



City Council Communication

AGENDA DATE: January 12, 2026 **LEGISTAR ITEM #:** Pres 26-100

PRESENTER: Jason Rogers
Office

DEPARTMENT: City Manager's Office

<input type="checkbox"/> Administrative Business	<input type="checkbox"/> Noticed Council Business
<input type="checkbox"/> Informational Presentation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consensus-Building Presentation

BACKGROUND/REQUEST

Purpose

At the direction of City Council, staff is coordinating tours of communities in the Denver metro area to explore best practices, development models, and creative approaches to community identity, placemaking, and economic vitality. Two locations have been identified for initial visits: the Town of Parker and the Santa Fe Arts District in Denver. Staff would like to request Council input on tour logistics and any additional considerations they would like us to incorporate.

Tour Opportunities & Learning Focus:

Town of Parker, Colorado

Community Character: Suburban setting with a family-oriented atmosphere, emphasizing traditional downtown redevelopment and historic preservation.

Notable Features:

- Downtown revitalization efforts
- Mixed-use development
- Public-private partnerships in civic amenities
- Active transportation and pedestrian infrastructure

Learning Opportunities:

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- ✓ How Parker has created a cohesive small-town feel within a growing metro region
- ✓ Governance strategies for managing rapid growth while preserving character
- ✓ Funding models for public realm enhancements

Santa Fe Arts District, Denver

Community Character: Urban, eclectic, arts-centered cultural district within central Denver.

Notable Features:

- Creative economy and artist live/workspaces
- Public art integration
- First Friday Art Walk and arts programming
- Business Improvement District structure

Learning Opportunities:

- ✓ Strategies for supporting arts-based economic development
- ✓ District branding and place activation
- ✓ Engagement of creatives in long-term planning and policy decisions

Council Considerations and Guidance:

Staff is evaluating dates for scheduling these tours. We would appreciate Council input on:

- Preferred time of day for these tours (morning, afternoon, or full-day format)
- Any additional locations or focus areas Council would like included
- Council availability and preferred dates.

Next Steps:

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Following City Council feedback, staff will finalize the tour itinerary, coordinate with host communities, and distribute a schedule and briefing materials.

JUSTIFICATION

<input type="checkbox"/> Council Goal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strategic Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Work Plan	<input type="checkbox"/> Legal
Citation	This item aligns with the City's strategic planning goal of Economic Development – Promote a balanced, thriving, and inclusive city economy that cultivates, attracts, and retains business.		