The design process for the future of preschool in Colorado will include several key elements:

- Engagement from researchers, advocates, philanthropy, non-profits, providers (both school-based and community-based), educators, and families
- Engagement from legislators who may carry forward necessary statutory changes in upcoming legislative sessions
- Engagement from state and local agency leaders responsible for program implementation
- Perspectives from the Governor’s office on policy considerations
- Perspectives from throughout Colorado (Front Range, rural, suburban, Western Slope, Eastern Plains, etc.) on implementation
- Data research and policy research

The process articulated below will allow for both the efficiency of a small group of leaders advancing a solution as well as the impact of a meaningful process of community input. The goal will begin these conversations in summer of 2020 and advance policy recommendations as they are developed so there is adequate time to implement policy changes ahead of the fall 2023 implementation of the universal preschool program. Key features of the policy design process for the feature of preschool include:

1. **Preschool Policy Leadership Committee**
   a. **Purpose**: Provide leadership around the process to re-imagine preschool in Colorado. Ensure alignment between the voter intent of the referred measure to expand preK and the policy being developed. Ensure all research, policy, and implementation questions are being adequately addressed. Make recommendations to policymakers on the creation of enacting legislation. This is an independent process and discussion from any effort to secure support for and eventual success of the referred ballot measure voters will consider in November of 2020.
   b. **Timeline**: Begin convening in summer of 2020 to identify research needs, community perspectives, and working group/input needed to make recommendations about the future of preschool in Colorado. The group will discuss meeting frequency and schedule at its preliminary meetings, but likely to convene every 4 to 6 weeks for 1.5 to 2 hours.
   c. **Membership of the Preschool Policy Leadership Committee**: A diverse group of 27 community members representing educators, schools, center and home-based early care and education providers, business, higher education, Early Childhood Councils, children with disabilities, and affected community members.

2. **Preschool Policy Development Advisory Group**
   a. **Purpose**: Represent the diverse perspectives of the early childhood and education communities in shaping the future of preschool. Provide input, feedback, and perspectives on the key design features of the program. Ensure the Preschool Policy Leadership Committee has the perspectives, feedback, and consideration of pros and cons of various policy choices it needs to make recommendations. Develops community-driven recommendations for policymakers.
   b. **Membership**: Open membership, but requested firm commitment of time and participation in the process. The group will meet every 4 to 6 weeks.
      i. These Advisory Group meetings will be open statewide and via remote participation. There may be a need to also have a “toolkit” for soliciting feedback from community groups and members who have barriers to participation in workday meetings like this (see below). This might include, for example, meeting with family child care providers on the weekends or visiting PTA groups at their evening sessions or joining legislators for town halls to solicit feedback.

3. **Community Input Opportunities**
   a. **Purpose**: Represent the diverse perspectives of communities and community members throughout the state who may not be able to participate in the Advisory Group. Provide input, feedback, and perspectives
The Future of Preschool

As Colorado legislators, Governor Polis, providers, advocates, and community members consider policy options to improve our current state preschool program and expand access in the years ahead, the community has the opportunity to provide guidance, recommendations, information, data, feedback, and more through these engagement platforms:

**Preschool Policy Leadership Committee**
- Invite-Only
- Engages in shared learning and makes recommendations on the components of preschool policy design with community feedback in mind.
- Contact Bill Jester (bill@coloradokids.org) for more information

**Preschool Policy Advisory Group**
- Open to all
- Engages in shared learning and provides input, feedback, and perspectives on the policy design process.
- Contact Stephanie Perez-Carille (stephanie@coloradokids.org) for more information

**Community Input Sessions**
- Open to all
- Focus groups, listening sessions, and tools for local community conversations
- Contact Melissa Maron (melissa@coloradokids.org) for more information on how to host a community input session

The Preschool Policy Leadership Committee, Advisory Group, and Community Input Sessions will continuously share information during the policy development process. The Preschool Policy Advisory Group and Community Input Sessions will offer direct feedback and input to the Preschool Policy Leadership Committee as recommendations are being considered.

When the process is complete, Colorado legislators, Governor Polis, and state agency leaders will receive a set of recommendations from the Preschool Policy Leadership Committee, the Preschool Policy Advisory Group, and based on Community Input Sessions.

The General Assembly, Governor Polis, and Executive Branch agencies will use the recommendations and reports to inform the policy decisions.