

# URBAN RENEWAL AUTHORITY

## **COLORADO SPRINGS URBAN RENEWAL – PROJECT STATUS**

**Activity Report: June 2016**

### **Southwest Downtown**



*US Olympic Museum Site*

**URA Period: 2001 – 2026**

**Location:** The Southwest Downtown Urban Renewal Area is located southwest of the central business core in downtown Colorado Springs. The area is generally bounded by Interstate 25 on the west and Bijou Street on the north to the Union Pacific railroad lines. The rail lines then form the eastern boundary from Bijou Street to Colorado Avenue. Colorado Avenue serves as a northern boundary from the rail lines east to Cascade. South of Colorado Avenue, Cascade forms the eastern boundary. Cimarron serves as the southern boundary of the Area. Approximately 100 acres are included within the Urban Renewal Plan.

**Plan Goals:** The general purpose of this Urban Renewal Plan is to reduce, eliminate and prevent the spread of blighted conditions within the Urban Renewal Area and to stimulate the growth and development of the Southwest Downtown Area. In particular, the Urban Renewal Plan is intended to promote local objectives with respect to appropriate land uses, improved traffic, public transportation, public utilities, and other public improvements. Specifically, the purpose of the Plan is to create an urban neighborhood which leverages the community's investment in America the Beautiful Park and creates linkages to the downtown core which is in accordance with the *Downtown Action Plan* and the *Imagine Downtown Plan*.

### Current Status:

The CSURA Board authorized the preparation of a conditions study by DGC for the entire SW Downtown URA and City Gate in January 2016. The Board adopted the Conditions Survey and defined the boundaries for the first urban renewal plan area. DGC is currently preparing the urban renewal plan for plan area 1 as well as an amendment to the existing Southwest Downtown Urban Renewal Area to remove the acreage included in the new plan area. It is anticipated that the plans will be brought forward for City Council consideration in 2016.

## **Gold Hill Mesa Area**

URA Period: 2004 - 2029

Location: The Gold Hill Mesa Urban Renewal Area is located in the western area of the City of Colorado Springs. The site is generally bounded on the north by U.S. Highway 24 and Fountain Creek, on the west by South 21st Street, on the south by Lower Gold Camp Road and on the east by the A-1 Village Mobile Home Park and the wooded area to its south. The Villa de Mesa Townhome community located in the center of the Area has been excluded.

The Area includes the site of a former gold processing facility known as the Golden Cycle Mill. The mill operated from 1906 to 1949 processed approximately fifteen million tons of ore from Cripple Creek and Victor area gold mines.



*Twenty-first Street Entrance*

Plan Goals: The cornerstone of the developer's and the community's vision for revitalization of the area is the creation of a high quality mixed-use traditional neighborhood development. A combination of uses are proposed including a range of housing products, village commercial, region-serving commercial, transit improvements and infrastructure, all which will further promote redevelopment of the area as a gateway to the City from the west. Multiple pocket parks and trails connect uses and other open space elements.

Current Status: On June 23, 2015, the Colorado Springs City Council approved the Amended Gold Hill Mesa Urban Renewal Plan and created the new Gold Hill Mesa Commercial Area Urban Renewal Plan (see below). The Amended Gold Hill Mesa Area now consists entirely of residential property and the original tax increment period that started in 2004 will continue to remain as approved (expires in 2029).

Housing development has continued within the Amended Gold Hill Mesa Plan Area in 2016. The developer has had 23 closings through 6/1//2016. Hi-Point Homebuilders (6 units), Creekstone (5 units), Vanguard (2 units) and JM Weston Homes (10 units) built new single family houses and townhomes. The total number of closings since the project started is now 311. There are now 132 multi-family units and 179 single family units in Gold Hill Mesa.

