The renaissance in place-based, cross-sector local collaboratives in American cities is distinguished by diverse strategies and actors. In this lecture, I will present the early stages of two collaborative initiatives— one relying on traditional state-centric collaboration models, the other drawing on emergent civil society collaboration models— in Denver CO. The FasTrack initiative is a complex public sector effort involving multiple jurisdictions, private sector partners, and civic organizations in developing a regional transit system. The Children’s Corridor, spearheaded by the Piton Foundation, links efforts of local government, multiple non-profit organizations, and private providers to improve children’s well being in a targeted area. The findings indicate that one collaborative strategy is not necessarily more effective than another but that one proved more resilient in responding to multiple governance challenges.