SAN MIGUEL COUNTY
EAST END MASTER PLAN

MOBILITY & TRANSPORTATION
FOCUS GROUP

November 9, 2022
AGENDA

1. Introductions
2. Project Background & Findings to Date
3. Focus Group Discussion
4. Takeaways & Next Steps

San Miguel County
East End | Master Plan
FOCUS GROUP MEETINGS

- Tourism, Recreation, Visitors  Monday, November 7 @ 4
- Housing  Tuesday, November 8 @ 11
- Environmental Stewardship & Priorities  Tuesday, November 8 @ 2
- Mobility & Transportation  Wednesday, November 9 @ 1
- Equity, Inclusion & Livability  Wednesday, November 9 @ 2:30

San Miguel County
East End | Master Plan

DESIGNWORKSHOP
DESIGN WORKSHOP TEAM

Jessica Garrow, AICP
Principal-in-Charge

Callie New
Project Manager

Sarah Horn, AICP
Planner & Facilitator

Eric Krohngold
Economic Development Advisor

Jennifer Pintar
Planner & Engagement Specialist
Project Background & Findings to Date
WHY A MASTER PLAN?

- It’s been over 30 years since the last County Master Plan was prepared
  - Many of the recommendations have been implemented
- Population changes
- Housing challenges
- Transportation needs
- Industry shifts
WHAT A MASTER PLAN IS... AND IS NOT

It is:
- A reflection of the community's vision and goals
- A strategic guidebook to help guide policy decisions and priorities
- An integration of existing planning work
- A long-range tool for planning, legislation, financing and action
- Inspiration for the future
- Required by State Statute

It is not:
- Zoning
- A set of land use code standards
- Detailed budget document
- Specific regulations, requirements or ordinances
MASTER PLAN TIMELINE & PROCESS

Project Start-up & Management
- Project Kick-off
- Bi-weekly Client Team Meetings
- Advisory Group Meetings
- Planning Commission & BOCC
- Project Branding & Website

Existing Conditions
- Previous Plans Review
- Community Profile
- GIS Data Catalogue
- Growth Analysis

Community Outreach
- Focus Group Meetings
- Pop-up Events
- Countywide Online Survey
- Community Workshop
- Final Plan Sharing

Plan Framework
- Future Land Use Map
- Plan Vision Statement, Goals, Strategies
- Implementation Matrix
- Project & Program Prioritization

Plan Creation & Adoption
- 75% Draft Plan
- 85% Draft Plan
- 90% Draft Plan
- Final Plan

DESIGNWORKSHOP
MASTER PLAN PROCESS

Final Plan
Plan Update Initiation
Policy Direction
Community Engagement
Research
Strategies & Actions
Existing Conditions
Visioning
KEY ISSUES & OBSERVATIONS

- The area population is projected to grow slightly in the next 5 years. 
  - 1% by 2027
- Household income reflects the need for affordable housing options.
- The area has a healthy proportion of multi-family units.
- The higher median age of residents means services for an aging population need to be considered.
- Commuting patterns in Telluride and TOMV have implications for the regional transportation system and air quality.
- Service jobs continue to dominate in the region.
Focus Group Discussion
GROUND RULES

Please share your knowledge

Everyone has a voice

Mutual respect promotes creative thinking

Off-topic comments will be ‘parked’ to discuss at another time
HOW TO USE MENTIMETER

- If possible, use your cellphone for voting
- Follow the instructions on the top of the screen
- Keep your computer screen on Zoom
- If using your computer to vote, keep your computer screen on Zoom unless voting
- When voting, you can use the zoom function to see images and text better
What makes Eastern San Miguel County a great place to live? Visit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>History</th>
<th>Open space and wildlife</th>
<th>Rural areas and beautiful places :-)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Scenic byways dramatic views</td>
<td>Nice quite beautiful community</td>
<td>The San Juan Mountains.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Natural Beauty</td>
<td>Views</td>
<td>Climate, low population, people</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What makes Eastern San Miguel County a great place to live? Visit?

- 120 years of family!
- Lots of recreational opportunities
- Open spaces Low density Mountain people
- Once you are here you don’t need a car
- The communities. Access to nature and recreation.
- Extraordinary scenery and access to the outdoors Unique town
- Wildlife & natural beauty
- Natural beauty, rich culture and history, recreational opportunities, family friendly.
- Open Space
What makes Eastern San Miguel County a great place to live? Visit?

