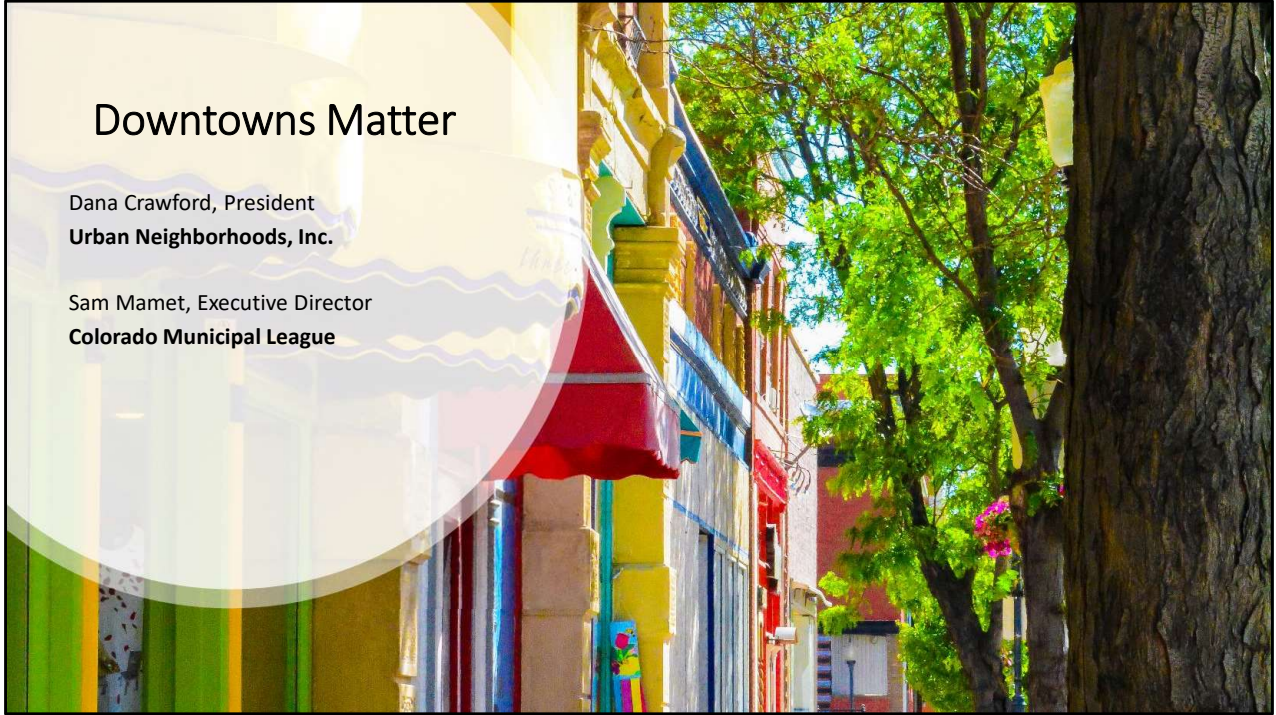


Downtowns Matter

Dana Crawford, President
Urban Neighborhoods, Inc.

Sam Mamet, Executive Director
Colorado Municipal League



Why do downtowns matter?

- They represent the “heart” of a community
- They are gathering places
- In older communities, they provide a connection to the past
- They express the culture and character of a community
- They instill a sense of pride in a community



How did you get involved in real estate development? Was it difficult being a woman in a male-dominated industry, particularly in the 1960s?





Denver Union Station has been an enormous success. To what do you attribute that success?



Where is this? What sort of event is this?

What should a community do to improve its downtown?

- Develop a shared vision – what do we want our downtown to look like? How should it function? What makes our community distinctive?
- Prioritize the downtown in policy and planning decisions
- Support existing downtown business and encourage new businesses to locate downtown
- Build capacity (e.g. Urban Renewal Authority, Main Street Program, Historic District Designation, Certified Local Government, Downtown Chambers of Commerce, etc.)
- Find reasons to bring people downtown for special occasions and every day (e.g. festivals, farmers' markets, fun runs, the bank, post office, barbershop, etc.)
- Focus on the public realm -- placemaking, placemaking, placemaking

Why is a shared vision important?



How do projects come to you? What drew you to Trinidad?



Main Street Patio Program

Provides for the installation of floating docks along Main Street to accommodate outdoor seating.

