for promoting arts and culture in boulder than having

Google and all the other tech companies that would come here with all of their money. I

also think its really important that we loop in the creative community. I was at this

incredibly awesome event last week called Caffeinated Mornings at madelife, I see that

Leah is here in the back, for me it was great because I realized how totally uncool I really

was. But its really important I think that we be able to work with the local artists and

give them the business skills to help them become successful entrepreneurs. For that

reason I would absolutely support an inspection of the art program and everything that we

can to make sure that we don’t have starving artists. Thank you.

Joytsna Raj: Well of course I think it’s a good idea to have funding for the arts. In the old

days it was the king and queen and noble men who supported the artists, now it has to be

the City and I think we need to step up to the plate and do that. Because we have

supported programs like Open Space, but now I think it’s time to look at the space we have

within the city and support our artists who live here. I know people who live on the Hill,

and they say we can not have a studio on the Hill; its just too expensive. So there is no

doubt about it the City has to incentivize and support the artists that live in Boulder. I also

think the City has a great deal of possibility for advertising and making known what goes

on in the city. When I was very new here there was a program to the public libraries that

if you were an artist you could apply to have your art hang in the libraries. But once it

was there, there was no way of anybody knowing about it. One of my friends recently said

that she had art hanging in the North Boulder Rec Center, but I didn't know about it. So a

very inexpensive way for the city would be to have something on their website, to have

something on their Facebook page which would make people aware of where to go to

look at the work of all these artists. And also I think North Boulder has a way of doing

things which I really like. My friend who lives there, Judy Duffy, she is a crafter and makes

prints, and she recently had a show in the hair dresser salon. Now this is a very good idea.

We should have venues like banks and other civic buildings that have opportunities for

artists to display their work. The Louisville Artist Association, which I belong, does this all

the time, finds venues for their artists. But beyond that we must make all of us aware of

where this art is and how we can go and find it and enjoy.

Ed Jabari again: I think we’ve made some big strides on getting to the $6 per

person per year mark, $562,000 a year and $6 per person is still pretty shameful for a city

that has so many artists, 300 artists in North Boulder alone and I think we have 137

registered cultural organizations. We need to protect the existing studios and facilities that

are out there, provide affordable housing for artists and resources to help them develop

viable business’ around their art. We need to have more public art and get people outside

of their home officially recognized in the North Boulder Art District, and other areas and

provide more permissions. The $20 per person per year budget that the cultural plan has

put out I am a strong supportive of it. I think we can do even better, and I think we can do

it in five years rather than sixteen years from now. We need grants to help pay for artists to

perform in venues so that we can have them play here instead of everybody going down

to Denver where they can play. We should have a cultural liaison also where we look at

comprehensive and frugal calendar, and we’ve got a person reaching out to these smaller

venues and studios. I supported a question the other day making the Boulder Valley

comprehensive plan statutory. I don’t think that’s the only way to put teeth into these plans,

cultural plan and the comprehensive plan. I’d like to look at all different ways of putting

teeth into there; have real funding mechanisms. Look at public and private partnerships and

impact these regardless of how you see number 301, that is a good way of bringing in more

funding to that arts.

Jeffrey Nytch: And a reminder that the revised question on the floor is specific suggestions to promote art and performance venues and/or what can the council do to support the arts that

doesn’t involve money. So I just wanted to remind us that that was the question on the

floor.

Louise Pearson: People! We have been bold about open space. It’s time to be bold about

the arts. The cultural plan is a good start but we should put more city efforts behind it. A

council member should promote arts activities, evangelize the arts and attend concerts, art

openings and events. They should read the cultural plan and become involved in its

development and execution ensuring that city staff knows how important it is. Jan Burton

already evangelizes the arts and supports many organizations through her volunteer work

and donations. In addition, art is integrated into her startup business, Rhino Kids, where

she blends art with sustainability making tiny artistic living structures from shipping

containers. Jan believes that the creativity discussed by Richard Florida in his book, *The Rise*

*of the Creative Class*, not only relates to the arts and culture but also in solving some of our

biggest problems in the community, like affordable housing, homelessness and impact on

the environment. Living small but artistically addresses many of these areas. As a leader

in the community, Jan would lead in her conversations and her actions around arts and

culture. She would actively support and assist in making sure Boulder is a leader in

creativity and the arts, and she would bring creativity and problem solving to the Boulder

City Council. And now just because it’s that kind of day, I’ve just wrote this little ditty:

(singing)

Jeffrey Nytch: We have a candidate that has to depart so I’m going to give Bill just a second to say goodnight and then we will continue with Cha Cha.

Bill Rigler: I’m very sorry I need to beg your forgiveness. I’ve double booked for

something far less important. My website is [www.riglerforcitycouncil.com](http://www.riglerforcitycouncil.com). I wish that I could be here a lot longer. Please call me I’d love to speak with each and everyone of you about the importance of support for the arts. So please call me.

Cha Cha Spinrad: Hi, I’m Cha Cha again. I kind of answered this question, but I’ll just go

over a couple of the things I suggested. One of those was making more \_\_\_\_ so that

artists can have studio space where they live. Another was removing restrictions to allow

folks to live together cooperatively so that creative minds can live together. And then Tim

talked about 1% for the arts. One thing I’d like to see involved in that is 1% for the arts

for development projects. 1% goes to the arts and it needs to be in a space that is more

publicly accessible, so making the building look more beautiful for example. And some

of you heard the song last time I spoke, so here’s a new one . . . Singing . . .