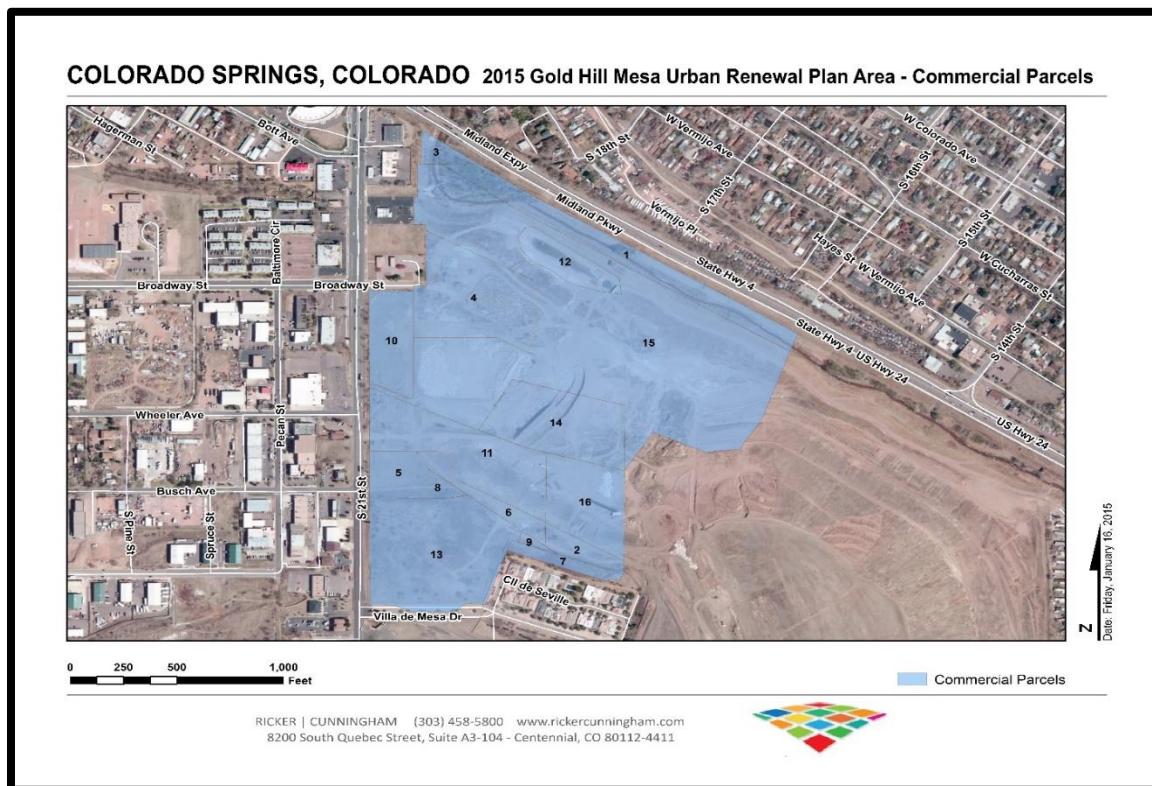
# Gold Hill Mesa Commercial Area

URA Period: 2015-2040

Location: Originally included in the Gold Hill Mesa URA, the Gold Hill Mesa Commercial Area Urban Renewal Area is located to the northwest of the existing URA. The site is generally bounded on the north by U.S. Highway 24 and Fountain Creek, on the west by South 21st Street, on the south by The Villa de Mesa Townhome community and on the east by the A-1 Village Mobile Home Park and the wooded area to its south.

Plan Goals: The vision for the area is to create a high quality retail center that will serve the Gold Hill Mesa residents as well as the west and southwest neighborhoods of Colorado Springs. The site of the old Golden Cycle gold processing plant contains contaminated soil as well as a substantial amount of other refuse materials that were dumped on the site in the past. Mitigation of the contaminants and removal of unsuitable debris will be completed as part of the development. Public improvements to roads and drainage improvements to Fountain Creek will also be accomplished by the project.

Current Status: The urban renewal plan was approved by City Council on June 23, 2015. CSURA staff and the city administration presented the plan of finance and the Cooperation Agreement for sales tax sharing to City Council on December 8, 2015. City Council formally approved the Agreement and set the percentage of sales tax increment to be dedicated to the development at 1.75% for 5 years and 1.5% for the remainder of the life of the urban renewal area (total of 25 years). Planning for the commercial area has continued into 2016.



## North Nevada Avenue Corridor

URA Period: 2004 – 2029

Location: The North Nevada Corridor Urban Renewal Area is located in central Colorado Springs in the northern segment of the North Nevada Avenue Corridor. The area is bounded by Monument Creek to the west and the I-25 – North Nevada Avenue interchange, including several commercial parcels located along the interstate frontage road, to the north. The Study Area's eastern border is quite irregular, but generally includes a significant portion of the UCCS campus located along North Nevada Avenue as well as all properties contiguous to the corridor (to the east) and once removed. The intersection of Garden of the Gods and North Nevada Avenue, including properties in the southeast and southwest quadrants then form the southern boundary. The western boundary is generally formed by Monument Creek

