



# MEMO

**TO:** Smart Growth America

**FROM:** Nancy Olson, Cheyenne MPO

**SUBJECT:** Planning for Economic and Fiscal Health, Building Blocks for Sustainable Communities Program, 12 Month summary

**DATE:** June 30, 2017

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The following tasks have been completed or ongoing for the last 12 reporting months:

Ongoing – In July 2016, the MPO launched a Facebook page to promote all projects, initiatives and events such as Public meetings, Workshops and Charrettes. The MPO live-steamed a couple of meetings and have been getting a significant amount of interaction on our *Safe Streets Cheyenne* safety campaign, which is a continuation and implementation of our Transportation Safety Management Plan.

Completed - The MPO completed a *Strategic Downtown Parking Plan* which has been accepted by the City Governing Body. This extensive plan covered, policies, guidelines and broad recommendations for the City Parking program. It is our hope that the DDA would be the quasi-governmental entity that would bring the first recommendation into being; hiring a parking management firm to run a downtown parking program.

Near Completion: The Pump House Park, a catalyst project from the West Edge Plan is nearing completion. It creates a natural area in the gritty industrial area of the Ames Underpass of the UPRR, adjacent railyards and the busy Business US 30, also known as, Lincolnway. The Greenway also meanders through the new parkland with some pedestrian benches and interpretive signage.

Ongoing – *Reed Avenue Rail Corridor Plan*, a recommended catalyst project from the *West Edge Plan*, is underway and during the week of June 19 a three-day charrette and open house took place with the objective to create a community vision for the underutilized rail corridor that runs through the west edge district.



In November 2016, a new City Mayor was elected. The MPO and City Planning Office will work to share with the new Mayor the results of the Smart Growth Workshop in hopes that she will brace the Smart Growth principals.

There continues to be ongoing discussion on the need to explore why over 22 percent of Cheyenne's workforce commutes from Colorado. This was discussed and highlighted in the final report from SGA. We do feel that continuing to work on quality of life issues and making more projects come to fruition, such as the Pump House Park, Civic Center Commons and the Reed Avenue Rail Corridor, will have an indirect albeit positive affect on keeping young people here.