Gardens and Living Collections

Vision: City Park’s living collections represent groupings of plants, either a single species or several similar species, associated with the park’s development. Living Collections include Sopris Gateway, Cottonwood Grove and components of the 1950s Botanic Garden—the Lilac Hedge and Pinetum. Historic gardens are equally characteristic features. They include the Lily Pond, Kessler Plaza, Benedict Garden, and Burns and Sopris gardens.

8. Preserve City Park’s living collections and gardens as individual park spaces as each has a distinct character created by its setting, features, and vegetation.
   a. Preserve individual plantings, spaces and relationships, and the composition that characterize each living collection or garden.
      i. Consider the individual nuances of each living collection or garden when modifying it.
      ii. Retain significant and notable trees, species mix and features, and patterns and arrangements.
      iii. Consider the relationships between each living collection or garden with adjacent park spaces, park roads, buildings, and structures.
   b. Protect individual trees and replace missing trees or species.
   c. Allow new species or varieties consistent with each living collection ensuring a similarity in form, color, and flower.
      i. Allow new and infill plantings to assist in preserving or enhancing spatial relationships of a living collection or garden and its setting.
      ii. Allow plant species that improve biodiversity, hardiness, and plant health while also respecting the form, color, and character of historic species.
   d. Protect patterns of plantings.
   e. Ensure the 1950s Botanic Garden remains as a horticultural collection and is managed for longevity.
      i. Allow reestablishment of missing planting beds and groups of trees within the 1950s Botanic Garden.
Meadows

7. Protect the spatial arrangements of each meadow. Protect significant and notable trees, vegetation patterns, and features that define its composition.
   a. Preserve and enhance vegetation that assist in defining the form and scale of each meadow and create its views.
      i. Allow trees to be removed when they become hazards. Replace those that contribute to established or historic vegetation patterns.
      ii. Allow infill trees within forested groves, tree allees, and living collections to repair the established or historic form and scale of each meadow and to repair or enhance views and viewsheds.
      iii. Consider future uses when determining locations of new trees or features.
   b. Preserve and enhance the low-growing ground plane vegetation appearance of each meadow.
      i. Allow an irrigated hardy playfield bluegrass mixture for meadows where permitted league play and active field sports occur.
      ii. Allow an irrigated hardy bluegrass mixture for passive use meadows, and for lawns under forested groves and tree allees to ensure the health and longevity of trees.
      iii. Allow a hardy native species grass mixture for South Meadow for a naturalized aesthetic and for improved ecological function.
Water

Vision: Constructed water features and lakes are part of City Park’s original construction and are associated with City Ditch from which they are all fed. They range in style, material, and size dependent on intended purpose and share a commonality of function and artistic expression.

Ferril Lake, originally named Big Lake, was a central feature of Meryweather’s 1882 plan. It was realized in 1896 through Reinhard Schuetze’s design as an open mirror of water to provide broad vistas and a setting for public entertainment. Boating, rowing, and fishing are park experiences associated with Ferril Lake as is sitting or walking along the water’s edge. Duck Lake, with a central island, was built in 1887 as a breeding ground for birds. Lily Pond (1925) and Little Lake (Lilly Lake or Sediment Pond, 1917) are smaller historic water features built as a series of water bodies previously fed by City Ditch.

Principle: Protect constructed water features to preserve park character and to enhance water quality and ecological health and function.

1. Preserve, protect, and repair City Park’s historic lakes and constructed water features using accepted preservation practices.
   a. Preserve the form, topography, and scale of Ferril Lake, Duck Lake, Lily Pond, and Little Lake.
   b. Preserve features associated with historic constructed water features, i.e., Electric Prismatic Fountain.
   c. Allow repair of the Lily Pond to function as originally intended as a work of art reminiscent of Monet’s painting.
   d. Allow repair of Box Canyon Waterway.
2. Allow enhanced water quality to provide environmental benefits and renewed biological diversity for both plants and wildlife habitat.
   a. Allow modification of lake edges at Ferril Lake, Little Lake, and Duck Lake for a more naturalized appearance, characteristic of what was present during the period of significance.
   b. Continue to allow stormwater detention in Ferril Lake and Little Lake.
   c. Continue to improve water quality in Ferril Lake, Little Lake, and Duck Lake.
      i. Allow dredging and deepening of the lake bottoms to improve water quality and aquatic habitat.