Plan Goals: The character for the Urban Renewal Area includes a variety of land uses and densities that distinguish one area from another yet create an identity for the whole. Land uses within the Plan include mixed-use, multi-family residential, community retail and lifestyle centers (including local and national retailers); business campus commercial; and, civic, cultural, arts and recreational facilities, together with select transportation and gateway improvements. Redevelopment of the Urban Renewal Area will provide for and promote a greater range and mix of land uses. In order to better support the economic success of the Urban Renewal Area, the Plan promotes the integration of uses, enhanced linkages into and out of the Urban Renewal Area, improved pedestrian and vehicular circulation patterns, parking support, and a level of density beyond that which existed prior to the adoption of the Urban Renewal Plan.

Current Status: University Village Colorado began construction in 2008. The shopping center is anchored by Costco, Kohl's and Lowes which occupy the western side of the site, along the Monument Creek trail. Smaller, in-line shops and restaurants characterize the east edge of the project, along North Nevada Avenue. A New tenant was recently added: Vision Institute – Retail Optical/Optomtrist.

Construction is ongoing for the Colorado General Hospital, a 52 bed hospital that is located near I-25 along the west side of N. Nevada Ave.



The Lane Center

University of Colorado at Colorado Springs: The Building programming is currently being completed for a second building in the Health and Wellness Village area. The UCCS Sports Medicine and Performance Center is part of the City for Champions project. UCCS and CSURA have completed a cooperation agreement that stipulates how the state sales tax increment will be distributed for the project.

Construction is continuing on The Visual and Performing Arts Building to be located on the former 4 Diamond Sports Complex.



## City Auditorium Block

URA Period: 2004 - 2029

Location: The City Auditorium Block Urban Renewal Area is located in the eastern portion of Downtown Colorado Springs. The site is generally bounded on the north by East Kiowa Street, on the west by North Nevada Avenue, on the south by East Pikes Peak Avenue, and on the east by West Weber Street.

Plan Goals: The purpose of the City Auditorium Block Urban Renewal Plan is to reduce, eliminate and prevent the spread of blight within the Urban Renewal Area and to stimulate growth and reinvestment within the district boundaries, on surrounding blocks and throughout downtown. A major goal of the Urban Renewal Authority is to contribute tax increments to be used to improve the City Auditorium so that it can become the venue it was in the past for a variety of civic activities.

The cornerstone of the stakeholder's vision for revitalization of the area is creation of high quality mixed-use developments which vertically integrate a range of residential and non-residential uses at urban densities and supported by strategic public improvements to facilities, parking, and infrastructure improvements within and adjacent to the Plan boundaries. A combination of uses is proposed that will further promote redevelopment of the area as a mixed-use urban enclave in downtown and connect to neighborhoods to the east.

Current Status: Project development has been postponed due to market conditions.



## CityGate

URA Period: 2007 - 2032

Location: The Area is comprised of approximately 16.3 acres in downtown. The boundaries of the CityGate Urban Renewal Area generally include properties south of Cimarron Street, west of Sahwatch Street, north of Rio Grande Street, and east of the BNSF / UP railroad tracks.

Plan Goals: The vision for revitalization of the Area is creation of high quality commercial and mixed-use development which will integrate a range of non-residential uses with residential uses including above ground floor commercial (vertically integrated) where appropriate, as well as property improvements, supported by strategic public investment to infrastructure (including utilities) and parking within and adjacent to the Area boundaries. The CityGate development is positioned to serve as the gateway to the Southwest Urban Renewal Area located directly to the north, and the catalyst for change in this area of downtown. The combination of uses proposed, will further promote redevelopment of the entire Southwest Downtown Area as an urban neighborhood with residential, retail/commercial, lodging and public elements.

Current Status: The project area is being studied as part of the planning for southwest downtown and the status as a separate URA may change in the future. The conditions study for the SW Downtown Urban Renewal Plan included the CityGate area since it may become part of a future phase for the Southwest Downtown.



## **Polaris Point/Copper Ridge**

URA Period: 2010 – 2035

Location: The boundaries of the Area include approximately 289 acres of land. Geographically, it is situated immediately east of Interstate 25 and south of North Gate Boulevard, in northern Colorado Springs within the city limits.

Plan Goals: Based on current market studies and the *City of Colorado Springs' Comprehensive and Long-Range Transportation plans*; the specific development objective for the Plan is to construct the remaining segment of Powers Boulevard (a 4 lane expressway) from State Highway 83 to Interstate 25. The primary component of the development will include approximately 640,000 sf upscale retail space. Other proposed uses include: restaurant, office, hotel, mixed-use and entertainment.