Before Patio Installed



After Patio Installed

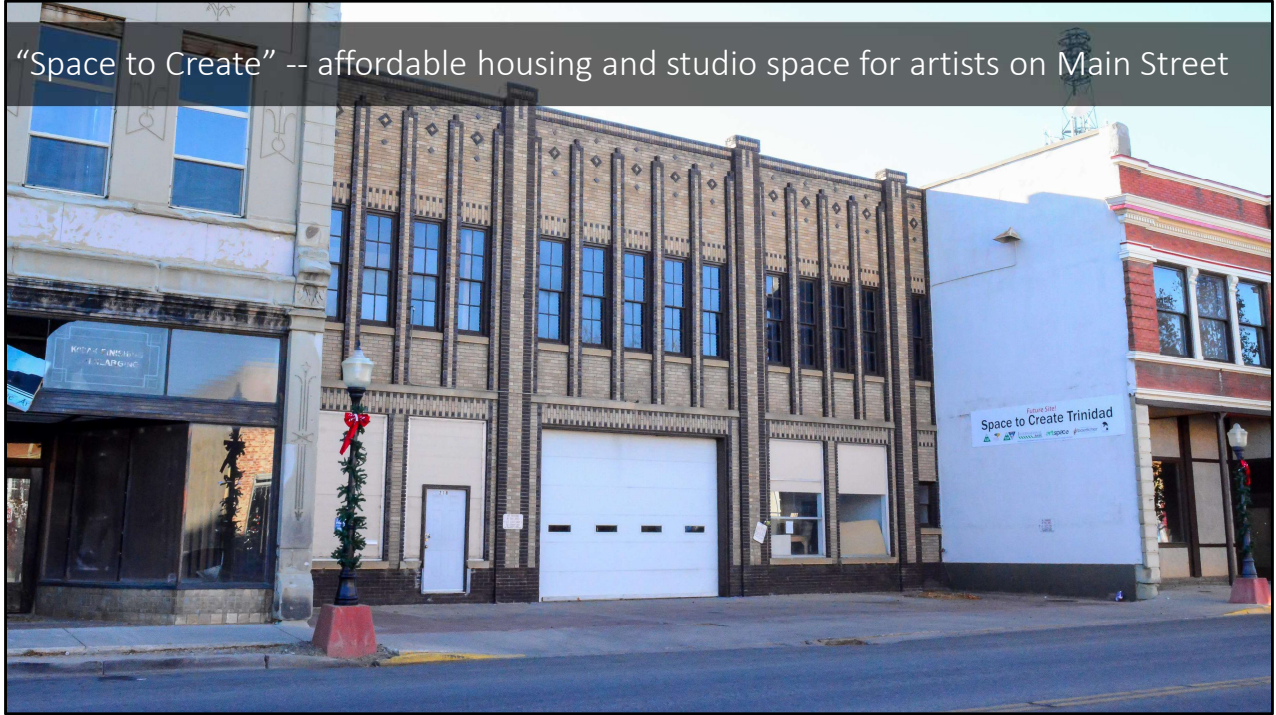


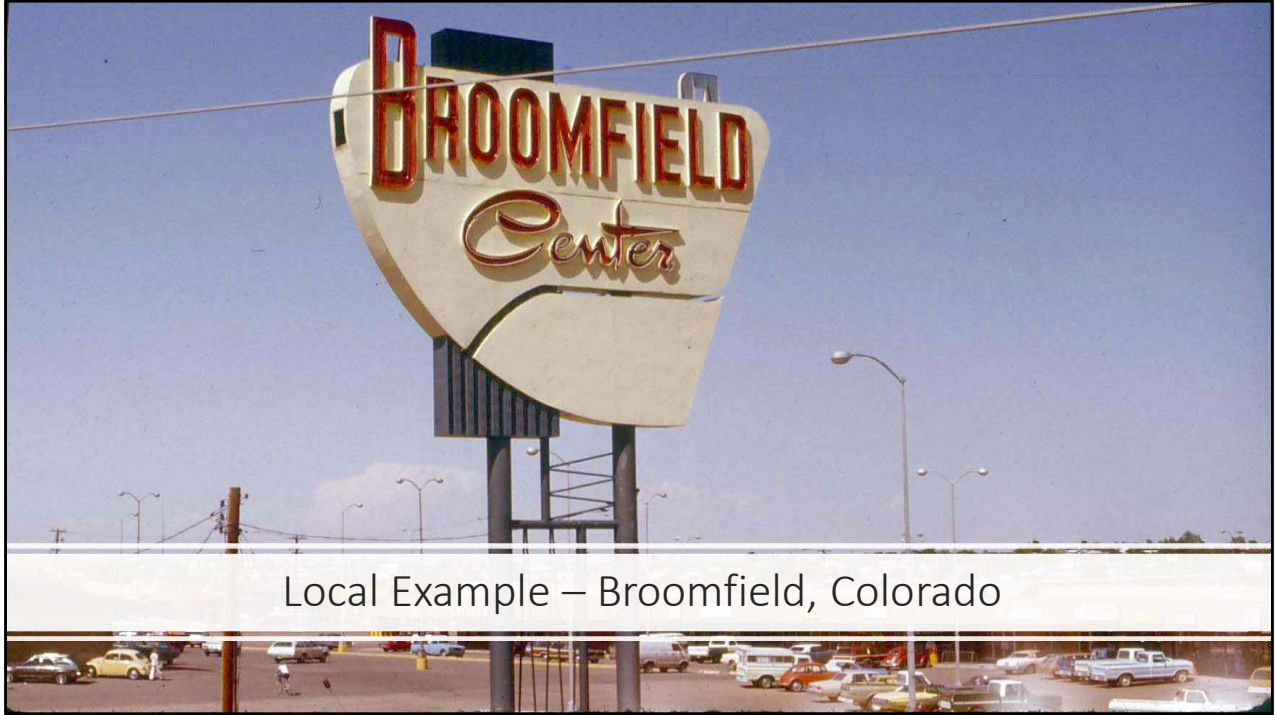


Façade Improvement Program

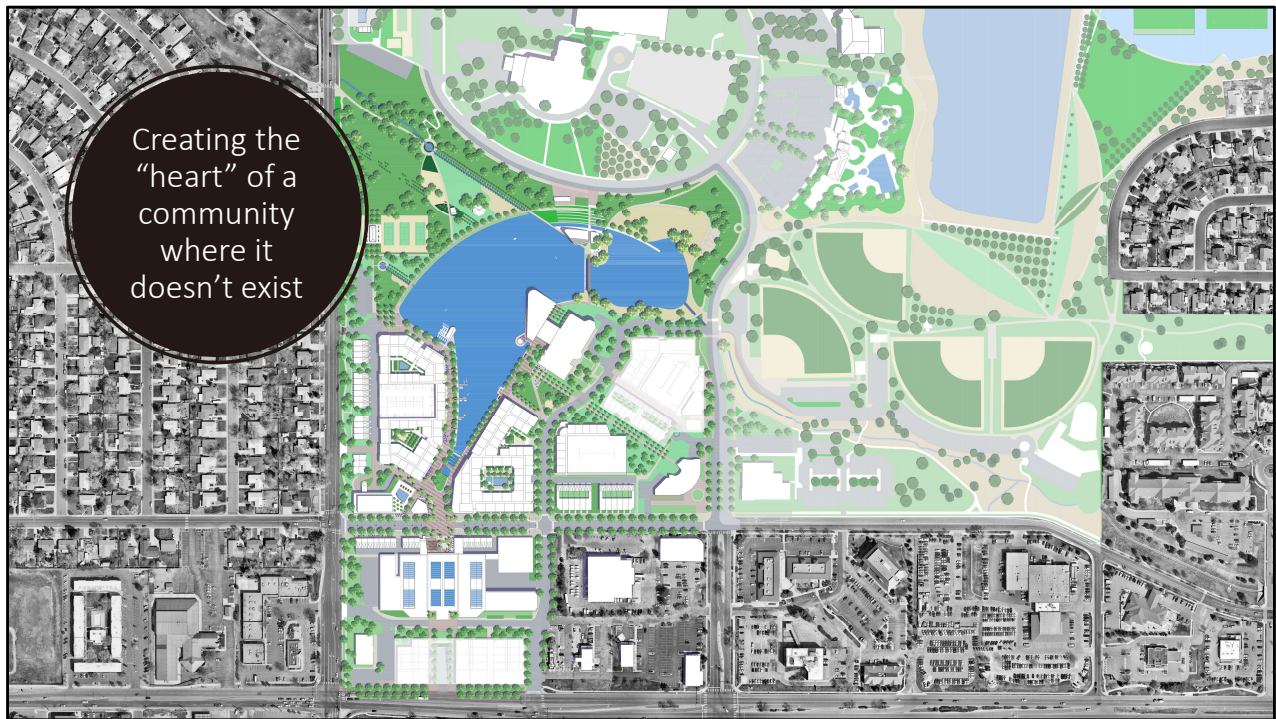
City provides a dollar-for-dollar match for approved façade improvements up to \$50,000 (a \$25,000 maximum match).

“Space to Create” -- affordable housing and studio space for artists on Main Street





What is a downtown? Can a downtown be located any place in a city?









Placemaking

- A place that invites you to stroll, linger, and socialize
- A gathering place for civic, cultural, and social functions
- A vibrant public place with a strong sense of community
- A public space accessible to all that is comfortable and safe





This is at Denver Union Station, correct? The redevelopment of railroad depots seems to be happening more and more across the state. Any words of advice?



Why is historic preservation so important?





Idaho Springs, Colorado



So, you're working in Idaho Springs on the redevelopment of the Argo Mill and Tunnel. What inspired you to take on this project? What inspires you in general about cities?





Downtown Brighton

Thank you

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