3. Allow modifications to H2Odysssey, the water jet fountain west of the Museum of Nature & Science, considering the same attention to a feeling of grandeur, artistic expression, and design excellence that is present in historic features.
   a. Ensure the fountain, Kessler Plaza, and Benedict Garden are designed holistically as integrally related components.
   b. Ensure the design of new features are products of their own time that are reflective of modern-day style, but compatible with park character.
   c. Ensure a human scale that engages park users. Locate equipment and functional features out of view.
   d. Respect City Park's architectural scale by ensuring new design is proportional, but subordinate to historic features in height, mass, and scale.
Buildings, Structures and Objects

Vision: City Park's five historic buildings and nine historic structures are from the park's earliest development through the 1940s. They range in style, material, and size dependent on original use and purpose, but all share a commonality of grandeur, artistic expression, and design excellence.

City Park Pavilion (1929), designed in the manner of an Italian Renaissance villa, is the largest park building. The rustic architecture of City Park Greenhouse (1936 / 1941) reflects its design and construction by the Works Progress Administration. Graham / Bible House and Barn (1893) are the park's oldest buildings and reflect the shingle style. Two buildings are primarily brick construction—the symmetrical neo-classical Elephant House (1908) and Bungalow Fire Station (1912).

Features, monuments, and sculptures from the late 1890s through 1918 are artistic and commemorative works placed strategically within City Park. Historic and contemporary structures are set within an associated landscape or garden. Three gateways define park entries—McLellan Gateway (1903) relocated to its current site in 1957; Monti Gateway (1917); and Sopris Gateway (1911), the only monumental pedestrian entrance. Sullivan Gateway (1917) and Thatcher Memorial Fountain (1918) anchor City Park Esplanade.

Other structures and objects contribute to the park—Burns Sculpture (1904), Children's Fountain (1912), Electric Prismatic Fountain (1908) in Ferril Lake, and Grizzly's Last Stand (owned by Denver Museum of Nature & Science, 1930).


Principle: Preserve contributing buildings and structures, ensure new buildings and structures are consistent with park character, and provide opportunities for compatible park uses.
City Park's historic park buildings, structures and objects share a consistent scale. All share a commonality of grandeur, artistic expression and design excellence.
Park Buildings and Structures

1. Rehabilitate City Park’s park buildings and structures using accepted preservation practices.
   a. Preserve and repair park building exteriors including fenestration and materials, while allowing minor modifications for egress and to accommodate community use.
   b. Preserve and repair park structures including historic monuments, fountains, and features.

2. Allow minor modifications to park buildings, or portions of park buildings, to accommodate compatible community use and access.
   a. Preserve and repair historic materials before replacement with new materials.
   b. Ensure modifications are compatible with contributing park buildings and park character.
   c. Restore original materials before replacement.
   d. Ensure modifications are contemporary and of their own time, while being compatible.
   e. City Park Pavilion:
      i. Allow interior modifications to improve community use for event space, food and beverage, and public restrooms.
      ii. Continue to allow second-floor use for City Park maintenance and operations.
      iii. Allow seasonal concessions within the building and on exterior terraces.

PARK BUILDINGS
Graham / Bible House and Barn (1893)
Elephant House (1906)
Bungalow Fire Station (1912)
City Park Pavilion (1929)
City Park Greenhouse (1941)

PARK STRUCTURES
McLellan Gateway (1904)
Electric Prismatic Fountain (1908)
Sopris Gateway (1911)
Children’s Fountain (1912)
Monti Gateway (1917)
Grizzly’s Last Stand (1930)
Bandstand (1984)
MLK Jr., Monument (2002)
f. Elephant House:
   i. Allow interior modifications for food and beverage (i.e., small restaurant or café), a community room, or public restrooms.
   ii. Continue to allow maintenance and operations needed for City Park.
   iii. Allow minor modifications to pedestrian walkways for improved access and to accommodate universal accessibility.

g. Graham / Bible House and Barn:
   i. Consider community space, public restrooms, and interpretation / exhibit spaces within existing interior spaces.
   ii. Continue to allow park-related use.
   iii. Consider seasonal 'cart' concessions within, and near, the building and barn.

h. City Park Greenhouse:
   i. Consider community space, public restrooms, and interpretation / exhibit spaces while continuing use for City Park maintenance and operations.
New Park Buildings and Park Structures

Vision: New park buildings and park structures will be designed with the same care and consideration as historic park buildings and structures. Each historic building, structure, and monument is distinct to the time it was designed, and is respectful of its location within City Park. Each is composed of a continuous architectural style and character on all four sides. Each reflects a different architectural style and is built using different materials, but all share similar principles of mass and scale, and appropriateness to function and presence.