Suzanne Jones: Hard to argue with that. I’m Suzanne Jones, Boulder City Council. I

actually think you’ve heard a lot of good ideas and you’re probably, well we can just repeat

them all again. While I agree with all of them, a couple I want to highlight is the part about

funding and in particular for performing arts. One of the roles of council is to make sure

the budget reflects the priorities of the people and I think what you’ll hear from a lot of us

is it’s time to do more public funding for the art and I think that’s the mandate coming from

the people and we want to see that reflected in our budget. One of the forums we all

participated in today or most of us did was the hotel and motel association and we have an

accommodations tax and then we turn around and give 20% of that to the Convention and

Visitors Bureau to promote Boulder, to promote events and to make stuff happen. I think

we need to figure out simpler funding mechanisms where we’re turning around, we’re

gathering money from the people to turn around and promote arts and to make art

happen. I think people are ready for that so I’m totally behind that and I think part of that

can be separate from that but the same sort of thinking going into how are we going to

go private-public partnership for performing arts center? I think that that is also an issue

whose time has come and there’s a lot of great conversations happening. The other part

about it that doesn’t involve money is looking at art as a way to meet multiple community

values. I’m thinking of two art events I went to in the last two years. One was *Rocks Karma*

*Arrows* and *Do You Know Who I Am?* And they were both two powerful pieces. *Do You Know Who I Am?* was performed by undocumented youth and it was a powerful piece

of art but it also got us some of the major issues we face. And the same with *Rocks Karma*

*Arrows* which was all about the history of Boulder and how we were founded on

some pretty potent history [Both projects were by Motus Theater]. Anyhow I think art is a way to address inclusivity and bring us together as a community, and I want to celebrate that and have city council embrace that and elevate that.

I’m still Michael Kruteck. I find it very curious or maybe interesting that it comes all the

way around to the finance guy before we start talking about ways to do this without

money. And so I’m going to answer the questions without money. So first, relative to a

venue, I don’t think, well I think that maybe we ought be looking at a performance arts

venue, but perhaps we ought to be looking at the existing spaces that we have in town

both public and private so that we are using underutilized spaces much better than they

currently are. We’ve got a lot of places that people don't use all day long. And I think we

can benefit from that. I think we need to encourage more developments like the Armory

which has artists space and that doesn’t necessarily cost us any money. I think we need to

go ahead and encourage the cultural planning grouping efforts to make a coordinated effort

among the large group of cultural organizations and art organizations in town to

encourage the creative professional population here. And two of the most important

things is: one, when you look back and you say, “well geez the art community grew here

without a whole lot of funding and so I don’t want to go ahead and try to inhibit that spirit

and enthusiasm,” I think we need to go ahead and create that spirit and enthusiasm and

maintain that and what we need to do is encourage younger folks to get involved with the

arts. And so my son participated in a group called YOAB, which is the Youth

Opportunities Advisory Board. And what they do is they actually get to allocate granted

funds to the youth in the community who are doing really cool things with their time to

try and make the community better for young folks. And I think what we ought to do is

reallocate some of the grant funds that we got within the arts community to let young

folks allocate those funds to other young folks who are going to do very interesting and

creative things so that they grow up within the artistic community here in Boulder.

Aaron Brockett: Hello, Aaron Brockett here again. I’m going to start off by talking a little

bit about funding. You know we, I think, we almost criminally underfund the arts here in

Boulder. We, our per capita funding is less than a fifth of comparable communities, we

have Longmont and Loveland kicking our ass here and it’s not acceptable. And so we need

to do better, you know, and the city’s coffers are plush right now, the money is pouring in,

which is a really great thing, we are very fortunate right now. And I have two major

priorities for that, and I’ll mention that the other one is really spending money on social

services to make sure the neediest among us get the support they need to become full

members of our society and functional. But the other one is the arts. And the city budget

just was ratcheted up substantially, and both of those things I think were really lacking in

that additional funding, so I really feel like in our next set of budgeting we need to

allocate substantial additional funding for the arts. Thank you. And not just for material

but I think we need new programs like people have been talking about 1% for the arts. I do

think that all new development projects should have a 1% fee that’s paid to support public

art to go out in our public spaces. To talk about venues, we do need additional venues in

town and for me the biggest one that I look at is the performing arts center downtown.

We’re really missing that kind of three to five hundred person venue and we have all these

amazing performing arts groups in town - you know dance and musicals don’t have a good

space for that. I think we should work to make that happen. We should also work to make

the Civic Center Park an area for public and performance art. I’d like to see that thriving,

have art out there all the time. And the one other thing I will mention is that I’d love to

see public art and space for artists considered as a community benefit when we consider

for improving.

Cindy Carlisle: Cindy Carlisle again. I was thinking as I was sitting here about the city

council chambers. The library has pieces of art in it that the library, or the art commission, has

bought over the year. I don’t think there is anything in the city council but photographs of

past council members. So one of the things we can do is bring the arts in. You know, why

not bring it in to the municipal building and use that extra bit of time before the meetings

instead of watching everyone eating or whatever they’re doing and actually have some art

happenings? Just look at the people who have been singing up here. Cha Cha embodies

the creative class. She has a degree in mechanical engineering, she’s a preschool teacher

and she sings! This is the kind of person we want to keep here right with affordable

housing and the means to do that. And I think as Anne mentioned at the luncheon today - I

wasn’t able to attend it - but I think that was what happened with all of the money that was

in the conference services and cultural affairs probably just evolved into that and they

take in a ton of money every year and I don’t know how much is being used for among

the arts but that would be a good source to look at for funding. And I think that someone

else mentioned the schools or doing that kind of thing, you know, it’s been done it can be

done again and what I would like to do is hear from all of you because I don’t want this to

become a governmental entity. I don’t want the government telling all of you about what

should be done and when it should be done and how you should be doing it. So I would

hope to hear from you rather than have this all planned out telling back to the council.

