The Lowry Child Development Center landscape improvements, which were finished in June 2008, was one of the first Better Denver Bond-funded Projects to be completed in the Bond Program. The effort transformed the grounds of the Center from a minimal environment to a green, multi-textured area of pleasing plants, grasses and trees, with proud new signage.

With “sustainable design” and Denver Greenprint LEED principles in mind, landscape architects from Humphries/Poli created a xeriscape design. They carefully chose plants with low maintenance and low water use needs.

High plains prairie grass seed that needs mowing only several times a year, and drought tolerant native trees, shrubs and ground cover were planted. Sod was only used in the play yard for the children and the rest of the grounds were developed with native “water wise” plant materials to save on irrigation. Denver Parks and Recreation donated some of the trees that were planted at the Center. A new sign, mounted on handsome stone, announces the Lowry Child Development Center, and its operator, Mile High Montessori. The Center is located at 957 Ulster Way.

Improvements:
- Drought tolerant and native plant materials including:
  - Shrubs
  - Pine Trees
  - Low Water Use Sod
  - Ground Cover
  - Irrigation
- Ornamental grasses
- Monument Signage
- Street Trees donated by Denver Parks and Recreation

Project Cost: $84,000 (design & construction)

Project Management:
Elizabeth Hamilton, Senior Architect
LEED AP
City and County of Denver General Services Department

Landscape Architects:
Guy Sitzman and Tom Klein from Humphries/Poli Architects
2100 Downing Street, Denver

Contractor:
Richdell Construction
Scott Riddell
7001 Colorado Blvd., Commerce City