City Park’s buildings, structures and objects will be preserved and repaired. Several new structures will be added to accommodate park use. A maintenance building will be added for improved park operations. City Park Pavilion, Graham / Bible House and Barn, Elephant House, and Bungalow Fire Station will be repaired to facilitate community park use. Existing structures and gateways will be repaired, and new gateways will be added.

Principle: Preserve contributing buildings and structures, ensure new buildings and structures are consistent with park character, and provide opportunities for compatible park use.

Park Buildings and Structures

The section addresses park buildings that serve City Park and park operations. General recommendations for all park buildings and structures are presented first, followed by recommendations for individual features. This section concludes with recommendations for new buildings and structures within the park. Recommendations for buildings with the Zoo and for the Museum are presented in separate sections.

- Provide regular maintenance and repair for all park buildings and structures.

City Park Pavilion

The 1929 City Park Pavilion, designed by William Fisher and John Humphreys, has an iconic setting on Ferril Lake with views of the mountains to the west and the Museum to the east. City Park Pavilion will be repaired and the setting improved.

- Consider improvements to better accommodate food and beverage facilities, public restrooms, and community space.

- Improve the setting of City Park Pavilion by repairing Sopris Garden to the west and the pedestrian plaza to the east.
Elephant House

Elephant House was built 1906 / 1908, and was previously known as Parks Maintenance Building. It contains the pumping station for the park irrigation system and Electric Prismatic Fountain, and the park maintenance and operations equipment and shop. Elephant House will be preserved and repaired. The building's central location on North Park Road and directly across Ferril Lake provides an opportunity for adaptive reuse for community park use.

- Retain maintenance and operations related to the park's irrigation pump and mechanical infrastructure. Consider relocating other operations to the park's northwest corner.
- Consider nominating Elephant House for local historic designation to acknowledge its historical and architectural significance.
- Consider a community use in Elephant House and in portions of the site. Allow interior modifications of the front two portions of the building for food and beverage and park use, i.e., small restaurant or café, community room, or public restrooms.
- Consider modifying portions of the maintenance yard as an outdoor gathering space. Preserve significant and notable trees and incorporate them into a usable park space.
- Provide a raised pedestrian crossing across North Park Road to connect with Ferril Lake.
- Consider terraced seating along Ferril Lake to accommodate park users on an every day basis and during park events.
**Graham / Bible House and Barn**
Graham / Bible House and Barn were built in 1892 as the park superintendent’s home. The non-extant original park greenhouse and nurseries were built to the south. The modest two-story cross-gable house and its matching gable end-barn were repaired in 2017 / 2018. Repair included foundations, windows and doors, deck, mechanical, plumbing and electrical, and interior improvements.

- Consider a community use for the building, barn, and site. Allow interior modifications to provide public restrooms, a community room, and/or seasonal concessions.
- Improve the site to provide universal accessibility and a service access to the building and barn. Ensure improvements respect established and historic patterns.
- Remove plantings scattered near the building and barn. Develop a planting plan that respects historic patterns, and defines locations for new and replacement trees and potential tree removals.
- Add a new garden and permitted picnicking in the location of the non-extant greenhouse.

**City Park Greenhouse**
City Park Greenhouse, built in 1941, continues to function as the greenhouse for Denver Parks and Recreation Department. City Park Greenhouse will be preserved and repaired. The portion built during the Work Progress Administration (WPA) program offers an opportunity for park community use.

- Consider nominating the WPA portion of City Park Greenhouse for local historic designation to acknowledge its historical and architectural significance.
- Retain park maintenance operations in the building. Retain the greenhouses.
- Consider a community space, public restrooms, and/or interpretation / exhibit spaces within the WPA portion of City Park Greenhouse.
Bungalow Fire Station
Bungalow Fire Station will be considered for future repair and adaptive reuse for a community use. Fire Station No. 18, designed by E.H. Moorman and built in 1912, is currently used by the Denver Police Department.