- Historic conservation of our open spaces and our precious wildlife
- Large open spaces
- Fresh Air and Agricultural Activities
- Amazing wildlife interface
- Gondola as transportation
- Conservation and wildlife
- The tight knit community and beautiful surroundings.
- Great Skiing
- Kind community
What makes Eastern San Miguel County a great place to live? Visit?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not overdeveloped Distinct</th>
<th>Low density, lack of sprawl</th>
<th>Healthy lifestyle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Music and culture</td>
<td>Not very populated</td>
<td>Not much land left to change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protecting Open Spaces</td>
<td>Small community where all our voices have been heard and decisions affecting the community are in the open and a consensus of the people who live here</td>
<td>Building housing that is already zoned</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What types of land use changes do you anticipate in the County in the future?

- Preserving open space
- Zoning changes to accommodate housing
- Better use of regional assets
- More Residential
- Increased density
- More density that is going to cause problems with the community in many ways.
- Pressure to build housing in inappropriate locations
- Growing population. More housing.
- Directed growth in areas that have infrastructure
What types of land use changes do you anticipate in the County in the future?

- More housing, More services
- More sprawl
- Traffic congestion
- More trail development
- Adding density in environmentally sensitive areas
- Need to preserve open areas more and protect them.
- Protecting wildlife
- Less density not more!
- Not much land left to change
What types of land use changes do you anticipate in the County in the future?

- More outside programs for all ages
- More open space
- Study housing needs
- Electric vehicle charging station, bus stops
- Unfortunately it looks like urban dwell may destroy not only our wildlife but what makes Telluride unique
- less density
- More employees pushed toward surrounding areas, additional pressure on transportation services
- Preserving mesas
- Need to consider all aspects of growth good and bad
What types of land use changes do you anticipate in the County in the future?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>More density near gondola system</th>
<th>Anticipate a sacrifice of previous goals to preserve low density outside of town core, but hope this exercise demonstrates that the existing master plan priority should remain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>less density</td>
<td>I fear the county will repeat its previous act of rezoning land without going through due process</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Researching the out of county employees that have impact on the region</td>
<td>improved infrastructure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Internships that help others to learn and help community in there needs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>CH zone will be revisited and overturned</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What types of land use changes do you anticipate in the County in the future?

- More bike trails
- More urban sprawl where the county and town overreach their power to do whatever they think is right regardless of community input.
- Let’s hope the people who live here make the decisions that affect us all and NOT secret meetings and manipulation of the system by bureaucrats
How appropriate is growth in the following areas?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appropriateness</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Within existing towns</td>
<td>1.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immediately adjacent to existing towns</td>
<td>1.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within existing subdivisions in the County</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>On any available undeveloped land in the County</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other (please type into zoom)</td>
<td>1.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Identify the area MOST appropriate for development on the map below.
Identify the area LEAST appropriate for development on the map below.
What strides towards multimodal transportation options have been most successful in San Miguel County?

- Gondola
- Gondola
- Not aware of any options other than bus and gondola
- the gondola
- Gondola
- Bike path
- Gondola and bike path
- Gondola
- Airport
What strides towards multimodal transportation options have been most successful in San Miguel County?

- Trails and Bike Paths.
- Bike path
- SMART, gondola
- The bike path
- Bike Path to the west of Telluride and Gondola
- River trail
- Gondola
- Gondola
- Bus Stang
What strides towards multimodal transportation options have been most successful in San Miguel County?

- Bus
- Gondola, increased SMART transit
- none locals will always drive their cars.

- Regional bus service
- Smart
- Gondola, SMART, trails, bike path

- Expanding the regional bus system and adding trails that can serve as commuter paths.
- We could use a taxi service and more buses
- Airport
What strides towards multimodal transportation options have been most successful in San Miguel County?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trails</th>
<th>The creation of SMART</th>
<th>Bike paths</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Uber</td>
<td>Galloping Goose</td>
<td>Gondola</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bike path serves maybe a couple dozen commuters max per day</td>
<td>Gondola</td>
<td>Anything but more cars!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What strides towards multimodal transportation options have been most successful in San Miguel County?