So obviously I ditto many of the ideas up here. I think there are under-utilized places in

the City of Boulder, like the Hill, that you could close down at certain times of the

weekend, at certain times of the evening, and have different functions up there so that

maybe it wouldn’t be \_\_\_ all of the time, but it would be \_\_\_\_ some of the time. Another

fact is that I recently was down on the [Pearl Street] mall for the campaign, my campaign and they were having one of their numerous what I call fairs down there with little booths and tents

and I don’t know why but for me that’s not really appealing. It’s more like visiting little

shops and it doesn't feel like the sense of art that I get when I do the open studio tour

which I’ve done a few times. So in terms of how we would create venues other than those

two ideas I’m kind of looking for you all. All’s I know is that when I’m in a venue that is

appropriate for art and I’ve been in there, like in Turkey I’ve been in the \_\_\_ you can feel

the creative flow coming from there and to you in a way that isn’t captured at least for me

personally when I look at some of these small booths on the mall for the numerous fairs

we have. And then secondly I would go back to the funding issue and I think one of the

ways and this is a shout out to Mr. Bold. One of the ways Boulder is going to try to cope

with what's going on in the creek path with the homeless is I think by hiring more police

and I know already that our county jails are having really serious problems because a lot

of the people that are down there are there because of addiction and mental health issues

and the county jail is extremely underfunded and yeah I would like to support the arts in

whatever way I can but it’s a shout out to you all that you need to reach beyond your

community and look at where else we need to spend money in Boulder and figure out

how to get the right balance, apparently we don’t have it but its something we need to

think about.

Unidentified speaker: I believe one of the key factors in a city’s arts and culture is its growth and encouraging growth within the existing arts and culture. And I think we can succeed in this growth through programs - through arts programs - either funded by the city or by private entity as well. And not just for all of the high school kids looking for something to do after school

but more of a social approach, you know speaking of the homeless, some of the homeless

are great artists but we’ll never know because we don’t really pay attention to them. So

we should encourage programs within even some of our social services where we could

get local entrepreneurs who are already doing programs. I was going to pick on one

person in particular, but she’s not here, but Chelsea Locheart. She’s a local artist who has

a program called Locheart Arts and Locheart Little Arts so she does programs for adults and

children and these are the kind of things that we need to encourage in our city as far as

growing as an arts and culture center. We’re always in the spotlight for being a great

biking community and all this other stuff, but we should really be in the spotlight for our

arts and culture and I think that the best way to do that is through these programs. And to

answer the second question, to do that without money, and I would happily volunteer my

time and go and teach one of these programs or help assist in one of these programs and I

think its important for us as public servants to do things like that. So this is also going to

be key in our growth. Thanks.

Bob Yates: You know its kind of hard to go 16th twice in a row because all of the good arguments are taken. I don’t know who’s going to win this election but one thing I can guarantee to you right now is that five of the next council people are up here on this stage and you’ve

heard some really, really great suggestions and I hope you’re writing them all down

because right up here is going to be a majority of council and you need to hold us

accountable for all these wonderful things we’ve been saying up here, right? Well let me

say some more wonderful things for you to hold me accountable. What? Why? Where?

Dollars. What has already been mentioned: cities around Boulder spend 1% of their budget

on arts and culture. You know how much we spend on arts and culture in this town? Nine

one hundredths of one percent. One tenth of Longmont, Fort Collins, Arvada, Broomfield.

What the hell are we thinking about here? Seriously folks, why? Even if you don’t care

about the arts, $7 is returned for every $1 spent on arts. $1 earns $7 even if you hate the

arts. Why would you not do that? Seriously, folks. And what should we spend all that

money on? All the money we’re going to get when we get Matt Chasansky to help us do arts.

We’re going to build a performing arts center because we need that in this town. We’re

going to expand the Dairy Center over to the \_\_\_\_\_ because we don’t have enough space.

We need to have more galleries and museums especially where i live up in north boulder.

We are going to have public art. You know what a pain in the ass it is to put public art up

in our parks in this community in, we have 91 public arts. I was chairman of the Park

Department. We have so many freakin’ rules as far as public art we need to rip up all those

rules (clapping . . . ) And the most important thing, Jared mentioned this, shoutout to

Jared, the most important thing we’re talking about bricks and mortar and public arts.

We’re talking about all this you know what the most important thing is, our children. We

need to enhance our programs to teach our children and our grandchildren to appreciate

the arts. Thank you very much.

Jeffrey Nytch: OK now we can go to the questions that you all have submitted. And we’re going to start with Bob with this next round so you won’t have to go l6th again. Less time? The

candidates have encouraged us to reduce their time to speak which may be the first time

that has ever happened. So I support that we get through more questions. Shall we go to a

minute then? So this first one here is one that many of you had mentioned the need to support

lower cost of living and working spaces for artists, but I would like you in your minute for

you to address some specific things the city can do to actually bring that about.