3. Allow new park buildings and park structures in select locations as noted in City Park Master Plan Update.
   a. Respect and preserve established views, vistas, open spaces, and relationships when placing and designing new park buildings, structures, and gateways.
   b. Allow potential new park buildings only in these select locations.
      i. Restroom building and storage, located near court sports.
      ii. Maintenance building in northwest corner, if or when Elephant House is repurposed.
   c. Allow potential new park structures only in these select locations.
      i. Open-air shade pavilions near the court sports, Dustin Redd Playground, in the South Meadow/southeast corner and North Meadow.
      ii. Play features in northwest and southeast corners.
4. Design new park buildings and structures with attention to grandeur, artistic expression, and design excellence as is present in historic features.
   a. Design new park buildings and structures in a contemporary style and practice, as products of their own time, and reflective of their function and location.
   b. Ensure new park buildings and structures are compatible with park character and City Park's range of architectural styles.
   c. Respect City Park's architectural scale when designing new park buildings and structures.
      i. Ensure new features are proportional in height, mass, and scale, but are subordinate to historic buildings and structures.
      ii. Ensure new park buildings and structures provide a human scale that engages park users.
      iii. Ensure the use of simpler forms and detailing for maintenance and operations buildings.
      iv. Design the entire setting of a new park building or structure so it is a cohesive component of the building and compatible with park character.
   d. Allow the following acceptable materials for new park building and structures.
      i. Park buildings: natural stone or brick with metal or wood accents / detailing, and metal or shingle roofing.
      ii. Park structures: natural stone or brick with metal or wood accents, and metal or shingle roofing. Refer to park gateways for acceptable materials for these.
      iii. Maintenance and operations buildings: natural stone, brick, metal or wood as primary materials with similar materials for accents and detailing, and metal or shingle roofing.
New Park Gateways

5. Allow new park gateways at York Street and Colorado Boulevard to mark major entrances into City Park. Park gateways should include monument structures with pedestrian access and a backdrop of plantings.

a. Design new park gateways with attention to grandeur, artistic expression, and design excellence as is present in historic features.

b. Ensure new park gateways are designed in a contemporary style and practice, are products of their own time, and are compatible with park character and the park's architectural styles.

c. Ensure new monument structures are subordinate to historic park buildings and structures, and proportional in height, mass and scale to historic monuments.
   i. Ensure new monument structures respect but do not imitate historic monuments, which reference neo-classical and Renaissance styles.
   ii. Ensure new monument structures are 2-point or 4-point compositions and that a human scale is provided.
   iii. Ensure new monument structures reflects its location on park roads, and include plantings on both side of the road and edges.
   iv. Allow features to accommodate seating within the structure design, i.e., Sopris and Monti Gateways.
   v. Limit signage to identifying City Park. Additional text or graphics is not acceptable on the structure.
d. Allow the following acceptable materials for monument structures.
   i. Primary materials: natural stone or brick, or a combination. Acceptable variations include:
      rough-hewn, polished, boulder, cobble, sandstone, marble, granite, limestone; battered or dry set,
      mortared.
   ii. Accents may include painted metals, sculptural elements, and finials and lighting as decorative
      elements.
   iii. Paving: Pedestrian routes will be concrete paving using the accepted City Park concrete mix.

e. Design the entire park gateway holistically from roadway edge to adjacent park land, and for the entire
   experience through the entrance.
   i. Ensure pedestrian routes are designed with the monument structure, and with its landscape and
      topography.

f. Allow standard park furnishings (benches, trash receptacles, lighting) in the design. Ensure furnishings do
   not clutter the gateway.
   i. Ensure planting is primarily lawn under and around the monument structure. Ensure groupings of
      trees are oriented to frame views of the structure and provide a backdrop. An understory of lawn, low-
      growing shrubs, and seasonal color may be considered.
   ii. Ensure elements such as utility boxes, vaults, poles, etc. are located out of view.
Art

Vision: New public art installations that reflect the tradition, character and grandeur of City Park may be installed on a limited basis within the park. New features shall be designed with the same care and consideration as the park’s historic buildings, structures and objects.

