

For Immediate Release

Downtown Amarillo Hosts Public Meeting for Redevelopment

Public groups offer project updates and invite citizen feedback

Dateline: Amarillo, September 29, 2010 — The Polk Street Campus of Amarillo College tonight was filled with a unique combination of students and course materials. Citizens of all ages from across Amarillo joined together to listen and learn about downtown redevelopment. A draft conceptual redevelopment plan was presented during the “civics class,” drawn from the strategic master plan the Amarillo City Commission adopted in 2008 and including suggestions for the redevelopment of a 50-block area around the Amarillo Civic Center.

"We were inspired to hear the ideas and questions our fellow citizens here in Amarillo have about redevelopment benefits and processes," said Melissa Dailey, executive director of Downtown Amarillo Inc. (DAI), a nonprofit pursuing redevelopment. "Amarillo has worked towards the redevelopment of downtown for more than 20 years, and we are excited to submit concept plans demonstrating potential options for our City."

Representatives from Center City of Amarillo, Inc. and Jacobs, a downtown planning firm, as well as the Center City Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone joined DAI at the public meeting, which was facilitated by former Amarillo College President, Bud Joyner.

Public meetings and Amarillo citizen input have been hallmarks of the entire redevelopment process, said DAI Board chair Les Simpson, who also is publisher of the Amarillo Globe-News. "Our progress—and the results we're achieving—are very much by the people and for the people of Amarillo. I'm incredibly encouraged by the hard work so many people have contributed for the future of our City."

Conceptual plans showing potential options for development are available on the Downtown Amarillo web site (www.downtownamarillo.com), and public comments and questions were collected for future input.

For more information about Downtown Amarillo and the public redevelopment process, and to provide input, please explore the resources online at www.downtownamarillo.com.

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Media Contact:
Melissa Dailey
Downtown Amarillo, Inc.
(806) 640-4406
Melissa@DowntownAmarillo.com