Bob Yates: Can I go last? You know its just supply and demand, right? We have too many people and not enough housing. So I am going to give you two suggestions and you can hear some other good discussions in a minute. One thing we can do obviously is build more housing.

Did some of you see that Washington Post article that was in the newspaper a day or two

ago? It talked about you know you always hear that there’s not enough room in Boulder,

there’s not enough room in Boulder. That’s bullshit. There is plenty of room in Boulder, our

density is four thousand people per square mile, we are one of the least dense cities in the

United States. There is plenty of room to build housing for our working class for our artists.

Let’s get off our butt and build more housing. The second thing we can do, I think, it’s

absolutely ludicrous that we have these limits on how many people can live in the same

house. What the hell business is it of the city how many people live together? If you want

to rent your house out to three or four or five or ten people and you have space for them,

then you should be allowed to do that. I think by allowing people to share their homes

with others, by building more homes we are going to reduce the cost of housing and more

people will live here and will enjoy all the things that we enjoy and they will enjoy art

thank you very much.

Jeffrey Nytch: Do you want a warning bell of 15 or 30 seconds? 15, ok that’s what we did just then.

Cindy Carlisle: I think one of the biggest things is the occupancy limits. I think really if we’re going to have a five-bedroom house, five people should be able to live there. If we’re going to preach that we’re a green community, then why are two people living in a five bedroom

House. I mean why are they wasting that much energy? I think that’s one of the biggest

things and we can definitely grow more I mean there is so much room to grow and we

can be using our space a lot wiser. Like if there’s a lot that’s two acres there’s no reason that

three buildings can not be built on there for a family to live within a courtyard of each

other. I mean there is no reason that shouldn't be happening. So it’s again an opportunity to shout it out for transportation. I’m in favor of density but I don't want density with more cars. So if we’re going to have density and not as many cars then we have to come up with a better transportation plan. RTD and its $22 million isn’t going to help us. And so we have to get creative about how we’re going to travel around the city unless we’re just going to deal with congestion and more congestion. I don’t think we have to. Boulder is basically four by eight miles and we can come up with plans that go beyond what they’re talking about a 15 minute neighborhood. We have not tried any new technology in Boulder to get us around. There’s GPS, there’s crowdsourcing, there’s real time locates, you can do an interactive map. And we don’t

even have an interactive map that would allow people to go in and basically help build a

transportation system that we would use rather than get in cars and driving across town.

It would be nice if we had subsidized housing for the arts. That would be one thing that

some of this money could go towards. Bringing people in. Another piece of that would be

I don’t know its fine to say you can have would be passing the growth in some way. If

there were impact fees on new development a portion of that could go into subsidizing

space for the arts. These people come into the community and they pay nothing in, we all

love Google, Google is coming in, they didn’t pay anything on the front end, they made a

great business decision but we’re the ones who are going to be subsidizing. In terms of

transportation, housing prices have gone up horrifically, rentals have gone up horrifically,

and they’re going to keep going up. If some of those impacts were addressed by the

persons causing it then there could be some mitigation for the high costs of housing and

spaces for studios, that’s a big one.

Aaron Brockett: Give it up for Cindy Carlisle. Aaron Brocket here again. So I do think we

need new housing in town particularly turning our older strip malls into mixed use

walkable neighborhoods moves our city in the right direction and helps with some of

these pricing issues. I think we need more housing choices. We’ve talked about occupancy

limits - I think we definitely need to work on those for sure. Co-ops are a great way of

living. It gives you an affordable way to live in community and allows for creative people

to live in town and other kinds of housing choices. And then preserving existing housing I

think is critically important and then specifically for the arts the other thing that’s critical

there in terms of preservation is preserving lower cost office and studio space. You know

as this town kind of gentrifies we’re losing a lot of the affordable spaces for people to

work in town. We have some great examples of that up by me in North Boulder on the

west side of Broadway all kinds of artists there because the space is affordable. So as we

look to redevelopment plans we need to make sure that we keep some of those affordable

spaces so that the artists can afford to have a place to work.

Michael Kruteck: So I support occupancy rate increases, I support additional

developments like Boulder Junction on north Broadway but more to the point is that we

need to get serious about affordable housing. Because we’ve been talking about this for a

really long time. In 2000 we established a goal saying we were going to have 10% of the

homes in this community as affordable housing homes, we’re currently at about 2,600

and if I did that in my business I’d be fired. So the reality is that we either need to start

getting serious about it or we need to stop talking about it. And so the reality is that we

need to start either looking at ways to really make this happen. If we go at the current rate

we’re moving at it will take us 25-30 years to achieve that 10% goal, and that just doesn’t

work. And so I think that we need to have a community discussion to see if we’re really

supporting affordable housing and if we are we need to figure out how to fund it and how

to make it happen.

Suzanne Jones: I think there’s several things we need to do. Michael was just talking

about affordable housing. We just made a big leap forward and we are now over 8% towards our 10% goal. So we’re making progress. We may want to increase that goal, I would be supportive of that and I think in our upcoming Boulder Valley conference of plan update is a place for us to discuss do we need to change zoning? Do we want to do more? We, the city council, has an impact fee study underway on. Do we want to increase the fees on commercial development to help fund more affordable housing? I think that is a good thing. The other thing mentioned was preserving existing affordable (that is market rate affordable and that is apartment complexes, that is mobile home parks), places that are currently affordable and keeping them that way and I think we need to really focus on that, whether it is the city owning them or Boulder housing

partners because we’re not allowed by state law to do rent control. We need to figure out

how to have an ownership percentage in order to do that.