1. Preserve and restore City Park’s significant art installations using accepted preservation practices.
   a. Retain historic art installations (those placed within the period of significance) in original locations.
   b. Clean and restore original materials before replacement. Use accepted restoration and conservation methods accomplished by professionals skilled in the preservation of museum quality art.
   c. Consult with the Secretary of Interior Standards and the Denver Landmark Preservation Commission Design Guidelines for accepted preservation practices.
   d. Allow removal of existing public art installations placed after the period of significance.

2. Ensure new public art installations are placed and designed to be respectful of City Park’s composition and compatible with park character.
   a. New public art shall not be allowed on City Park’s historic buildings, structures, or objects.
   b. Respect and preserve established views, vistas, open spaces, and relationships when placing and designing new public art.
   c. Ensure new public art is proportional in height, mass, and scale, but subordinate to City Park’s historic park buildings, structures, and objects.
   d. Ensure new public art is designed to be works of superior artistic merit executed with the highest level of craftsmanship and quality materials.
   e. Ensure materials and craftsmanship are of a durable quality able to withstand weathering.
**Lighting**

Improvements to park lighting is allowed to provide a consistent system in luminaire design and aesthetic. Lighting is associated with buildings, structures, and monuments, as wayfinding for pedestrians along Ferril Lake and park promenades, for safety and vehicular circulation. Lighting at buildings is associated with the individual building style and use, and lighting for artistic display includes Electric Prismatic Fountain. Lighting at park gateways is for artistic expression and wayfinding.

1. Retain existing historic pedestrian poles and luminaires in current patterns, allowing for modifications for safety, or when the pattern does not follow the historic arrangement.
   a. Preserve and repair the historic lighting display at Electric Prismatic Fountain.
   b. Allow removal of existing light poles and luminaires that detract from park character or obscure views or vistas.
2. Allow new lighting where safety and navigation needs have been clearly established.
   a. Ensure new lighting is unobtrusive and compatible with park character.
   b. Ensure new fixtures are simple in form, and subordinate to historic features. They should not create a new aesthetic character or theme.
   c. Ensure new fixtures are placed outside views or vistas.
3. Ensure a consistency of luminaire design and aesthetic throughout the park, and lighting that is energy efficient and easy to maintain.
a. Lighting qualities, including color temperature, should have a consistent warmth and appearance across the park.

b. Ensure a consistent palette of materials and colors for park road and pedestrian lighting.
   i. Ensure pedestrian poles are of one color with one fixture or a set of similar fixture types (dark green to match city standards), mounted at ground level, i.e., not elevated on concrete foundations.
   ii. Allow banners poles / cameras attachments on road lighting poles.

c. Ensure luminaires are selected, installed, and maintained to direct light downward to trails and surfaces with limited light spill onto adjacent areas.

d. Consider single poles with multiple luminaires that can be directed for high use areas to minimize clutter from poles.

e. Where vegetation obscures light, either sensitively trim vegetation or reposition luminaires so output is not obscured.

f. Lighting from bollards, neon signs and architectural uplighting (except as noted below) is not acceptable.

4. Allow architectural lighting for park buildings, structures, monuments, and gateways to showcase historic features and to provide for safety and navigation.
   a. Allow architectural lighting at City Park Pavilion, Elephant House, Graham / Bible House and Barn, Bungalow Fire Station, Monti Gateway, Sopris Gateway, McLellan Gateway, and new park gateways.
   b. Ensure lighting complements, and does not detract, from historic facades and features.
   c. Ensure ancillary equipment including conduit and switches are not attached to historic materials and are located to be unobtrusive.
Park Uses and Experience

**Vision:** Integrating a balance of passive and active uses and experiences with improved facilities and connections will ensure City Park continues its legacy as Denver’s most loved public space and regional park. The park offers a variety of uses and experiences from walking, running and bicycling, to picnicking and fishing, to viewing wildlife and scenery, to informal and active sports. Each day, hundreds of users enjoy the park as individuals, in large and small gatherings, and as visitors to the Zoo and Museum. Others enjoy organized festivals and events including Jazz in the Park. This integration of use and experience with the historic park contributes to its renown as ‘the People’s Park.’

