**North Park Road**

North Park Road will be improved to be a more park-like aesthetic. Modifications will provide better experiences for all modes and users, and a more compatible edge along the Zoo.

- Modify road to improve access for all modes within the existing alignment. Provide two-way vehicular travel with narrow travel lanes, shared bicycle travel, and parallel parking on both sides. Provide a separate pedestrian trail.

- East Section:
  - Modify the road cross section for two-way vehicular flow and parallel parking on both sides.
  - Provide a pedestrian trail, tree allee, and lawn on the north.

- Center and West Section:
  - Modify the road cross section for two-way vehicular flow and parallel parking on the north.
  - Provide a pedestrian trail on the north and pedestrian connections between Elephant House and Ferril Lake.

- Improve the connection of North Park Road to North Meadow with a new small roundabout or a controlled intersection. Locate this where the Zoo and Museum parking connect to avoid impacts to North Meadow.

- Improve the connection of North Park Road with the west park roads at the intersection west of Duck Lake. Provide a small roundabout or a controlled intersection.

- Provide raised crossings where pedestrian trails cross North Park Road for safe pedestrian and bicycle use including these locations.
  - between Ferril Lake and Duck Lake
  - Elephant House
  - pedestrian promenade
  - pedestrian trail between the Museum and the Zoo
**Pedestrian Trails and Walkways**
Existing trails will be improved and new trails added to access park destinations and reestablish missing historic routes. A hierarchy of trails will be provided for a broad variety of experiences.

- Repair existing pavement surfaces.
- Provide a consistent aesthetic and width for existing and new trails.
- Determine trail width and surfacing based on use and location.
- Provide new trails along select routes. Connect pedestrians with park destinations, and provide additional experiences using historic routes.
- West Park—new trails and missing trails along historic routes:
  - East 22nd Avenue to tennis courts
  - From McLellan Gateway to the roundabout and north along the west park road
  - Roundabout at McLellan Gateway through the meadow to North Park Road
  - Graham / Bible House to new picnic area at non-extant greenhouse site
  - Thatcher Memorial and along the non-extant park road to connect with park promenade
  - Martin Luther King, Jr. Monument to City Park Pavilion parking, adjacent to 5280 Trail
- East Park—new trails and missing trails along historic routes:
  - Trails connecting the Museum to Box Canyon Waterway, Pinetum and South Meadow
  - Trails on the north and south of Benedict Garden creating a looped trail
  - Trail around perimeter of North Meadow
- Repair the existing sandstone trail along East 17th Avenue. Where feasible or necessary, consider new trail segments that connect to existing trails and are integrated with the forested groves, and tree allees.
- Provide new pedestrian trails through the portals of McLellan Gateway on both sides of the gateway and the park entrance road.
- Provide a new pedestrian trail through City Park Golf Course to connect the Skyland Neighborhood to City Park.
City-designated bicycle routes including D-8 route within City Park and bicycle lanes along East 23rd Avenue will remain. Recreational bicycling within the park will be along shared routes on park roads and park promenades. Trails on the park’s east and west edges will be shared pedestrian and bicycle use.

- Provide pavement markings at entrances and key decision points. Provide wayfinding and directional signage at road and bicycle route intersections.
- Improve bicycle connections from surrounding streets and routes to improve navigation and safety to and within the park.
  - East 17th Avenue: at Garfield Street, Steele Street, Detroit Street, and City Park Esplanade.
  - York Street: at East 21st Avenue and East 23rd Avenue.
  - Colorado Boulevard: at East 23rd Avenue, Montview Boulevard, and East 17th Avenue.

Bicycle and Pedestrian Park Entrances

- Modify the park road entrance at Steele Street and East 17th Avenue to be a park promenade.
  - Evaluate the crossing on East 17th Avenue for improved connectivity and safety for bicycles and pedestrians.
  - Improve the physical connection to the bus stop west of the park entrance and provide an accessible route.
- Improve the connection from the signalized crossing at Fillmore Street to Sopris Gateway and provide an accessible route.
- Evaluate the intersections at East 17th Avenue and East 18th Avenue, and Josephine and York streets for improved bicycle / pedestrian safety.
- Evaluate bicycle and pedestrian access into the park at York Street and East 22nd Avenue for improved connectivity / safety. Consider pedestrian-activated traffic signals and painted crossing markings.
Park Promenade

Two existing routes will be improved as park promenades: the south park road and east trail at Ferril Lake. Both will follow existing established alignments. Widths and surfacing will be modified to accommodate pedestrians, bicycles, and park spaces and experiences.

- Provide a park promenade for a shared pedestrian, bicycle, and park user experience.
- Modify routes with the same continuous 24-foot width, consistent aesthetic, and use of materials.
  - Provide a shared zone for pedestrian and bicycles, a seating area, and soft surface running trail.
  - Materials may include hardscape and soft surfacing.
- Include the park entrance at Steele Street and East 17th Avenue as a park promenade. Consider bollards to deter vehicular access and provide safe access for bicycles and pedestrians.
Vegetation and Ecology

City Park has 3,700 trees representing 157 species. The park’s 10 most common trees are:

- Green Ash
- American Linden
- Blue Spruce
- Hawthorn
- Crabapple
- Austrian Pine
- Cottonwood
- Honeylocust
- Ponderosa Pine
- Bur Oak

**Principle:** Protect and preserve City Park’s established tree and vegetation patterns, plant species, and significant and notable trees to preserve character, enhance the urban tree canopy, provide wildlife and bird habitat or other ecological benefits, and to enhance biological diversity.

**Successional Urban Forest**

City Park’s urban forest will be managed to protect significant and notable trees and to continue its legacy as an important urban forest. The park’s 3,700 trees are a remarkable diversity of 157 species with extant trees from each period of development in the park’s history. Many were planted with the park’s early construction from the late 1890s through the 1920s or are in-kind replacements. Arranged as forested groves and tree allees, they create park spaces and experiences, and are valued for horticultural qualities, aesthetics, environmental benefits, and interpretive opportunities.

- Develop a park-wide planting plan to assist in defining locations for new and replacement trees and potential tree removals.
  - Coordinate with the city’s GIS database / tree management system (TreeKeeper).

- Follow a successional approach to preserve significant, notable and historic trees, and to facilitate infill and new tree plantings to ensure the longevity of the urban forest.
  - Protect significant, notable, and historic trees by managing for longevity using sound horticultural practices.
    - Replace trees when they become hazards or die. Plant infill trees as a proactive approach to reestablish forested groves and tree allees and replenish the urban forest.
    - Consider each tree’s role when removing, thinning or pruning, and in replacement.