Jeffrey Nytch: And that’s your minute. The bell is 15 seconds. What specifically can be done to bring about low cost work space and housing for artists?

Unidentified speaker: So you’ve heard me answer this but I want to talk about a place that I visited a couple years ago, I just tried to look it up on Google. I think its called Mile Post Five. This is a space where there are people living, it’s also their studios and its also their performance

venue spots and their art gallery, the performance venue has the gallery around that. We

need spaces where we can do this here. We need to have more multi use zones and we

need to be able to see this and we also need to be able to live together. I think the people

are mentioning the occupancy limit because of Boulder Community Housing Association,

which I founded along with others, me and a couple of other people founded Boulder

Community Housing Association to give more progressive housing, remove regulations to

allow cooperative homes and to remove the occupancy limits.

Louise Pearson: OK I can tell you that Jan Burton is a huge advocate of affordable

housing and I think she would agree with Mr. Yates that we have the room. Not only do

we have the room to build affordable housing and maybe even a community of tiny

houses, but we have some slumlords that are absentee landowners that are letting their

houses rot. If we gave developers a chance to upgrade that property so that we’d have

increased density and people could afford to live there, that would also get rid of some

ugliness as well as provide housing for people. I agree with all the comments so far. I think we need to increase the permanent of affordable housing. We got to look at way more than 10% right now we have up to 40% of the people cant even afford that 10% and the median incomes are going up so the problems just getting worse. We need to look at 20 or more % of that do some building code and zoning regs to allow for innovative housing options like tiny houses, tiny

homes, OAU’S, ADU’S, definitely repeal or revise the occupancy limits to reflect sanity

around that. A look at State or federal grant programs like the art place program right now

the governors basically saying places like boulder don’t need money from that and its

kind of being funneled towards rural projects, identify sites not only for art and culture

community projects but work and lived spaces for artists. In the comprehensive plan

make sure we’re looking at all this and finding those sites before they’re already

developed, get artists paid more and I would advocate for rent control and to work with

developers to lower the cost of affordable housing so that we can get more of it.

Joytsan Raj: So I’m Joytsan Raj and I certainly think that affordable housing should be

made affordable for artists, they don’t earn a whole heck of a lot and we want to keep

them our community and functioning here. They supply a great deal of economic vitality

to Boulder so they should share in the money that they bring into the city. I certainly think

that there should be an incentive. There should be a way to provide them a way to live in

Boulder in the way they wish to do. And certainly performance space and artist studios

should also be similarly incentivized because people have told me that they would like to

create an innovation district on the Hill but the rents are so high that they can not even

imagine having studio space there or performance space. So this is something we should

need to incentivize as a city for our artists and community.

Jeffrey Nytch: That’s your minute.

Leonard May: I’m Leonard May, you’re not going to build your way to affordability.

New York hasn’t done it, Tokyo hasn’t done it, London hasn’t done it, San Francisco

hasn’t done it. What Suzanne mentioned earlier is the way to do it and that’s really

preserving what you got its a lot cheaper to preserve what you have than to build new.

and the way to do that is to couple the cost of housing and work space from the market.

Markets do not serve affordability they go where the money is and if you don’t have

money they’re not going to serve you and so it’s that coupling of the cost of housing

through cities’ ownerships, state or city facilitating residents of space or renters of work

space buying and owning and operating as co-ops that space so that they can keep it

permanently affordable because its disassociate from the market prices.

Tim Plass: Tim Plass I am currently on the Council. I guess I’m not quite as down on

marketing solutions as Leonard is. I do agree that we should have permanent affordable

and increase that by including buying some of our mobile home parks. I really think we

need to do that. I think that'd be a key piece but I think that we have a place as Aaron was

saying in strip malls to look at reinventing some of our places. And for me its not just

about strip malls but lets look at some of our commercial and industrial areas and we’ll

do what we can do there in a creative way and couple that with micro units with

unbuckling parking and trying to have people close to transit and I think that we’ll have

some more relative affordability at least. It is a challenge here but I think that we can do

that. I would also look to incentivize or make it easy to do co-ops. I think that’s important

for people to be able to live together less expensively. I guess I’m done.

Jebb Bolds: Hi. Everybody already said remove the occupancy limits or something or like change that law that was like a super absurd law. Right? This occupancy thing. I really love

absurdities so maybe we should keep it around actually its like kind of fun its like whoa

look at weird Boulder we’ve got a ordinance that doesn’t allow more than three people to

live together even if they’re \_\_\_\_\_. That’s pretty weird. That’s bizarre. And so you know

other things that are bizarre I don’t think we should hire more police but if we did it

would be really bizarre what if we had like ten police for every resident, wouldn't that be

sweet? We’d be so safe! Like our whole community would be like super safe. Let’s get

more police. They could be fun. I think maybe we could give them artist supplies instead

of guns? Oh my gosh! Why do the police have guns?

Bob Yates: Ok, well, since I’ve first got involved in city politics my whole motto has been make the best with what you have left. And I think we need to do that so people have spoken to that. We have been talking about art districts. Why don’t we have a special zoning for art districts where people can have live and work? Where they can have their functions where

they can have their events. I mean its like a no-brainer. I think in terms of occupancy one

bedroom equals one person you know we need to have this discussion and you know its

about you know who are we going to be in the next 25 years and what are we going to be.