- Consider a community, non-profit, or park function that complements park use for the building.
- Repair the setting by organizing parking and improving the building entry.
- Add new tree plantings, set in patterns and an aesthetic similar to those of North Meadow.

McLellan Gateway
McLellan Gateway will be preserved and its setting and pedestrian trails enhanced. The gateway was built in 1903, and moved to its present location at York Street and East 21st Avenue in 1957. It is a pair of solid square granite piers on either side of the park road that creates a formal entrance. Two portals, scaled for pedestrians, are set within wings that end in smaller matching piers buttressed by simple volutes on the outward side.

- Preserve the gateway's simple stone base, entablature, moldings, and outward-facing French Gothic inspired lamps.
- Consider nominating McLellan Gateway for local historic designation to acknowledge its historical and architectural significance.
- Reestablish the pedestrian trails to extend through the gateway portals on each side.
- Improve the setting by replacing missing tree allees.

Monti Gateway
Monti Gateway will be preserved, and its setting enhanced. This gateway at Colorado Boulevard and Montview Boulevard, designed by Richard Phillips and built in 1917, provides a formal entrance into City Park and the Museum from the Park Hill neighborhood and east Denver.

- Preserve the gateway's pair of pink Platte Canyon granite structures, including the simple piers with base and capital that are topped with a granite spheres and curved granite benches.
- Consider nominating Monti Gateway for local historic designation to acknowledge its historical and architectural significance.
- Preserve and enhance Sopris Gateway's trees by protecting significant and notable trees and infilling with the same or similar species.
- Consider additional horticultural measures such as use of a potable water supply / source for irrigation to ensure the longevity of the conifer trees.

Sopris Gateway
Sopris Gateway will be preserved and its setting enhanced. The gateway, built in 1911 / 1912, was originally designed as a trolley stop, but has functioned as a pedestrian entrance for many years. It is built of sandstone quarried in Colorado Springs and a red-flecked granite. The tree backdrop to the gateway is one of the park's living collections.

- Preserve the pair of square stone piers crowned by iron lamp standards with five globes, and the curving benches that extend from each pier terminating in shorter stone piers with slender, fluted iron Corinthian columns with a single lamp globe.
- Consider nominating Sopris Gateway for local historic designation to acknowledge its historical and architectural significance.
Children’s Fountain
Children’s Fountain will be preserved and repaired. The white marble fountain, designed by sculptor Max Blondet, was originally installed in 1912 and moved to its present location in 1917.

- Repair the Children’s Fountain.
- Enhance the setting with new plantings to create a private space while also allowing for visibility for safety.

Electric Prismatic Fountain
Electric Prismatic Fountain, designed by electrical engineer F.W. Darlington, was dedicated on Memorial Day 1908. The fountain originally pumped 4,400 gallons of water per minute through 2,100 jets to create 125 different water formations and was illuminated at night in nine colors. It will be preserved.

- Preserve the existing structure, providing regular maintenance and repair.

Bandstand and Boat Dock
The Bandstand was built in 1984 as a reconstruction of the park’s earlier 1924 bandstand. The Boat Dock was repaired in 2002 and serves as a location for water sports rentals.

- Retain the existing bandstand and boat dock structures, providing regular maintenance and repair.

Martin Luther King Jr. Monument (MLK, Jr. Monument)
The MLK, Jr. Monument by Ed Dwight was commissioned by the City of Denver in 2002. It features a central sculpture of Dr. King surrounded by bronze sculptures of Rosa Parks, Gandhi, Frederick Douglas, and Sojourner Truth. Granite panels around the perimeter highlight historic dates and facts on the history of African Americans and the Civil Rights Movement.

- Preserve MLK, Jr. Monument, providing regular maintenance and repair.