Completion of Powers Boulevard is a priority project in the City's Long-Range Transportation Plan. The roadway will be constructed by a special improvement district, financed with district bonds to be repaid using a portion of the sales and property tax increments generated by the retail center.

Current Status: Spectrum Loop was completed to Powers Blvd. This will open more buildable lots behind CB & Potts and Southern Hospitality. Plans for the hotel/water park are in the entitlement stage.





STORE	SIZE	STATUS
Bass Pro SHOPS	120,000 sf	Open
Tire World Auto Service	8,500 sf	Open
Arthur's Collision Center	16,070 sf	Open
Northgate Storage	114,000 sf	Open
Loaf N Jug #1	8,100 sf	Open
Southern Hospitality Steakhouse	9,500 sf	Open
Magnum Shooting Center	33,000 sf	Open
Tracker 1 Retail	8000 sf	Open
Car Wash	6,000 sf	Open
CB and Potts	9,000 sf	Open
Pizza Hut	1800 sf	Open
Carl's Junior	4500 sf	Open
Dentist Offices (3)	6000 sf	Open
Urgent Care	4500 sf	Open
El Patrino	4500 sf	Open
Tues Salon	1800 sf	Open
Boot Barn	10,000 sf	Open
Retail in Boot Barn Center	9800 sf	Open
Asian Restaurant	6000 sf	Open
Safe Splash	6750 sf	Open
Loaf N Jug #2	6000 sf	Open
Kneaders	5000 sf	Open
Sprouts	29,000 sf	Open
Pad in-line @Sprouts	21,700 sf	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2016
AT&T	5000 sf	Open
Overdrive Raceway Go Karts	34,000 sf	Open
Sprint	3700 sf	Open
Sports Clips	3000 sf	Open



Grand Springs Resort & Hotel	165 Rooms & water park	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2017
Tracker 2 Retail	4700 sf	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2016
Chic-fil-A	5000 sf	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2016
Pet Food	10,000sf	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2016/UC
Ace Hardware	16,000 sf	3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2016/UC
Veterans Liquor	14,000 sf	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2016
Bank and Retail Center	6800 sf	2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2016
Wendy's	5000 sf	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2016
Brass Tap	3500 sf	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2016
Pizza	4000sf	4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 2016

Tax Increment Funding: CSURA has received tax increment dollars that have been generated during 2016 and has deposited them in a project account to be used to fund Powers Blvd. improvements. The Copper Ridge Metro District completed utility relocation work for Powers Blvd. during 2015. The technical advisory committee approved TIF expenditures for engineering and utility relocation work associated with the construction of Powers Boulevard in April. A traffic study is currently underway to determine the viability of phasing the construction of Powers Blvd.

## Ivywild School

URA Period: 2011 - 2036

Location: The boundaries of the Area include approximately 5.13 acres of land generally defined to include 7 legal parcels plus public rights-of-way. Geographically, it is situated in the Ivywild neighborhood (including the vacant Ivywild School), near the vicinity of Interstate 25 (I-25) and Tejon St, southwest of I-25 and north of Cheyenne Blvd, along a tributary of Fountain Creek, in south central Colorado Springs.

Plan Goals: The area has long been designated as a Neighborhood Strategy Area by the City of Colorado Springs. The City has improved the infrastructure in the surrounding neighborhood including the construction of a neighborhood park. However, the area around the school and adjacent to Tejon Street is still unimproved and lacks sidewalk, curb, gutter as well as streetlights. Phase 1 of the Plan upgraded the infrastructure surrounding the school site.

The Ivywild School was closed in 2009 by School District #11 and put up for sale. The redevelopment of the school site is a key element in the implementation of the Urban Renewal Plan. The owners have completed the initial stage of improvements to develop the site into a mixed-use project that includes: a micro-brewery, bakery, coffee shop, architectural office space. Future phases will include a greenhouse, residential units and performance/meeting space. The school grounds have been redesigned to include vegetable gardens, parking and outdoor gathering spaces for dining and special events.



Navajo Street



**Current Status:** The Ivywild School has been renovated and includes: Bristol Brewery, a commercial bakery coffee bar/restaurant, a bike shop and an architectural office. Streetscape improvements on Navajo Street connecting the school site to Tejon Street were constructed by the City through the Community Development Block Grant Program. The City also has plans to construct a round-about at the intersection of Cheyenne Boulevard and Tejon Street in order to improve traffic circulation as well as pedestrian safety. Additional retail, residential and office uses will be encouraged along Tejon Street through tax increment financing in subsequent phases.