- Gondola
- Smaller routes need paid drivers not volunteers in order to be successful. Most individuals don't want to be responsible for driving others.
- Bike lanes in combination with ebikes could help
- Extend gondola season
What additional transportation programs and policies should be considered to improve the safety, mobility, and accessibility of the County?

- Lyft/Uber
- Extended bus hours
- Out of county intergovernmental agreements that support ride share opportunities
- What have other communities used?
- More robust bus service Limit development to existing corridors
- More busses from outer areas
- Expand the goldola
- Consistent parking policies across jurisdictions.
- Evening and night transit
What additional transportation programs and policies should be considered to improve the safety, mobility, and accessibility of the County?

- Expanding SMART routes adjacent to existing population centers
- Two way on pacific to move traffic away from school
- Partnerships with businesses to encourage using the buses rather than using individual vehicles.
- Bikes sharing roads with cars ekkkk! What can we do to keep all safe
- Better schedule for the bus
- Subsidies for out of county ride share programs
- Keep traffic OFF of Deep Creek Road or there will be fatalities
- Limit traffic on already over crowded roads by building housing close to town so more people can walk, bike
What additional transportation programs and policies should be considered to improve the safety, mobility, and accessibility of the County?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population closer to work and school</th>
<th>Doing a bigger bike path thru valley floor</th>
<th>Expanded bike lanes along more roadways into area</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Angel taxi needs to come back please</td>
<td>Require businesses to help subsidize ride share</td>
<td>More busses, electric preferable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Van share program</td>
<td>Intercept Parking lot near Placerville</td>
<td>County wide visitor tX</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What additional transportation programs and policies should be considered to improve the safety, mobility, and accessibility of the County?

- Placing housing ON existing trans links
- Better maintained bike path
- Have better infrastructures available (Need more roadways) larger roadways) that all users can use.
- Bike path all the way down valley
- Ride share info better posted
- Look into European models- utilize existing historical mining infrastructure to potentially develop train system, other gondola or tram lines, funiculars.
- Less people
- Put high density housing in or adjacent to town so people can walk and ride bikes
- Shitty
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Low ridership</th>
<th>Greening the fleet</th>
<th>The hours don't work with real working people's schedule.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Limited funding</td>
<td>Lack of extended hours</td>
<td>Inability to travel outside the county</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>lack of pull off areas for pick ups in outer</td>
<td>We need service more often to serve down valley,</td>
<td>I understand the replacement of the Gondola will take a year and require bus bridges into and out of town</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>communities, especially ophir, san bernardo</td>
<td>Norwood, etc</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What are some opportunities and challenges for San Miguel Area Regional Transportation (SMART)?

- Not on call
- Make more child friendly/safe.
- Maintaining climate/environmental awareness with wildlife/nature preservation
- Intercept parking in Telluride Will drive ridership
- More services to outside the county
- Expand areas to Ridgway montrose and Rico
- Dumping of gondola responsibility on to it
- Ride share
- Not enough options on existing routes
What are some opportunities and challenges for San Miguel Area Regional Transportation (SMART)?

- More busses so more can use it
- Combo parking and pick up site edge of towns
- Better pull off areas do other traffic can keep flowing
- Direct connection to the meadows area, so it doesn't take an hour to get from town to homes in MV
- Following bus route in town to reduce congestion causing stops in town
How well do county roads serve the following purposes?

- **Emergency evacuation**: 5.4
- **Access to public lands**: 8.2
- **Commuting**: 3.1
- **Access to regional transportation network**: 3.5
What are the primary barriers to taking transit in Eastern San Miguel County?

- Waiting for the bus is uncomfortable: 0
- Bus stops are difficult to access: 5
- The bus does not run frequently enough: 13
- The service is slow: 3
- The bus does not go where I want to go: 13
- The bus is often late or unreliable: 3
- Service hours are not adequate: 13
- Public health concerns: 1
- Other: 1

Total respondents: 20
What are the primary barriers to walking and biking for transportation in Eastern San Miguel County?

- Lack of bicycle paths or lanes: 14
- Insufficient or dangerous crossings: 6
- Weather: 8
- Travel distances too far: 11
- Lack of sidewalks: 6
- Other: 5
- Lack of trails: 9
What transportation or land use tools do you think the county might support to help reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions?