Grizzly’s Last Stand
Grizzly’s Last Stand is owned by the Museum. This bronze sculpture of a mother grizzly bear protecting her two cubs adorns the northwest edge of the Museum overlooking Benedict Garden. It was sculpted in 1930 by Louis Paul Jones and donated to the Museum the same year. The sculpture’s inscription reads, “When the grizzly is gone / We shall have lost the / Most sublime specimens / Of wildlife that exalts / The western wilderness."

- Preserve the sculpture, providing regular maintenance and repair.
New Park Buildings and Structures

New park buildings and structures will provide facilities to better accommodate everyday park and user needs. New facilities will include restrooms, gathering spaces, and picnic spaces. New features will be designed to complement, and be subordinate, to existing park buildings and structures. New park buildings and park structures will be designed with the same care and consideration as the park’s historic buildings and structures.

- Consider a new open-air shade pavilion and restroom in the northwest corner near court sports.

- Relocate some maintenance and operations from Elephant House to the small parking area in northwest corner near the tennis courts. Add a park maintenance building and secured storage yard.

- Consider a new open-air shade pavilion near Little Lake.

- Consider a new open-air shade pavilion on the north side of North Meadow at the top of the existing ballfields.

- Consider a new open-air shade pavilion near the new picnic site and Dustin Redd playground in the park’s northwest corner.
New Park Gateways and Park Entrances

New park gateways will continue the tradition of accentuating City Park’s primary park entrances as grand and monumental features. New park entrances will identify additional vehicular entrances to specific destinations, and primarily be landscape settings.

- Consider new park gateways at the York Street and Colorado Boulevard intersections with East 23rd Avenue.
  - New park gateways will have a grandeur and scale similar to historic park gateways but will be of a compatible contemporary design.
  - They will have a setting, artistic grandeur, and a scale that complements, and is subordinate to, City Park’s existing monumental gateways.
  - The York Street gateway will serve as a primary entry into the park from the City Park West and Whittier neighborhoods and west Denver.
  - Colorado Boulevard gateway will serve as a primary entry into the park from Park Hill and South Park Hill neighborhoods and east Denver.
  - Consider incorporating monumentation with integrated park signage, human-scale pedestrian access, backdrop of groves of specialty trees and low understory plantings, orchestrated views, and public art.

- Consider new or enhanced park entrances at the Zoo / Museum / City Park, the Zoo / City Park Golf Course, and near City Park Greenhouse.

Park entrances will identify vehicular entrances into specific destinations and will provide clear access and wayfinding in a landscape setting.

- Design park entrances as landscape-focused spaces of topography and plantings with minimal signage.
City Park’s current variety of passive and active uses and experiences will continue and be enhanced. Improvements to existing park facilities, features and spaces, and the addition of a few new features will provide better facilities and connections for all City Park users. Accommodating a balance of uses and experiences integrated with the park landscape will ensure City Park remains Denver’s most beloved public space and regional park.

Improved roads and trails will provide safer and more enjoyable walking, running, and bicycling experiences. Passive experiences will be enhanced with improvements to existing play areas, and new picnicking and fishing spots. Habitat will be improved, offering more opportunities for viewing wildlife. Informal and permitted sports will continue in the meadows, and South Meadow will become more naturalized. Improved circulation will better accommodate park users and those who visit each institution. Basic amenities will include lighting, drinking fountains, seating, bicycle parking, and trash and recycling receptacles.

Select areas will be improved for enhanced recreation. The park’s northwest corner will be improved with a gathering area and new restroom. Park maintenance and operations will be relocated (a portion will remain in Elephant House) to the existing parking area. Dustin Redd playground will be replaced with new play experiences integrated with the meadow. The park’s southeast corner will become more naturalized, in a setting compatible with the park’s established forested groves and meadows.