And I think artists are a part of that solution or that vision and so we need to make sure

people are living here and we need to be using our spaces as best as possible. That means

occupancy limits. We need to look at that and it also means looking at OAU’S and

ADU’S. I want to recognize Matt Cohen who built the project who was great and I also

want to recognize \_\_\_\_ who was on council with me when we set the inclusionary zoning

goal of 10% we’re almost there and we’re going to move beyond that.

Jeffrey Nytch: Alright yeah we’re going to come back to Bob here and then I’m going to make you play musical chairs. So our next question from our studio audience is what can the City do to

incentivize corporate giving to the arts? 30 seconds?! The candidates are getting restless!

Bob Yates: Apparently we want to get back to drinking. I came from a big corporation, Level Three Communications, and I actually started their corporate social responsibility program. And

the way to motivate corporations to participate in arts or anything else in the community

is to get their employees involved. They won’t give money unless there’s something in it

for them. That’s the way corporations work, I’m being honest with you. And so what you

have to do is you have to sucker in their employees - get their employees involved in arts

programs - get them involved on these boards - get them involved in your galleries and in

places where you do and see art. And when they see people in their community, in their

corporation, their employees being involved in the arts and loving the arts that’s when

they’ll give because they want to retain those employees and make them happy. Thank

you.

Jebb Bolds: I’m not really sure what the question is again. . . . . so what can the city do? Ok I don’t know. I think the City can, you know, do tax breaks or whatever for some of these bigger corporations who do actually have after work programs where perhaps their employees are volunteering at after school programs and stuff like that. I really don’t have any ideas so I will yield to Bob on that one.

Cindy Carlisle: I don’t know, tax breaks for corporations sounds a little backwards to me.

Incentivizing them, we just build the tallest tower there is. You know, one of those things

that goes up and we start by putting their names at the very top for the tallest giver. And

the least given ones we put on the bottom and everybody walks their dogs by, how about

that? So Jebb's talked about funny police and it reminded me of Patty Limerick who runs

the Center for the [American] West up at the University of Colorado, and she was a jester, that was her job around her university. She got a MacArthur Fellowship for it. So keep it up.

Unidentified speaker: Yeah Cindy you know we don’t have to build a tall tower we have the flatirons so we just the biggest givers get the space at the top. No. I was kidding, just to be clear I was kidding. But no I mean the 1% on development projects, I think, is a way to bring

corporations in and get some public art when new buildings go in and then I just say let’s

try to reach out to them but lets have people in the city try to actively encourage

partnerships with our larger corporations to get them contributing to the public art

program and getting involved in the community. So really trying to work collaboratively.

That flatirons thing is going to make a hell of a headline . . . why did I say that one?

Michael Kruteck: So in my experience the corporate world corporations are generally topped out organizations and so what we need to do is we need to get the people at the top engaged

and what that means is we should go ahead and try to get them on boards and in other

ways to get them involved in the artists community so that they can then encourage the

employees down below them to go ahead and do the same thing.

Suzanne Jones: Suzanne Jones I think we need you know a mixture of requiring it as a

part of the developing projects the 1% for the arts the 1% from every development

project. Why not? And lets also celebrate, create this culture of art as something that we’re

proud of in this community that all the corporations need to buy into because its part of

who we are if they want to be here. And I think we can through a mixture of carrot and

stick to make it happen I think is a way to get corporations in.

Unidentified speaker: I think everybody has good ideas. Well, I think there’s lots of good ideas. Like I said before I am a big supporter of 1% for the arts. I think that there can be a mandatory 1% for the arts with an encouragement of more and there can even be a rating. Like there’s a

lead rating for environmentally friendly buildings there could be one for art-friendly

buildings or art-friendly developers.

Louise Pearson: Ok I can tell you that Jan Burton has vast experience in helping get

corporations to help sponsor the arts. For the Mash Up festival she got countless

restaurants, bars, pizzeria locale, cured, all these people participated in the Colorado

musical festival for the Mash Up series, and they donated their time and their money and

their food and their wine and it was a wonderful collaboration. Also, she was able to get

sponsors to help pay for the musicians that come to play and so I think that Jan Burton, you

can be pretty sure, she’s got some great ideas how to get corporate sponsors to help with

the arts.

Unidentified speaker: I think we need to elevate the conversation around the arts and culture and make it just as important as social and environmental aspects. Give publicity to the corporations that are sponsoring events and programs. Make it mandatory through regulation, if measure 301 passes, we could require some environmental social aspects to be paid out as part of the paying their own way development. And give them a choice. We’ll get plenty of corporations that will go towards the arts and culture. Some that will go more towards the environment but add more choice and don’t say you have to do it this way or that but give back more to the community efforts. Thanks.

Unidentified speaker: I’m \_\_\_\_ and of course as an artist I would love to see the corporate world fund the arts much more vigorously than they do. And I think they would like to because it increases the economic vitality of the community they are in. I think 1% for the arts from new

development is a very good thing because it allows a steady stream of money to support

all our activities and public/private partnership can work very well. I am a gardener. And

actually gardening is also an art. In Fort Collins they have a wonderful garden which is on

land which is open space owned by the city. But they have many public/private

partnerships that support programs within this garden. And I think Boulder should be

looking creatively in similar ventures. Garden clubs participate in keeping up various

parts of that garden, this is how we need to do it here.

