



## Ed Robson Arena - Workshop #1

January 19, 2019 | 10:30 a.m. – noon  
Colorado College Tutt Library

### Workshop Summary

Approximately 120 citizens attended Workshop #1 for the planning and design of Robson Arena on the Colorado College campus, one of the venues associated with the City for Champions initiative.

#### Workshop Welcome and Introductions

Project team includes:

Colorado College: Chris Coulter, Assistant Vice President Facilities Services; Rick Greene/Senior Project Manager

Consultant Team: Chris Lieber/N.E.S. Inc., Lisa Bachman/Bachman pr; Todd Frisbie/Felsburg Holt & Ullevig; Kyle Campbell/Classic Engineering; Bill Surna/WGI Carl Walker; Adam Davidson/JLG Architects

City Representative: Bob Cope/City of Colorado Springs Economic Development and C4C

#### Purpose and Goals of the Workshop

The project team provided an overview of the project and the workshop exercise for the day. Attendees were referred to the project webpage on the CC website <http://www.coloradocollege.edu/robsonarena> for more information and where the Frequently Asked Questions are posted. All documents related to community meetings are posted there as well (presentation, display boards, agenda, comment forms and Workshop Summary/Key Take-Aways from the small group exercise). The public may submit additional questions on the comment forms handed out at the workshop, or by email to: [RobsonArenaDesign@coloradocollege.edu](mailto:RobsonArenaDesign@coloradocollege.edu)

#### Process and Instructions for the Workshop Exercise

Chris Lieber, N.E.S. Inc. explained the consultant team's role in the project is to capture the vision of Colorado College and the City of Colorado Springs, and to communicate and implement the best possible plan that works for the college, the city and the adjacent neighborhoods. He provided the scenario and gave the attendees instructions for the workshop exercise and encouraged the attendees to work together in the small group exercise to form their recommendations, taking into account all the variables noted in the workshop handouts.

#### Small Group Exercise

The Workshop scenario was to consider a sold-out CC hockey game, on a Friday or Saturday night. The tasks included 1) Ranking a list of variables to consider in developing a parking plan and 2) Deciding how to park 1,055 cars for a sold-out hockey game. Attendees broke into 11 groups to discuss their recommendations and rationale for the two exercise tasks.

#### Task #1 – Prioritizing the Objectives

The groups were asked to rank the importance of a list of variables in the consideration for developing a parking and traffic plan. The information informs the project team on what are the most important factors to the group in the planning process. Those variables ranged from minimizing delays for egress/post-game traffic, expanding parking capacity in close proximity to the arena, the use of public/private lot options, alternate transportation choices, security issues and more.

#### Task #2 – Create a Parking Plan

Groups were given a list of "tools" to use and indicate on the map when considering the scenario. This part of the process provided the project team with input on preferences, priorities and feasibility. Those tools revolved around using existing parking, parking management options and adding parking capacity.

### Considerations for the arena

#### Existing Parking Capacity

- Existing CC parking lots, private parking lots, existing on-street parking, downtown parking garages

#### Parking Management Options

- Shuttle program, designated parking for season ticket holders, parking restrictions program, timing and schedule of events

**Additional Parking Capacity**

- Additional on-site parking, additional off-site parking, additional on-street parking

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**Small Group Report Out****Table #1:**

- Provide parking as close to the arena as possible; suggesting
  - A structure at Autrey Field
  - A structure for 400 cars on site
  - Armstrong lot
  - Fine Arts Center structure

**Table #2:**

- Existing spots for garages
  - At the arena site (by removing the 3D Arts Bldg.)
  - Across the street
  - On the campus field in the Nevada Avenue/Cache La Poudre /Weber Street block (approximately 250 spots)
  - Engage the City Parking Enterprise to contribute/create a plan
  - Additional parking on campus
  - At the Fine Arts Center

**Table #3:**

- Add parking at the tennis courts structure (obtain an easement from the city)
- Fine Arts Center
- Add on-street parking during the games on Cascade Avenue
- Implement a shuttle system
- With an increase of out-of-town guests and a new downtown hotel, implement a parking program and a shuttle system in collaboration with them

**Table #4:**

- Do not build an arena at the site at all
- Flip the sites: Put the arena in the grass area near I-25/Uintah green area (Stewart Field, city-owned Evergreen Park/Pineum, tennis courts), and move those facilities to the Nevada Avenue/Cache La Poudre site
- Absorb all parking on campus
- Make parking free
- Safety concern ... most won't walk more than a block

**Table #5:**

- Colorado College should be responsible for all event parking without relying on any on-street neighborhood parking; don't make the neighborhood take on the parking aspect
- Restrict on-street parking in front of homes and enforce
- Add a single parking deck to existing facilities on the colleges vs. adding new parking lots of approximately 200 spaces by:
  - Restriping Cascade Avenue through the campus and adding parking there
  - Adding a deck at the Armstrong parking lot
  - Adding a deck at the Fine Arts Center lot

**Table #6:**

- Add a parking structure
- Have reserved spaces for season ticket holders
- Implement permitted parking program – all times, not just during the games
- Implement a circulator shuttle program in conjunction with the downtown parking garages
- Assure historic preservation of the neighborhood

- Add parking to the Monument Park parking area (the dirt lot on Colorado College campus)
- Penrose-St. Francis Hospital is planning to expand its parking to the north ... look into a shared ramp between the college and the hospital
- With the new downtown events/venues and residential units, encourage multi-modal transportation (bike, pedestrian, etc.)