**Principle: Maintain a balance of uses and experiences that are integrated with the park’s character and composition.**
Recommendations  |  Park Uses and Experiences

**General**
- Improve park facilities, spaces, and features to better support City Park’s uses and experiences.
  - Design improvements and upgrades using practices that protect park character.
  - Ensure the current variety of passive and active uses remain and are accommodated.
- Provide basic amenities in select locations.
  - Consider lighting, drinking fountains, seating, bicycle parking, and trash and recycling receptacles.
  - Consider new restrooms, food and beverage, and community access for select park buildings and structures.
- Ensure new facilities or features are designed to respect the architectural scale of City Park’s historic features.
- Retain and enhance established park spaces associated with park buildings and structures including gardens and use areas.
- Consider new areas at select locations at the lake edges of Ferril Lake and Little Lake for fishing and universally accessible fishing.
- Provide resources and opportunities for visitor contact at park facilities. Highlight recreation amenities, historic and natural features, the park’s history, and park programming and special events.
- Improve park roads for better wayfinding and ease of access to park destinations. Improve trails and provide new trails for better park experiences for walkers, runners, and those strolling in the park by providing a variety of trail types.

**MOVEMENT**
- Improved park roads will assist in better wayfinding and ease of access to park destinations. Shared routes for bicycles and cars will provide better driving and bicycling experiences and to easier access for all park users to destinations.
- Improved trails and new trails will provide better park experiences for walkers, runners, and those strolling in the park on a variety of trail types.
- Park promenades will offer improved connections for pedestrians and bicycles while creating a unique park space that encourages passive use along the park’s south edge.
**Southeast Corner and South Meadow**

The southeast corner will provide exploratory and experiential park experiences in a natural setting that respects the park composition. Existing spaces will be improved to be more ecologically diverse and for an inside/outside connection to the Museum. New experiences will be integrated with Box Canyon Waterway, Pinetum, and Lily Pond. South Meadow and the southeast corner will be a unified dynamic experience where ecology, biological diversity, play, and passive uses are accommodated in a variety of linked spaces.

- Provide physically and visually linked spaces of naturalistic plantings and features integrated with the patterns of established forested groves, living collections, and South Meadow.

- Provide a better physical connection between the Museum and the park with improved trails and small plaza or steps.

- Integrate new resilient plantings or native and hardy species within South Meadow, around the Lily Pond, and at Ferril Lake and Little Lake’s edges.
  - Design new plantings and meadows to respect the park composition.
  - Preserve established spaces and spatial patterns including meadows, forested groves, tree allees, and living collections.

- Provide unified experiences integrated with the park composition.
  - Consider native grasses and plantings to facilitate creative play.
  - Improve Box Canyon Waterway as an interactive play experience and naturalistic feature.
  - Improve play by removing the existing playgrounds and providing improved play experiences.
  - Improve picnicking and the permitted picnic area.
  - Provide an open-air shade pavilion similar to the size and scale of the non-extant historic pergola that once graced the eastern edge of Little Lake.

- Improve Lily Pond as a centerpiece of the southeast corner and expand its setting as a garden.

- Modify South Meadow by planting a naturalistic meadow with cool and warm season grasses and wildflowers of native and hardy species.
Courts, Restrooms, and Open-Air Shade Pavilions
The northwest corner will continue to provide active park uses, primarily related to court sports and play. Improved facilities and better pedestrian connections will balance active use, play, and a new pavilion and picnic areas.

- Improve the tennis courts by repairing surfacing, fencing, and lighting, and by adding gathering spaces.
  - Consider tables and shade adjacent to tennis courts.
  - Consider replacing the north fence with a new fence to provide screening in a design that is more compatible with park character.

- Provide a new structure to accommodate accessible restrooms and an open-air shade pavilion.
  - Design all features concurrently with design of the improved park maintenance and operations building and access.
  - Consider a combined park maintenance and operations building and accessible public restroom or a new or repaired accessible restroom as a separate structure from park operations.
  - Consider a new open-air shade pavilion.
**Dustin Redd Playground**

- Provide a new play experience to replace Dustin Redd Playground for similar age groups that meet community needs.
  - Consider discovery, exploratory, imaginative or fantasy play and a variety of play experiences in a setting with features that respect City Park’s character.
  - Integrate play spaces and features within the patterns of established forested groves, the meadow, and significant and notable trees.
  - Consider a variety of play experiences to minimize impacts to existing vegetation and to maximize the play experience.

