

#### **East Colfax International District**

**Business Breakfast Meeting** 

Friday, Aug. 12, 2022 8:45 a.m.

Kitchen Collective 1895 Quebec St., Denver, CO 80220

#### **Meeting Agenda**

#### **Welcome/Introductions (5 minutes)**

- See sign in sheet for complete attendance list
- Fourth meeting we've had to date

### **Cultural District Updates (15 minutes)**

- Renaming: Due to feedback from the community (via meetings, survey) we are changing the name of the district to East Colfax Cultural District. Previously we referred to the district as the East Colfax International District.
- Mission statement
  - Review latest options and updated on the process
  - Overall, attendees liked the latest version of the meeting statement. They stated it was simple and succinct, inclusive of businesses without storefronts, forward looking. There was interest in a pathway to lead communities to building ownership. There was concern that taxes have tripled on business ownership and that potentially ownership could mean stewardship instead. Also discussed the importance of helping businesses obtain long-term leases to help with rent control. Suggestion to have business owners work with renters rights groups
- Completed initial treasure map based on business input at last meeting, currently soliciting feedback from residents through social media, partner outreach, etc.
- DEDO Neighborhood Activation grant application process open now (up to \$200k can be requested). The Fax Partnership will apply for funds to advance the designation of the East Colfax Cultural District.

## **Elements of a Cultural District Exercise (30 minutes)**

- Dream big! We want to brainstorm and rank options for branding, place-making and safety
- These ranked items will be considered when applying for grant funding
- Disclaimer: This won't all happen at once, but over several years as funding becomes available
- Recap of ranked options can be found here



#### **Upcoming Trainings (5 minutes)**

- Pocket guides for business, 10 total in the series. They are short workbooks, each translated into 4 to 5 languages, co-branded/created with CEDS. Topics include building credit, calculating cost of goods, marketing, inventory management, etc.
- Small Business Video Series, 3 to 6 short training topics, each topic to be co-branded with a subject matter expert. All will be translated into 4 to 5 languages The videos will be 20 to 25 minutes in length. Topics in Intro to Bank on Denver, separating personal and business finances, marketing, etc.
- 9 corner store owners are currently receiving individualized accounting and inventory management training with ReVes Financial
- Renters rights (virtual or in-person meeting TBD, to be collaborative efforts w/ECCC in late fall/early winter 2022)

# Round the Table Updates/Q&A (5 minutes)

- Questions & Comments
  - Question for Denver Police Department: Do cameras installed by businesses help in fighting crime? DPD Response: Yes, whenever there is a crime that occured in a specific area, we check the area to see if personal cameras are installed and ask for that footage. It's very helpful.
- Amlaku Eshetie update Amlaku recently left The Fax Partnership to pursue a career change as a lecturer at the University of California - Berkeley.
- Save the date: Next breakfast is Friday, October 14 location TBD