

# VISIT DENVER BRAND REVITALIZATION positioning & communications

MARCH 10, 2014



### **GOALS & IMPERATIVES**

To succeed, VISIT DENVER must own a differentiated brand positioning that:

- stands out from the competition with a meaningful story and a bold, singular vision;
- articulates the brand's unique assets (urban interest + outdoors) in a distinctive, persuasive way that is compelling to visitors;
- drives an emotional connection among target audiences across all segments
- leverages Denver's intrinsic appeal of place and personality, rising above and beyond its many features and amenities



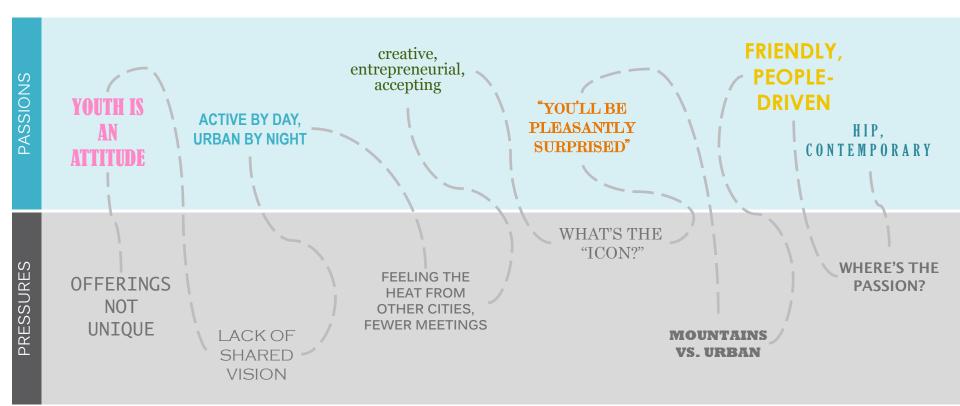
You 100%

-Wayne Gretzky

of the shots

you don't take

### INTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS PASSIONS & PRESSURES





### INTERNAL STAKEHOLDERS DENVER SURPRISES AND EXCITES























### INTERNAL STAKEHOLDER SUMMARY SHARE THE PASSION

- The Denver brand is much more than the sum of its parts
  - → The everyday natural beauty and openness—of spaces and spirit—shape attitudes and outlook
  - → It's a sophisticated, layered urban experience with many quality experiences that rival bigger cities
  - → The people are a big part of its appeal, as is the freedom to do your own thing and create your own story
  - → The progressive attitudes foster creativity in the arts and in business, and encourage personal expression
- The challenge is to link the passion that stakeholders (and residents) feel to the brand—igniting the way it is communicated to the world





### EXTERNAL RESEARCH (QUANTITATIVE) PERSISTENT PERCEPTIONS ABOUT DENVER

- Perceptions are strong around climate, blurring lines between City and State brands
  - $\rightarrow$  Rocky Mountains
  - $\rightarrow$  Mountain Sports (especially skiing)
  - $\rightarrow$  Active
  - $\rightarrow$  Altitude/Mile High City
  - $\rightarrow$  Football
  - $\rightarrow$  Cold
- While important to acknowledge, these provide more context than direction for positioning
- Digging deeper, uncovering emotional connections and aspirations creates the basis for a unique and compelling brand story

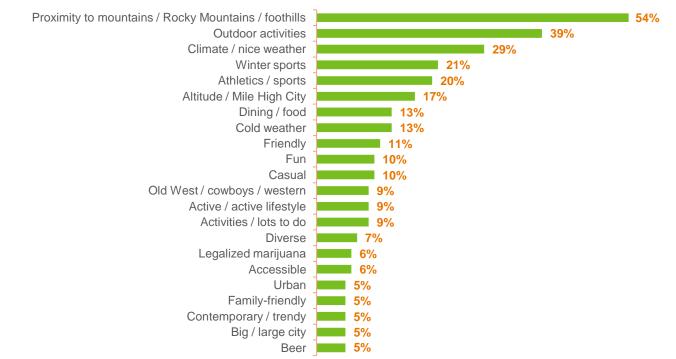




### EXTERNAL RESEARCH (QUANTITATIVE) DENVER'S ASSETS

#### Words or Phrases That Best Describe Denver

(Mentions of 5% or More)



Q: In the spaces below, please list the top five words or phrases you personally think best describe Denver. [OPEN END] Base: All respondents (n=702)



### EXTERNAL RESEARCH (QUALITATIVE) "SURVEY SAYS..."





- Quirky, fun, trendy and indie, but still knows how to be highclass
- Denver doesn't come off as boring
- The city is very hip.
  I enjoy the shopping and good food
- **Open-minded, green**, hip urban atmosphere



- Midwest
  friendliness
  with an urban
  feel
- Outgoing and welcoming;
   friendly
- Beautiful, full of life

#### Vibrant, adventurous



- Good food and drink; lots of walking and **exploring**
- Relaxed, at ease, ready
  to take on any
  adventure
- Young and **vibrant** spirit, but it's also laid back
- **Clean air**, a relaxed feel to it—no one rushing around



- It just feels better for your well-being (almost for your balance or inner peace or something) and just begs you to try new things to better yourself
- The views are incredible, which does wonders for your entire being
- The outdoors and sunshine always make me feel refreshed
- I find it to be very clean and the air seems refreshing
- it just breaths freshness into you and energizes
  you with its everything
- It's more about being authentic, eating well, but also healthy

### 2005 POSITIONING

Within the survey, respondents were exposed to VISIT DENVER's current (2005) positioning statement:

"Denver is a stimulating, world-class city that awakens the senses. The Mile High City's natural beauty, crisp mountain air, warm sun and blue skies leave you feeling energized and ready to try new things."



### EXTERNAL RESEARCH (COMBINED) CORE ATTRIBUTES EVOLUTION

- 2005
- → Friendly

 $\rightarrow$  Appealing

→ Refreshing

Energizing

→ Stimulating/Invigorating

 $\rightarrow$  Diverse



- → Energized, refreshing
- → Stimulating, invigorating, vibrant, exciting
- $\rightarrow$  Friendly, fun
- → Natural, fresh, green
- $\rightarrow$  Urban, contemporary
- $\rightarrow$  Relaxing, casual, laid-back
- → Open-minded, progressive, tolerant



## **VISIT DENVER POSITIONING REFRESH**

Denver is an energizing and vibrant outdoor city that awakens the spirit of urban adventure.