- Design new plantings to respect the established park composition of the meadow while integrating the play area and related spaces.
  - Preserve established spatial patterns including the meadow, forested groves, and tree allees.

- Integrate a picnic area near the playground.

- Provide an open-air shade pavilion near the playground.

**North Meadow**

North Meadow will continue to provide active uses including field sports and will be improved with a new trail and park pavilion. The use of this area will continue as part of the city’s stormwater system that provides detention during storms events.

- Preserve the established topography and groupings of trees surrounding the meadow.

- Consider modifying the use of the meadow for varied active field sports with modifications to field layout to better fit the sports within the historic racetrack topography and vegetation.

- Ensure the meadow and topography continue to provide the function of stormwater detention.

- Provide an open-air shade pavilion north of the meadow adjacent to the parking.

- Improve the connectivity of North Meadow to other areas of the park.
  - Provide a pedestrian trail around the perimeter of the meadow to connect to the park, East 23rd Avenue, and Colorado Boulevard.
Denver Zoo (the Zoo) encompasses 93-acres within City Park. The Zoo has been an important park experience since 1918 when the revolutionary Bear Mountain exhibit was built for visitors to view animals without bars or fences. The Zoo continues to evolve to meet its mission of securing a better world for animals through human understanding. Their work is guided by a current master plan and building plan, approved by City Council. The Zoo is managed by the Denver Zoological Foundation, Inc. in cooperation with the Denver Parks and Recreation Department under a Cooperative Agreement. Denver Parks and Recreation controls all fixed property related to the Zoo and is responsible for reviewing and approving most modifications to the Zoo.

City Park Master Plan Update recommendations for the Zoo, presented in this document, supplement the Zoo’s most current approved plans by providing guidance for the improved physical and visual connectivity of the Zoo and City Park. These recommendations assume improvements within the Zoo will comply with USDA and accrediting body (Association of Zoos and Aquariums) regulations and be implemented in accordance with the Zoo’s current planning priorities.

Views and Screening
A series of views to the Zoo will enhance the experiences of Zoo visitors and park users and more fully connect the Zoo with the park. Views should range from glimpses at street level towards specific exhibits to views of taller iconic or ‘zooconic’ buildings or features. Screening of maintenance areas and service drives will provide an enhanced park-like experience along Zoo edges.

- Consider improving select views towards historic, iconic or ‘zooconic’ buildings, or features within the Zoo through vegetation thinning, transparent fencing, and other methods that assist in highlighting specific features.
  - Select views could include the Zoo Operations Center, new ‘zooconic’ buildings, and buildings on the Zoo boundary including those on East 23rd Avenue.

- Screen maintenance and operations areas and service drives adjacent to City Park including trash and recycling areas.

- Consider improving select views from City Park into the Zoo including at Elephant House within City Park and from City Park Pavilion and Ferril Lake promenade.

City Park and Zoo Edges
The interface of the Zoo environs with City Park will be improved to reflect the Zoo’s location within City Park and acknowledge its importance as an institution.

- Provide a cohesive design for the entire boundary that identifies and protects the Zoo while addressing the variety of uses and conditions adjacent to the boundary.
  - Design a cohesive composition of buildings, walls, fences, openings, and vegetation in a subdued color palette with a limited variety of vertical barriers for screening and openings, using a simple palette of materials.
  - Locate features (walls, fences, openings, vegetation) to address specific conditions, i.e., plantings at entries, fencing for street-level views into the Zoo, buildings that meet the boundary, opening views above barriers for visual access to select buildings (Zoo Operations).
Design gates for operational access points as part of the composition, using similar materials, and colors and providing additional screening.

Consider providing variety in the composition to address views, conditions, and experiences.

