

“The aha moment is this,” said Heather Vidlock, community development director. “What is the future of Arapahoe Road? How is it going to develop? The need for a sub-area plan is apparent, because that can help move this valuable commercial area into the future.”

If there is a single intersection in the entire metro Denver area that best exemplifies the growth and changes to the city over the past 30 years, it is likely Arapahoe Road and I-25 is a prize-winning entry. The original plans for commercial connectivity to the interstate corridor were commendable. The problem was, no one, not even those who predicted the rise of a great city and the dominance of the Denver Tech Center, could foresee the monumental growth in traffic and its companion - the comm-

allows the city to create incentives, a second tier with a zoning overlay that encourages these independent businesses to upgrade.”

The massive intersection of I-25 and Arapahoe continues to be a source of continued headache for motorists who navigate it daily, and those attempting to access commercial areas. That critical juncture, the subject of major study and development attention by the Colorado Department of Transportation, is slated for another round of road improvements. CDOIT has contracted with the David Evans and Associates/Hartwig & Associates team to complete the project design. Kraemer North America is the general contractor. The preliminary design was completed in February and the project will move into final design through the remainder of 2015.

consumer retail sales tax revenue to the city and 32.1 percent of its consumer retail sales tax.

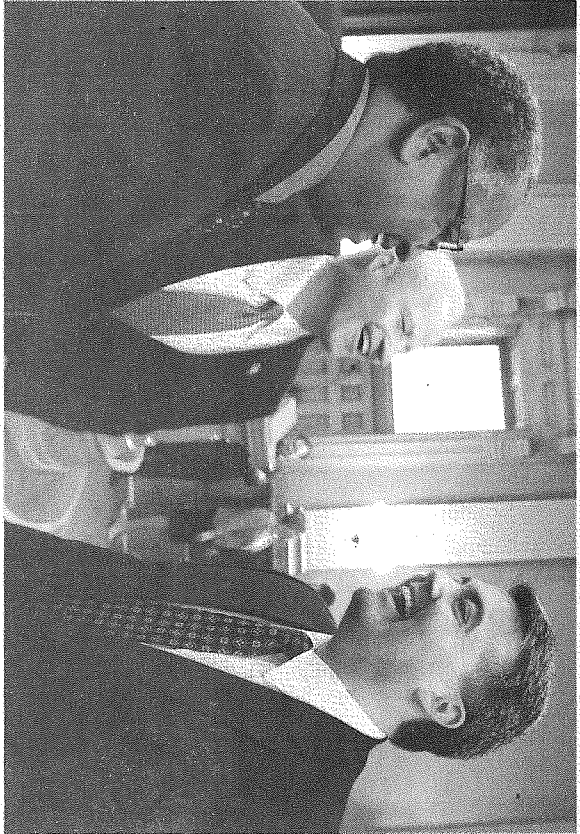
The volume of traffic, from businesses and residents commuting it daily, has grown exponentially and the intersection has been reworked multiple times over the past 35 years and every time, we swear it will be the last.

“This next construction effort will add an entire lane north of the current road,” said Mayor Ron Rakowsky. “And we’re going to lose the crooked road next to Lowe’s. Many things will change and it’s important we plan this. The good news is that our good neighbor, Centennial, is going to be working with us, as we own the north side of Arapahoe Road and they own the south side. In this part of the city, cooperation will be the rule.”

Shoring a laugh

Greenwood Village businessman Mel Tewahade, left, enjoys conversation with U.S. Rep. Mike Coffman and Sen. Cory Gardner. Tewahade, originally of Ethiopia, was honored at the state Capitol on April 9 for his humanitarian work.

Photo courtesy of Mel Tewahade



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