

Denver firm to create report for Plaza

By J.R. Logan

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The town of Taos has announced an open house Jan. 14 to solicit input from the public on the creation of a “Cultural Landscape Plan” for Taos Plaza.

According to a press release from the town, Denver planning firm Mundus Bishop is reviewing historic maps, photos and doing interviews as part of a plan meant to preserve the historic authenticity of the Plaza.

The open house is scheduled Jan. 14, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., in the old county courthouse on the north side of the Plaza.

John Miller, a planner for the town, said the open house would give business owners and members of the public the opportunity to offer their stories about the Plaza.

Miller said the consultants would also be holding focus groups with select individuals to collect oral histories of the Plaza. Miller said the goal was to get a picture of what the Plaza was and what it meant to people in the past. He said the consultants were working with the town’s historic preservation commission as well as UNMTaos to gather experts for those discussions.

Miller said the open house Jan. 14 is another part of the process.

When finished, this plan will be the latest in a series of studies of the historic district, some of which offered suggestions on how to improve the Plaza. Miller said that, like those plans, any changes on the ground will require the political will and funding to make it happen.

— *By J.R. Logan*