## **Vineyards**

**URA Period:** 2011 – 2036



*West Side Entrance*

**Location:** The boundaries of the Area include approximately 109 acres of land generally defined to include 4 legal parcels plus public rights-of-way. Geographically, it is situated in southern Colorado Springs near the vicinity of Interstate 25 (I-25) and Circle Drive, immediately east of I-25, west of Fountain Creek, north of Spring Run (irrigation canal), and south of El Pomar Youth Sports Complex.

**Plan Goals:** The site was originally developed, many years ago as a golf course with a clubhouse, restaurant, vineyard and homes. Over the years those uses proved not to be economically viable and the property fell into disrepair. Environmental issues also made redevelopment difficult and expensive. The current plan is to create a data center/industrial park on 61 acres and dedicate approximately 48 acres of open space and riparian environment to the City of Colorado Springs for park and trail uses. In addition to creating jobs and increasing tax revenues, the development team envisions establishing a curriculum with the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs and Pikes Peak Community College that will train a workforce with skills necessary to manage and operate a data center facility.

The vision for the Vineyard property (T5 Colorado) is “to develop one of the nation’s only sustainable data center/ industrial campuses which leverage the broad resources of the community to provide an environment that is sustainable, resilient and economically efficient enough to brand Colorado Springs on a national level.”

**Current Status:** The developer has the following pending sales and/or development deals:

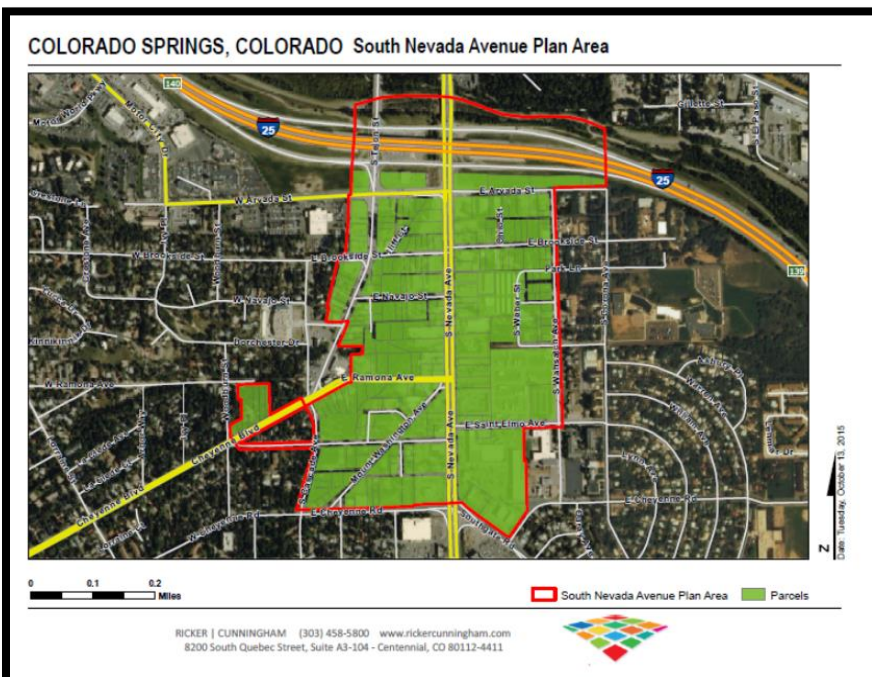
- T5 Colorado has sold 9 acres to SAP America for the development of 2 data center buildings. The buildings will be 60,700 SF and 40,700 SF to be completed by 12/17. Both buildings may be expanded to a total of 200,000 SF in the future.

Site work and utility extensions are anticipated during 2016.

