

## GROUP 1 – table on the right, farthest from food table

What makes W Colfax unique?

- Elementary school, strong parent involvement @ Cheltenham
- Jewish yeshiva: dietary needs, was vibrant Jewish community, baths are still here
- Was farmland <100 years ago—apple trees still in neighborhood
- Boys & Girls club, new library
- Working class neighborhood, value-oriented
- Lots of children, lots of families, renters and owners, ~65% Latino, E Africans around Sun Valley
- Senior center- Metro Manor
- Bordered by N Denver, “yuppy town”

How could this market/co-op reflect the neighborhood and meet its needs?

- Products that appeal to different demographics, price point is an important thing to appeal to
- Challenges faced in this area around food access, quality and affordability
- Closest—Safeway, Pueblo
- Not food desert necessarily, though classified as one, but not a ton of options
- Public transit hub
- \*If you don't have a car, it can be a challenge
- People do day to day shopping at convenient stores, mom and pop stores
- Co-op should have cooking classes, recipes – Cooking Matters is an organization that does this
- Food stamps: where they can be applied?
- A couple of ideas that have already been talked about: food delivery using local vendors, prepared foods at school kitchens

What challenges does this neighborhood face when it comes to food access, quality and affordability?

- \*need to know what the challenges in this neighborhood are—our group doesn't know things like what is the demand/knowledge of healthy food, cooking/time constraints around food prep

How can co-op achieve “food for everybody”? – diversity, inclusivity, broad participation

- Diversity of products, cooking classes in food of different ethnicities, improve cultural awareness
- Prepared foods, value-added, improve economic viability
- Investment from community: trust, engagement
- Community engagement is important at this point:
  - o Canvass
  - o Focus groups
  - o Survey
- How much outreach do we want to do into surrounding communities?
- What did northeast community co-op do?
- Can't just be for upper income
- Other cities—Minneapolis, Burlington, VT, \*\*Colorado Springs co-op
- At the next mtg:
  - o Provide babysitter so that more community members can attend
  - o Need to provide a translator

## GROUP 2 – table in the middle

Q: able to buy membership or work in exchange for membership?

What makes W Colfax unique?

- Gentrification: new young professionals, new businesses
- Diverse socioeconomics
- Existing communities, new communities
- Highest priced Ks in the region (King Soopers?)
- King Soopers—Edgewater—complaints
- Vitamin Cottage- Lakewood
- Sprouts—38<sup>th</sup> and Tennyson
- Trader Joe's
- Smaller markets—less selection, poor quality produce
- Light rail

How could this market/co-op reflect the neighborhood and meet its needs?

- Community events/bbqs, like Marzyk Market
- Using public school kitchens to prepare food for co-op, using what is already here, resource locally
- Work trade
- Sharing information/knowledge
- Offering a market for small vendors in the area and connect with Westwood's commercial kitchen
- Didn't know about farm—getting info out, Montclair
- People work a lot—support more walking/walkability

What challenges does this neighborhood face when it comes to food access, quality and affordability?

- Cost
- Payment
- Accessibility
- Food monopoly
- Food desert
- Sales tax different from Denver to Lakewood/Edgewater
- No good local access

Is a new 4,000 sq foot grocery store feasible?

- Dependent on prices to get people to shop there instead
- Parking is very important
- Fear of leadership changing direction down the road
- Need to be able to compete, get people from all walks of life to support it
- Food one trusts

### **GROUP 3 – on the left, next to the food table**

What makes W Colfax unique?

- Light rail access
- Access to Sloans Lake
- Affordable
- No Starbucks
- The evolution of human stories
- Small businesses & entrepreneurship
- Complex history of diversity
- Close to downtown
- One of the original neighborhoods of Denver

How could this market/co-op reflect the neighborhood and meet its needs?

- Local produce
- Affordable food
- Culturally diverse foods —kosher, Hispanic
- Community gathering space/hub
- Pedestrian-oriented
- Accessible in terms of transportation

What challenges does this neighborhood face when it comes to food access, quality and affordability?

- Grocery stores on the fringe
- Finding quality food, specifically meat
- No central grocery store, no butcher
- Lack of safety and currently unfriendly
- The preconceptions of co-ops

How might creating a co-op benefit the neighborhood?

- Economic opportunity for local suppliers
- Cohesive sense of community
- Accessibility to healthier food
- Tie diverse group of people together, bring people together
- Create connections between organizations (for-profit, non-profit, other co-ops), food banks, schools, farmers
- Jobs
- A symbol of humanity
- Show a commitment to creating a positive community
- Don't have to go to Costco
- Help traffic and increase walkability
- Meet restrictive dietary needs
- Support for older community members
- Health food alternatives