

Nederland Downtown Development Issues and Vision

(working document)

Issue: Circulation

- Traffic congestion
- Pedestrian and vehicle safety
- Visibility of local businesses and attractions
- Accessibility to local businesses and attractions
- Parking

Vision Statement - Circulation:

-The NDDA envisions a downtown district that is conducive to non-motorized modes of transportation, providing residents and visitors with easy access to reliable substitutes for fossil-fuel transit such as human powered and electric vehicles.

- Parking for out of area visitors is provided in the Town periphery with easy access and navigation to Town businesses, attractions and recreational venues.
- Decreasing motor vehicle traffic in the downtown district improves safety, enhances the aesthetic condition of downtown and diminishes local dependence on fossil fuels.
- Through targeted infrastructure improvements, Nederland's retail and recreational attractions are well-connected and pedestrian travel is well-regulated and favorable to motor vehicle travel.

Issues: Riverwalk

- Preserving the riparian corridor
- Promoting natural beauty
- Educating residents and visitors on our environment
- Enhancing the downtown experience
- Providing well-managed pedestrian access to Middle Boulder Creek

Vision Statement - Riverwalk:

-The NDDA envisions a riparian corridor that adds a natural element to the downtown district while prioritizing sustainable consciousness and protection of the riparian environment.

- Nederland's riparian corridor represents a natural element that enhances the beauty of downtown, and as such, it should be protected and preserved for the benefit of future generations.
- The riparian corridor presents an opportunity for educating the public on the natural environment of Nederland and the impact of human activity on that environment.
- While the NDDA prioritizes protection of the riparian corridor, the board also seeks strategies for developing low-impact pedestrian access. This may be achieved by relocating the pedestrian path on the south side of Middle Boulder Creek to the north side, which provides greater accessibility to First Street businesses

Issues: Beautification

- Refurbishing and repairing existing downtown fixtures
- Balancing functionality with aesthetic appeal
- Leveraging the environment and natural elements
- Preserving and promoting a Nederland brand
- Addressing “eyesores” in downtown

Vision Statement - Beautification:

-The NDDA envisions an approach to beautification that promotes functionality in downtown fixtures and the built-environment. Through public-private partnerships, the NDDA seeks to preserve and enhance downtown’s existing fixtures and infrastructure, creating beauty through regeneration rather than replacement and new construction.

- Nederland’s downtown achieves a unique aesthetic by incorporating natural elements and allowing for complete functionality of surrounding eco-systems.
- By addressing issues such as excessive dust and gravel and decaying streets and sidewalks, the NDDA can enhance both the beauty of downtown and the functionality.
- The NDDA is committed to fostering public-private partnerships that address blight and promote improvements to neglected areas in the downtown district.

Issues: Town Square

- Developing a nucleus/gateway for the downtown district
- Addressing street vendor and peddler issues
- Providing a venue for events in downtown
- Enhancing the vibrancy of downtown
- Improving pedestrian appeal in downtown

Vision Statement - Town Square:

-The NDDA envisions the development of a common space that serves as both a nucleus of and gateway to the downtown district.

- A common space in the downtown area could serve as a hub for alternative forms of transportation, alleviating vehicle traffic while preserving access to downtown attractions.
- A common space in the downtown area could serve as a venue for the regulated vending of consumer goods.
- A common space in the downtown area could serve as a cultural center, incorporating spaces for small live performances, seasonal celebrations such as tree lighting ceremonies, and the display of local art and sculptures.

Public-Private Partnership:

-The NDDA is committed to supporting private investment that promotes local values; this commitment acknowledges the important role of private development and entrepreneurship in shaping our community.

- The NDDA recognizes that public funding for infrastructure improvement and economic development is limited.
- The NDDA further recognizes that private investment offers a solution for overcoming gaps in public funding.
- The NDDA believes that all public investment should promote local values and contribute to the overall quality of the community.
- As such, the NDDA will work with local business and property owners to support private investment that improves the downtown district without compromising Nederland’s unique local character