Leonard May: The question was about corporate giving and not exactions on \_\_\_ on

comments to the giving part of it. This is actually a key role of government, to be a

facilitator and a catalyst for basically matching up needs with resources. A lot of this is

actually just issue awareness so if you listen to the NPR fundraisers about all the

people who’ve contributed, the businesses, they weren’t even aware of the potential both

for their own marketing and just for the community to be aware that they even existed

until somebody from NPR called them and matched them up with the kind of a program.

And that’s a key role I think we can play.

Tim Plass: I’m going to go with a buffet of answers from other folks already. So

from Bob getting the employees involved, absolutely, and from Michael getting the top

people and put them on boards, absolutely and from Suzanne make sure we have a

culture of art and from me I’d say from the City we ought to be there as a funder too. And

if we were asking people to give money we should be there as an example and I think

that’s really important, so that’s what I would add to it.

Jebbs Bold: Well, I’d like to get serious, one of the things that we all know that made this country successful is slavery and I think we should enslave the corporations. That’s pretty much

it. They don’t encourage giving. What is that? That’s crazy. They are in control of

everything. We should enslave them. Slavery for corporations, Jebbs Bold.

Lisa Morzel: So I would say, I’m Lisa Morzel still, and I would say art shapes us as a society and it actually shapes our values so I’m totally on board with the 1%. But I also think what we

need to do is: we did green points for residential, why don’t we do art points? And so

those communities, those developers, who want to do art points you know they’re only

going to increase their appreciation in their community. So you know, I think a developer

should be able to go in there and say, “Look, I want to do a whole selection of art points and

I get credit for that.” And so I would like to see that, we definitely need more art in this

community.

Jeffery Nytch: Before we go into the next question we’re going to do a little seventh inning stretch. Yes, change seats so we’re not in the same order. Just a seventh inning stretch going on and changing where you sit. (moving) Alright, in the interest of time, we’re going to make

this the last question. One more question everybody and then we can commence with the

view. We had a bunch of really great questions submitted. This is one I really think is

interesting. It’s a question about architecture. What is the role of contemporary

architecture within the City of Boulder and envisioning how the arts can help in our city

development? What is the role of architecture? We talk about visual arts and

music and performing arts, but what about the role of architecture? And why don’t we

start right here.

Louise Pearson: Well I’m happy to have this question because Jan Burton has an older

house on Chatauqua Hill on Eleventh Street and it’s stone. I’m not sure when it was built

but certainly half a century ago, and she had Sam Austin hired to update

this house. They kept the main character of the house in the front but he designed a

fabulous house that for this space up there on the hill and it truly combines the original

architecture with new contemporary, cutting edge architecture with a green sensibility

and it was a wonderful thing and we need more of it.

Unidentified Speaker: Well I think architecture really defines our cities so it is very crucial in setting the tone for our city all together. And our space can function well with good architecture. I think what I have seen in Boulder in the last five to ten years is not good architecture at all. So I

would encourage our architects in the community to be much more creative with the kind

of spaces they make. My son is an architect who favors a very contemporary cutting edge

look and I live in an almost one hundred year old house and he is always trying to

remodel it to the style that you are suggesting. But I think it’s not a question about

contemporary or old its a question about what’s good? What is good architecture? And

beautiful architecture produces a beautiful city whether it is contemporary or not. And I

think contemporary architecture is capable of being a defining force for our city. We have

lagged in this, and I would encourage our design professionals to do better.

Unidentified Speaker: Thank you all for staying. It’s getting late. I think that architecture is really important to create a welcoming community and to make people feel how we’re wanting them to feel, to fit into a culture and I think it’s really important that our architecture reflects that and shows that we are a welcoming community and also a smart community that’s not afraid

of innovation.

Again, My name is Bob Yates. What is a city physically? It’s a collection of buildings, the

grass and trees interspersed. And God did a pretty good job with the grass and trees so

we’re not going to worry about that, but on our buildings in this town we don’t do a good

job, I think in the last ten or fifteen years we’ve put up some really butt-ugly buildings.

Really really bad buildings, so lets stop doing that, ok, just cut it out. One of the things

that’s coming down the road here in this community is you hear a little bit about from

some of the people behind me is “form based codes.” And so you have zoning codes that

say how big they can be and all that kind of stuff, but how about what color they are and

what shape they are and what the textures are, how about we agree on those things too?

Because in some ways those are almost more important than how tall a building is and so

we’re going to in this community talk about “form based codes,” have a set of rules so that

the architects and the designers can think about what the community values and make

beautiful buildings for a change.

Jebbs Bold: I’m having one of those moments, I forgot exactly what the question was. The role of architecture. Architecture, so we all know that architecture begins with arcs, not Noah’s ark, but arch. I know about arch because I’m an archivist. So, Arch means power, our

architecture has no power, we need more powerful architecture. (clapping) Black Power

architecture, I’m serious there’s too much white power in this town.

Leonard May: I don’t have much of an opinion about this but I’ll give it a snap anyway. So, architecture shapes how we experience the world around us, and if you look at all the great places in the world you like to visit, all the great spaces and squares what frames them is good architecture so this is really critical for how a city is experienced and how good of a city it is. And Bob’s absolutely right we haven’t done a very good job in the last 30 years I don’t think there’s a panacea for that other than people who are on the planning board like me be willing to say “no” to bad design which has not actually been the case for the past 20 years that I’ve been aware of.