- Acceptable materials for the boundary composition includes:
  - Existing Zoo approved features; i.e., walls and railing in conjunction with new compatible features.
  - Precast panels in a subdued color palette with more consistency in color between columns and panels.
  - Architectural or artistic metalwork for fencing, fence top features, or gates, preferably in one compatible color.
  - Architectural metal fencing for select openings at views and gates.

- Consider modifying select maintenance and operations buildings and features to be more inconspicuous as viewed from City Park and to function as background features.
  - Consider modifications that would simplify facades and minimize large openings.
  - Ensure the 2018 public art project is an artistic expression for the waste management building at Gate 15.

New Visible Zoo Features
The Zoo’s current planning envisions new features and exhibits, some of which may be visible from City Park and from East 23rd Avenue. The design of these new features will consider views from City Park and East 23rd Avenue and the park composition and spatial character in their design. Design will be in accordance with the Zoo’s most current approved plans.

- Ensure facades and visible components of new ‘zooconic’ buildings and structures are expressive and are identifiable as Zoo features when viewed from City Park or East 23rd Avenue.

- Design new maintenance / operations buildings and structures to be inconspicuous ‘background’ features.

Zoo Parking and Access
The Zoo’s current master plan and building plan, approved by City Council, will provide primary visitor access through three portals on the Zoo’s northeast edges. The existing entrance will remain, and an east and west portal added for Zoo events and for a school entrance. Visitors will continue to park in the surface lot east of the Zoo entrance and in the existing parking structure. A proposed parking structure within the Zoo boundary will provide additional parking near the new east entrance.

- Consider an additional pedestrian Zoo entrance / exit within City Park, possibly located near Elephant House or near the tennis courts.

- Consider modifications to the existing surface lots to improve vehicular flow and provide access for all modes while retaining significant and notable trees and established patterns.

- Improve access for pedestrians, bicycles, and bus riders.
  - Consider a pedestrian trail along the full length of the east edge of the Zoo boundary for improved pedestrian access.
  - Continue providing bike share stations near Zoo entrances.

- Continue to promote and encourage all modes of transportation for visitors and staff.
Denver Museum of Nature & Science

Denver Museum of Nature & Science (the Museum) anchors the east edge of City Park. The Museum was officially established in 1900. It opened to the public in 1908 in a neoclassical building designed by Frederick J. Sterner, set on the park's eastern high point with a panoramic view to the Rocky Mountains. The Museum has been expanded and upgraded many times to meet its mission. The Museum is an independent, non-profit institution, accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and is a Smithsonian Institution affiliate.

City Park Master Plan recommendations for the Museum, presented in this document, provide guidance for the improved physical and visual connectivity of the Museum and City Park.

These recommendations assume improvements associated with the Museum will be implemented in accordance with the Museum's current planning priorities. Modifications may include improvements to the Museum’s entrance, parking and plazas, revisions to the existing building or facilities required by code for upgrades, and addition of new features to improve connections between the Museum and the park.

Views and Screening

The iconic vista from the Museum’s west façade and Kessler Plaza will be protected. Historic views towards the Museum from surrounding streets and from within City Park will be reestablished. Better visual connections will link the Museum with park spaces to the north and south.

- Comply with the City Park View Plane Ordinance (Municipal Code, Chapter 10, Article IV, Sec. 10-62) from the Museum and Kessler Plaza.
- Improve select views towards the Museum from East 23rd Avenue and Colorado Boulevard (Denver Forestry).
- Improve visual connections between the Museum and South Meadow.
- Screen maintenance and operations areas including trash and recycling areas to ensure an enhanced park-like setting around the Museum.
Museum
The Museum building has evolved to continue to meet its mission with the most recent addition completed in 2014 on the south side. No major additions or modifications are planned.

- Consider enhancing the existing Museum building, if an opportunity arises, to assist in bringing a human-scale to the building.
- In coordination with Denver Parks & Recreation, continue improvements to the north entrance and North Park Road to be more consistent in aesthetics to park character.