## South Nevada Avenue

**URA Period:** 2015 – 2040

**Location:** The project area is located in the south central part of Colorado Springs between E. Cheyenne Road on the south, Fountain Creek on the north, South Wahsatch Ave. on the east and South Cascade Avenue on the west



**Plan Goals:** Given its strategic location at a critical gateway to destinations beyond the I-25 corridor including Ivywild and the Broadmoor neighborhoods, future improvements will be of an appropriate quality. Natural features including parks, creeks and trails will be improved and maintained so that they are a true amenity rather than an obstacle. Efforts will be made to provide a diversity of uses and enhance the streetscape environment to attract business and improve the quality of life along South Nevada and South Tejon Streets

**Current Status:** An urban renewal plan was approved by the Colorado Springs Urban Renewal Authority on September 23, 2015. City Council held a public hearing on November 24, 2015 and approved the plan. A tax sharing agreement (Cooperation Agreement) was approved by City Council on December 8, 2015. The agreement established the percentage of the municipal general fund sales tax that will be dedicated to the urban renewal area for twenty-five years. Subsequently, the CSURA Board approved development agreements with 3 development groups to provide tax increment financing for eligible improvements to be completed by the developers within the URA.

Demolition has taken place in parts of the URA. Construction for the EVC-HD project will commence in late 2016

## City for Champions

### US Olympic Museum and Hall of Fame

The US Olympic Museum Board has raised approximately \$42 million of the \$80 million for the design and construction of the museum. A national fund raising campaign has been executed. Several Olympic sponsors are planning contributions including: Panasonic and DOW. The 1.7 acre property on which the project will be built has been donated by Nor'wood Development Group.

The Architectural firm of Diller Scofidio + Renfro has completed schematic design work for the 60,000 SF spiral shaped building and has moved to the Design Development phase. Gallagher and Associates has been selected as the exhibit designer to design the 20,000 SF exhibit space and Anderson Mason Dale has been selected as the architect of record. The exhibit schematic design is at 80%. Groundbreaking will begin in late 2016.



The cooperation agreement prepared by CSURA has been completed and approved by CSURA Board and the Museum Board. Bond Counsel has been selected and the CSURA Board selected an underwriter to handle the financial transaction for bond placement. An RFP was issued and proposals were received for a private placement bond in June.

### Estimated Timeline

<u>Phase</u>	<u>Estimated Completion Date</u>
Program Concept Design:	Architecture: March 2015 Exhibits: March 2015
Schematic Design:	Architecture: July 2015 Exhibits: October 2015
Design development:	Architecture: December 2015 Exhibits: June 2016
Construction Documents:	Architecture: June 2016 Exhibits: January 2017
Construction:	December 2017
Exhibit Fabrication/Install:	November 2017
Opening:	February 2018

### The Colorado Sports and Event Center

A citizen led advocacy group is working with stakeholders to more fully develop the business and development plans for this venue. Working with sports organizations that will potentially utilize the facility, the group is building on the preliminary project plan included in the application and is working to identify professional consultants which will be formally engaged to assist in the formation of the most appropriate entity to own and operate the venue and to prepare the final project, business and development plans. It is anticipated this planning phase will continue through 2015 and into 2016.

In accordance with the Resolution, an agreement between the City, on behalf of the Colorado Sports and Event Center, and the CSURA has been completed and approved by both entities. The agreement will be



assignable to the future entity formed to own and operate the Sports and Event Center. The agreement was approved by the Economic Development Commission during the October meeting.

US Air Force Academy Gateway Visitor Center

CSURA and the USAFA have approved the Cooperation Agreement for the Visitor’s Center. The Air Force is evaluating alternative development strategies for public/private partnerships for the project. A RFQ for an Enhanced Use Lease (EUL) with the USAFA Gateway Visitor Center has been posted by the Air Force. The EUL concept proposes that the USAFA receive cash or in-kind consideration for income on leased property that can be used for: construction/acquisition/improvements/utilities for a new visitor center.

Estimated Timeline

<u>Phase</u>	<u>Estimated Completion Date</u>
RFQ Draft/Industry Day:	February 2016
Released draft Request for Qualifications (RFQ)	February 1, 2016
Hosted Industry Day	April 21, 2016
Released Final RFQ	May 23, 2016
Proposal Development/Submittal:	due August 5, 2016
Proposal Review:	TBD
Project Award/Contract:	TBD
Construction Start:	Spring 2017
Opening:	Summer 2018

UCCS Sports Medicine and Performance Center

A Cooperation Agreement between CSURA and UCCS has been approved and signed by CSURA and UCCS. The agreement has also been reviewed and approved by EDC. UCCS is making progress in developing the building program and project budget for the Center. Campus leadership continues to work on building programming and infrastructure planning.

Estimated Timeline

<u>Phase</u>	<u>Estimated Completion Date</u>
Agreement with the Financing Entity completed	September 2015
Program Plan completed	March 2017
Facility Design completed	June 2018
Commencement of Substantial Work	July 2018
Final Completion	December 2019