Cindy Carlisle: I’d like to ditto what Leonard May just said and what Bob said. The

Buildings, the boxes out there which represent our new architecture really aren’t great,

beautiful so maybe the planning board could take some direction from the policy makers,

the City Council and ask that we have a little more in terms of beauty, aesthetics with our

built environment. With architecture in mind I think Boulder has a very unique identity, we clearly are founded by masons, there’s a lot of brick structures and I think the brick facades are very important I think the flagstone is very important to our identity as Boulder. I believe that

a percentage of our buildings should still maintain that identity and should still be

required to either have the facade or at least some sort of brick or flagstone involved.

Tim Plass: I think architecture is art. And I love that we still get challenged about it

and we get excited about it and we disagree about it and I think that’s the way it should

be and I love that that happens. Has all the architecture been great in this town? No. I

think the City Council realizes that. We actually have a design excellence program in place

where we’re trying to figure that out and maybe some of it is about form base codes,

maybe it is about materials. I don’t know, we need to figure that out but for me there’s

another piece to this and that’s the public realm. And so the negative space around the

buildings and what does that look like and for me that’s almost just as important as the

architecture itself.

Hello, Aaron Brockett again: The architecture is the most public of the arts and its

critically important to the shape of our community. I went to an event the other day, it

was part of the Month of Modern that’s going on. I don’t know if you follow that. It was a

night format talk, and it was about “Imagine a great city.” And there were all kinds of

inspiring ideas that were presented that night from a number of different speakers and a

number of them were about the design of the city and what the buildings should look like.

And our recent buildings have not been living up to those kinds of, you know, aspirations,

and I think part of our problem is that our buildings get designed by committees and

implemented by large corporations and there’s not as much room for a creative spark that

would give us the kind of extraordinary beautiful buildings that our city deserves. So I

think the solution to that is tough, so I’m not going to give you the final answer, but I

think as a city council that we need to hold developers feet to the fire a little bit more so

that they give us something more high quality and if they deviate from that in a kind of

subsequent version that we’ve seen several times we need to reject that.

I’m Lisa Morzel, I’m still Lisa Morzel. Anyway architecture is critical and buildings shape

us and who we are. The negative spaces as Tim said are as important as those built

spaces. So the public spaces are critical. We need to be using real materials, we don’t use

those. And on city council we recognize that a lot of ugly buildings are being built and

one of the things that I had really promoted from my time on council has been more

based codes. And we’re doing that. So, I just want to comment that one of things city

council has done in recent years is hire Matt Chamansky and he is our art director and we

have not had a real art director ever before. So I just want to call that out.

So one of the principals of new urbanism is that instead of investing so heavily in your

own personal space that you invest in the spaces outside of your house. Because if you’re

going to live in a small place, then you’re going to want to have a nice place outside of

your house to go to. And, so in the sense that we are now scraping and building 1, 2 ,3

million dollar houses that is a concern for me because to me that is more of an investment

and away from what I consider to be appropriate for Boulder which is this new urbanism

idea. I think that the floor based idea is great but one of things I know that produces bad

design in my opinion is this whole thing that happens around committee and so I’m really

hoping Boulder can get out of the way so creative ideas can in fact flourish.

Suzanne Jones, and thanks again for being here and for sticking this out. I think

architecture is absolutely essential to our sense of place in creating, reflecting who we are

and who we want to be in our aspirations and also our history. And also the public space

is where we come together to celebrate in community and live together. And so I think it’s

really important. As it was mentioned, we don’t like what we’re getting so we’re doing

this form based copilot in Boulder Junction and what we did as part of that is we did some

surveys about what people like, people like real materials, they like interesting things

happening along the street, they like window sills, they like real balconies, they like

interesting roof lines and so the idea is to get more direction about what that will be, try it

out at Boulder Junction and if we like it try it elsewhere so that we get the quality that we

want. Because we’re going to live with these buildings for a long time and I think that’s

really important.

Michael Kruteck: The interesting thing here is that everybody is talking about a form of

art and architecture as if we all have the same thought about it. And everybody’s belief

about what is good architecture and good art is very different from mine and probably

differs very much from everybody else up here and members in the audience as well. So I

think what we need to do is we need to create predictability. And what that means is we

need to go ahead and go through the code and we need to make it a little bit more

predictable so that people will understand what’s going to come up in front of them and

what the builders can do within the realm of the code. Because I think what we’re

suffering from as a community is people looking at things coming up and saying,

“Whoa we didn't really think it was going to look like that.” We’re suffering from that

but that’s what was in the plans for a very long period of time. And so I think the

predictability component is a particular feature we need to be looking at here and we

need to be less prescriptive about what people are doing and calling it good art and good

architecture.

Unidentified Speaker: Thanks I think our architecture in Boulder should highlight and celebrate Boulder history, environment and our values. I’d like to challenge the architects who are putting

projects together to reduce carbon footprint, involve artists in your design, accessability

to people and the community, open spaces, indoor and outdoor spaces, and flexibility for

use of art and culture. Finally I’d like to ask everybody here to take look at my petition

outside. This will help save the secret garden and create an actual art and culture venue like

we’ve been talking about all night. It’s happening right now. It’s under threat. I’m dealing

with a lot of roadblocks from the city and would like you all to take a look at that and

support us now or in the future. Finally, all these folks have wonderful ideas. We’re all

pretty much in line with the type of things we’ve been talking about tonight, not only you

guys hold their feet to the fire, I will hold their feet to the fire. Whether I’m up there or

not, I will be a champion for the arts and culture.

Jeffrey Nytch: Alright, well we’re going to call it a night on that note.