



June 11, 2021

Englewood Downtown Plan Best in Colorado

Englewood, CO—the Englewood Downtown Plan has won a 2021 Governor’s Award for Downtown Excellence for “best planning” in the State of Colorado.

Since 2003, the Governor's Awards for Downtown Excellence have recognized outstanding projects in Colorado that demonstrate creativity in the face of challenges, and that exemplify a commitment to placemaking and partnerships to further downtown initiatives.

“Our new downtown program is one of the most exciting things happening in Englewood today,” said Shawn Lewis, city manager. “Englewood is quickly becoming a community of choice in the metro area, and we want to make our downtown more vibrant, connected, green and accessible for everyone.”

The Englewood Downtown Plan was created during a 12-month long community planning process in 2020. It involved extensive community input and participation in surveys, focus groups, field work and online forums during pandemic shutdowns. The plan offers a new vision for Downtown Englewood and strategies for economic development, placemaking, marketing, mobility and urban design, as well as an economic recovery plan. The planning effort culminated with a special election in November, when voters approved creation of a new [Downtown Development Authority](#) to implement the plan.

“We’re building on the momentum in the community to energize Downtown Englewood,” said Erika Zierke, chair of the Englewood Downtown Development Authority Board of Directors, which is comprised of downtown commercial property owners, business owners and a city council member. “We’re launching new marketing tools, main street maintenance and downtown placemaking projects.” The City of Englewood has provided seed funding for several downtown projects, and the DDA is leveraging that with economic recovery grant applications.

The Englewood Downtown Plan consulting team included [DIG Studio](#), [Progressive Urban Management Associates](#), [Portell Works](#), [Arland Land Use Economics](#), [OV Consulting](#) and [Spencer Fane](#). The project was funded by a grant from the Denver Regional Council of Governments.

"The Governor's Awards for Downtown Excellence have always been a way to celebrate downtown champions and projects." said Katherine Correll, Executive Director of [Downtown Colorado, Inc.](#) "With the pandemic the awards maintained the sense of downtown community and allowed our Colorado downtowns to show how brightly they can shine."

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