Museum Setting
The Museum's setting of plantings and features at the base of the building and near pedestrian areas will remain. These will be augmented with additional improvements by the Museum on the building's south side.

Improvements will be made by Denver Parks to the park's southeast corner, Kessler Plaza, H2Odyssey Fountain, Benedict Garden, and the 1950s Botanic Garden. These will be coordinated with the Museum for an integrated indoor / outdoor experience.

- Collaborate with Denver Parks & Recreation on improving the physical and visual connection between the Museum and City Park at the Museum's south entrance and terrace.
  - Consider improvements to make the south entrance readily accessible to pedestrians and connected to City Park.

Museum Parking and Access
The Museum's primary visitor access is on the building's north side with one main portal. School groups enter on the south. Entrances on the east and west are open for special events and programs. The existing north entrance will remain as the primary visitor access and the Museum will explore the potential to open other entrances. Visitors will continue to park in the existing surface lots and existing below-grade parking structure. Improved pedestrian routes will better connect the Museum with the park.

- The Museum may consider modifications to the Museum's primary vehicular entrance to surface lots and underground garage on its north side to more clearly delineate the vehicular entrance.
  - If so, the Museum will coordinate the entrance design with Denver Parks and Recreation to ensure a holistic design that includes North Park Road and Bungalow Fire Station on East 22nd Avenue.
  - Consider adding improved pedestrian routes to access the Museum's primary building entrance.

- Collaborate with Denver Parks & Recreation to improve North Park Road including providing traffic control and shared use while ensuring adequate access to the Museum.

- Improve access for pedestrians, bicycles, and bus riders.

- Continue providing bike share stations near Museum entrances.

- Continue to promote and encourage all modes of transportation for visitors and staff.
East 23rd Avenue

East 23rd Avenue will be improved to a more park-like aesthetic to enhance mobility, user experience, and visual connectivity to City Park. New park gateways at York Street and Colorado Boulevard will identify East 23rd Avenue as a primary entrance into City Park, the Zoo, the Museum, and City Park Golf Course. The road and its edges will be improved for a safe and pleasant experience for all travel modes including park users, those visiting institutions, and for everyday commuters.

The north edge, City Park Golf Course, will continue to provide an undulating landscape with topography, tree groupings, and sweeping views of the course, the Rocky Mountains, and downtown Denver. The south edge will provide pedestrian trails and select views into City Park and Denver Zoo.

Spatial Composition
The spatial composition of East 23rd Avenue will be enhanced by accentuating the significant spaces, vegetation, views, and features of its north and south edges. The original alignment of the road will remain, as will established and historic spaces, vegetation, topography, and views into City Park and City Park Golf Course. New park gateways will define the entry experience. New features and plantings will highlight and frame important views. The north edge’s characteristic topography and vegetation patterns will remain and be enhanced. The south edge will be improved to accentuate its variety of park and Zoo spaces.

- Respect and enhance East 23rd Avenue’s established and historic patterns, sequences, openings and enclosures, and topography.
- North Edge:
  Preserve and enhance the north edge’s established vegetation and topography that provide its characteristic pattern of open and enclosed spaces. Enhance these patterns with new tree plantings to frame, and screen, views into City Park Golf Course.
  - Provide an undulating space along the north edge with topography and forested groves that define openings and enclosures.
  - Enhance views into City Park Golf Course to highlight the new clubhouse or other key features or spaces.
  - Screen maintenance and operations and service drives adjacent to East 23rd Avenue.
  - Minimize walls or other features in the landscape to ensure a park-like aesthetic. Remove existing low walls and replace these with compatible features.
- South Edge:
  Preserve and enhance the south edge’s established pattern and diversity of park and Zoo spaces.
  - Preserve established spaces, vegetation, topography and views into City Park, including views towards the Museum and North Meadow.
  - Provide a cohesive design for the Zoo boundary that also recognizes its presence on East 23rd Avenue. Refer to Denver Zoo for specific recommendations.
  - Enhance views into the Zoo to offer glimpses at street level and to highlight features above the Zoo edge such as ‘zooconic’ buildings or vegetation, e.g., the Primate exhibit. Refer to Denver Zoo for specific recommendations.
  - Screen maintenance and operations features including entrances and service drives.
Preserve and enhance established and historic views and vistas from East 23rd Avenue including the following.
- toward downtown Denver
- to the Rocky Mountains, especially from the intersection with Colorado Boulevard and from the Zoo / City Park Golf Course entrance
- toward Saint Ignatius Loyola Catholic Church
- into City Park, the Zoo, and City Park Golf Course
- toward the Zoo's tree groves, ‘zooconic’ buildings or other notable features