**Table #7:**

- Encourage parking in downtown garages
- Direct the season ticket holders to the priority parking areas to keep them out of the neighborhoods
- Provide as much parking capacity on the arena site as possible
- Add decks above existing campus facilities

**Table #8:**

- Add on-site parking (access to the site will create bad traffic flow)
- Implement an adequate shuttle service
- Make sure any parking garages look nice and fit in with the campus and the neighborhood

**Table #9:**

- Minimize impact on existing residents
- Provide for as much parking as possible on the arena site
- Encourage parking in the downtown parking garages
- Encourage use of shuttles
- Use of existing lot at Uintah Street east of Cascade Avenue (the large area where parking is today)
- Make any parking garage beautiful
- Build a parking structure and put a multi-use field on top (similar to the parking structure at UCCS)

**Table #10:**

- a. Make sure the college takes the responsibility for providing the parking
- b. Build a garage on the site, next to the arena
- c. Add parking behind the Fine Arts Center site
- d. Minimize traffic in the neighborhoods; maintain the beauty of the neighborhood
  - o Provide easy-access parking to minimize game attendees driving around looking for a parking space

**Table #11:**

- a. Implement valet parking
- b. Construct an onsite parking garage
- c. Consider an enhanced customer experience reflective of Division 1 hockey games
- d. Minimize traffic congestion at intersections
- e. Minimize security problems
- f. Use nearby available surface lots (such as the Kmart lot on Fillmore Street)

**Additional comments/feedback offered by workshop attendees**

- **Parking/Traffic:**
  - Some local residents want to restrict parking on the streets in front of their homes
  - Consider implementing a circulator transit system between downtown and arena similar to the system used at the 16<sup>th</sup> Street Mall in downtown Denver
  - Residents want CC to construct a parking structure instead of pushing the parking into the community
  - Desire for a resident parking permit option through the City of Colorado Springs
  - How CC will manage the parking on an ongoing basis
  - Use the former Kmart site on North Nevada for parking and/or emergency services for the arena
  - How to accommodate intersection congestion and general traffic delay
  - Consider adding parking decks on top of existing CC lots where possible
  - Shuttles to downtown parking garages with valet service and coupons/discounts
  - Use Monument Park, expand Fine Arts Center parking, use tennis courts, soccer field, Autrey Field
  - Add more on-street options (angled, bike lanes, parallel, etc.)

- Suggest a mobile app with real-time information on parking capacity to eliminate cruising around the neighborhoods
- Personal safety, for the parked cars and for those walking to/from the arena (lighting, etc.)
  
- **Local business and neighborhood impacts:**
  - Consider how businesses will be impacted with the proposed parking concept (e.g., All Souls Unitarian Church and its paid parking revenue source)
  - Arena not only helps CC but also the downtown community become more robust
  - Historic neighborhood preservation - arena size/use/density, parking, environment, safety
  
- **Other Comments:**
  - I'm excited about the project and encourage the use of as many local builders and subcontractors as possible
  - Bringing hockey to campus will create a true campus feel
  - A branded arena creates and enhances fan/customer experience. Make options fun
  - Future of Honnen
  - Would like to know how many parking spaces will be lost to the new science building
  - Incentivize the neighbors to encourage support and decrease any animosity
  - Can't wait to watch hockey games in a full arena
  - I think the arena will unify school spirit at CC and bring a new excitement to campus
  - I like the workshops. Helps the nearby community feel not so alienated.

- **Wrap up and Next Steps**

Attendees were informed of the schedule for the upcoming meetings/workshops for the public to contribute to the design and planning for the arena, and encouraged to attend and participate.

--**Community Meeting #2:** Saturday, Feb 16, 10:30 a.m.-noon, Colorado College Cornerstone Arts Center, 825 N. Cascade Ave.

Meeting Focus Subject(s): Arena building, architecture, programs

--**Workshop #2:** Saturday, March 2, 10:30 a.m.-noon, Tutt Library at Colorado College, 1021 N. Cascade Ave.

--**Community Meeting #3:** Late March, date/time/location to be determined

Workshop #1 ended at 12:15 p.m.