- Electric vehicles used for transit: 11
- Electric vehicle charge stations: 7
- Carpool/ride share parking: 5
- More transit lines: 3
- More frequent transit service: 9
- Biofuel stations: 0
- More walkable communities (locate homes close to jobs and services): 19
- Bus only lanes: 2
- Other: 1
What strategies for equitable mobility should the San Miguel County explore?

- Expand access to public transportation options to underserved areas: 13
- Rideshare services: 7
- Expand capacity of transportation infrastructure: 8
- Leverage partnerships for improved mobility and access: 13
- Other: 2
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What resources should this plan reference? (reports, partnerships, support, etc.)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DOW Reports</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDOT plans - both Statewide and at the TPR levels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SMART plan update</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credible traffic studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non bias traffic studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A thorough and comprehensive traffic study for key arteries and intersections in the region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDOT 10-year Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Real and unbiased traffic studies before making big decisions on building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>recall the county commissioners and fire the county manager for gross incompetence</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## What resources should this plan reference? (reports, partnerships, support, etc.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resource/Recommendation</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Realistic work schedules</td>
<td>SMART has maps that show population proximity to stops.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Traffic studies!</td>
<td>European transportation models in mountain communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community opinion /input</td>
<td>The county manager should be fired</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partnerships with Ouray and Montrose County to facilitate multi-agency transportation solutions</td>
<td>Traffic reports that incumpute bikes and cars</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>How much traffic can our roads realistically handle</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What resources should this plan reference? (reports, partnerships, support, etc.)

- The neighbors should be included and referenced
- Walking routes and biking thru valley floor from valley floor housing
- A comprehensive list of all existing affordable housing in the region
- Traffic studies that account for potential growth of population at Society Turn, Alexander Property, Diamond Ridge, Pathfinder and any other housing development likely to be added in the next few years.
- Place ads in the paper and online to encourage the public to participate in the process
- Fire concerns and mitigation More traffic = more fire danger
- Partnership with mountain village on gondola ridership information
- Realistic and current traffic study
- Current affordability housing study
What resources should this plan reference? (reports, partnerships, support, etc.)

History: Rail from Lawson to Town via Galloping Goose vehicles.

The should be hundreds of comments, not dozens. Outreach is critical.

Updated employment generation study to see how many people travel here for work

The possibility of limiting traffic on the spur by permitting.

A light rail system utilizing the Galloping Goose railroad bed servicing from Trout Lake to society and then down valley to Pkocerville
Open Ended

Keep density close to town and existing resources
Limit sprawl in this special place

More shoulder room going into town

Conduct updated employment generation study
to see how many people commute to the region

Gondola connection to Lawson Hill

Transportation is less of an issue if your housing
next to the businesses.

Cluster housing close to town to cut down on
traffic congestion

Electric busses to help the work force get from
outer areas to town

Gondola to Lawson and Illium

Please do not compromise the things that make
our county special for misguided efforts with
minimal support other than staff.
Open Ended

Carbon tax on private flight to TRA

Housing plus transportation that REALLY aids to the local life style, on valley floor more denisty in lawson hill and illum

It would be great to bus our workers like Aspen does or other mountain towns so that we can keep the spur moving

Upgrade chondola to full gondola to serve meadows residents

more and affordable commercial flights out of TEX

Widening spur for safety and two way pacific for safer ingress/egress from town

We should all work together to create a true multimodal transportation system that gives people true choices for how they get around

If density is close in then there’s less critical need for transport ion!!!

Do not allow high Density housing in the rural areas
Open Ended

What about a loop train from town to lawson

How about a strategic utilization of the valley floor edge as an alternate transportation solution.

A bus lane on the spur should be looked at. Buses currently get stuck in traffic like everyone else.

We need to keep the spur moving so that our kids can get to school in time!

Gondola from mv to lawson to connect areas
Takeaways & Next Steps
NEXT STEPS

Pop-Up Events
December

Countywide Survey
January

For project updates,
www.sanmiguelcountyco.gov/eastendmasterplan
masterplan@sanmiguelcountyco.gov
Thank you for sharing your knowledge and ideas!