Place new park gateways, vegetation, signage or other features to enhance and not detract from views.

Provide clear and open views into the new Zoo / City Park Golf Course entrance.

**Circulation and Connectivity**
East 23rd Avenue will be improved as a cohesive circulation system. New park gateways and park entrances will define points of access, and enhancements will improve bus, pedestrian, and bicycle connectivity. Safe travel and improved wayfinding will assist all modes.

- Improve wayfinding to reduce sign clutter and to ensure users are directed to destinations.
  - Provide a consistent signage system for directional, informational, and identification to assist in wayfinding for all modes.
  - Ensure consistency with City Park's signage system to provide a cohesive aesthetic with a clear, consistent message. Allow for some individualized expression for the Zoo, Museum, and City Park Golf Course.
  - Implement an evaluation of existing regulatory signage and provide a placement plan to reduce sign clutter.
Provide a hierarchy of park gateways and park entrances with integrated signage to direct users to destinations.
- Allow wayfinding signage or elements, visible for all modes, for park entrances near City Park Greenhouse, Zoo / City Park Golf Course entrance, and City Park / Zoo / Museum entrance.
- Consider removing the existing entrance / exit between the Zoo / Museum / City Park entrance and the Zoo / City Park Golf Course entrance. Reestablish this area as a landscaped setting.

Modify East 23rd Avenue to improve its aesthetic and function in collaboration with Denver Public Works.
- Consider a narrow or reduced road pavement width and potential removal of medians in select sections to provide improved bicycle and pedestrian routes.
  - Consider moving the south curb to the north to provide a wider landscape and pedestrian space.
  - Consider methods to slow traffic, such as raised or signed crossings, to provide a better pedestrian and bicycle experience.

Provide bicycle lanes on the north and south edges of East 23rd Avenue along designated bicycle routes.
- Consider improving the bicycle lanes to raised enhanced bikeways. Avoid flex posts, armadillos, and curbs along East 23rd Avenue.
- Provide pavement markings at entrances and key decision points, and wayfinding and directional signage at key intersections.

Improve pedestrian circulation and safety by repairing existing trails, adding new trails, and providing select road crossings and clear routes into City Park, City Park Golf Course, and institutions.
- Provide enhanced mid-block crossings at existing and proposed bus stops for pedestrian and bicycle safety and connectivity.
  - Provide universally accessible crossings with curb cuts, either raised or as pavement markings.
  - Consider pedestrian activated signals near bus stop crossings.
- Enhance pedestrian crossings at park gateways and entrances.
- Provide signed or marked crossings where pedestrian routes intersect service drives, park entrances, or entrances / exits into the park or institutions. These may include the park entrance west of City Park Greenhouse, City Park Greenhouse's service drive, the Zoo Operations Center service drive, the Zoo garage exit, and park entrances into the Zoo, City Park Golf Course, and City Park / the Zoo / Museum.
- Provide a pedestrian trail through City Park Golf Course to connect the Skyland Neighborhood on the north to City Park.

Locate bus stops in proximity to City Park, City Park Golf Course, and institutions for ease of access. Improve bus stops using a consistent aesthetic that enhances East 23rd Avenue. Provide basic amenities such as benches, and trash and recycling receptacles. Consider installing bus shelters. Provide a consistent ramp type.