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

1. Retain and enhance City Park’s current range of uses and experiences, referring to these guidelines. Refer to Building and Structures for guidance on specific features, and consult sections together.
   a. Allow new facilities and amenities in select locations that respect established views, vistas, open spaces, and relationships.
   b. Provide basic amenities in select locations.
      i. Consider lighting, drinking fountains, seating, bicycle parking, and trash and recycling receptacles.
      ii. Integrate public restrooms, food and beverage, and/or community access within select historic buildings.

2. Respect the architectural scale of City Park’s historic features when designing new features and amenities.
   a. Ensure new features, including play features, reflect proportions of historic features, i.e., height, mass, and scale.
   b. Ensure new features are subordinate to historic structures.
3. Allow improvements to facilities, spaces, and features to better support City Park’s uses and experiences, accomplished in a manner that respects park character.
   a. Allow repairs or improvements to surfacing, fencing, lighting, and amenities.
   b. Allow new park buildings and structure as noted in Buildings, Structures and Objects.
   c. Allow modifications to enhance South Meadow and southeast corner as a natural area, while preserving historic features and patterns, and significant and notable trees and vegetation.
      i. Ensure new features are integrated with established and historic patterns and vegetation including forested groves and meadows.
   d. Allow Dustin Redd playground to be upgraded or removed and replaced.
      i. Ensure new play features and spaces are integrated within significant trees and meadows.
      ii. Preserve historic vegetation and spatial patterns that assist in defining the form and scale of the meadow and allow new tree plantings to enhance existing patterns and play experiences.
   e. Allow improvements to North Meadow including potential alternative field sports / layouts that offer active use, while preserving the historic racetrack’s topography and vegetation.
Denver Zoo

Denver Zoo (the Zoo) encompasses 93-acres within City Park. The Zoo is operated as a public-private relationship with the City under a Cooperative Agreement and guided by a current master plan and building plan, approved by City Council. Design guidelines supplement these approved plans and provide guidance for Zoo edges and features visible from City Park and East 23rd Avenue.

1. Ensure improvements or modifications to the Zoo adhere to the most current City Council approved building plan and Denver Parks and Recreation approved master plan.

2. Enhance views and viewsheds into the Zoo.
   a. Consider opening select views at street level and view corridors above barriers into the Zoo from City Park and East 23rd Avenue.
   b. Consider providing select views towards exhibits or ‘zooconic’ buildings and structures, i.e., to the Dairy Barn or elephant exhibit.
   c. Screen maintenance operations with acceptable vegetation and structures.
   d. Protect established views between the Zoo and park spaces.

3. Ensure a cohesive compatible aesthetic for the Zoo boundary along East 23rd Avenue and North Park Road.
   a. Ensure modifications are accomplished in a cohesive manner using a composition of building facades, walls, fences, openings, and vegetation that is identifiable with the Zoo.
      i. Design the composition to be compatible in scale, material, and character with City Park and in accordance with approved plans for the Zoo.
         • Ensure a variety of openings and enclosures to screen maintenance and for select views into the Zoo;
         • Design buildings, walls, and fences to be human-scale and proportional to City Park’s historic structures, while providing functional requirements to adequately house and care for zoo animals and zoo operations.
   b. Integrimly design each Zoo edge with its associated park edge and park road to ensure a cohesive aesthetic and function.
4. New Zoo buildings, building modifications, or new additions within the Zoo as identified in the most current City Council approved building plan and Denver Parks and Recreation approved master plan and visible from City Park or East 23rd Avenue should consider City Park’s composition, views, and spatial character.
   a. Design new ‘zooconic’ buildings and structures as artistic expressions that enhance the park experience.
      i. Ensure facades facing the Zoo exterior are as expressive and identifiable as those within the Zoo interior.
   b. Design maintenance and operations buildings and structures to be unobtrusive ‘background’ features.
      i. Ensure new additions or modifications are subordinate to existing.
      ii. Design new additions using color palette that harmonizes with the Zoo and City Park.
      iii. Design building facades to have minimal openings oriented towards City Park in accordance with USDA requirements, and to ensure animal welfare and staff / guest safety.
Denver Museum of Nature & Science

Denver Museum of Nature & Science anchors the east edge of City Park. The Museum is an independent non-profit institution with a mission of “Igniting the community’s passion for nature and science,” and is operated under a Cooperative Agreement with the City & County of Denver.

Only minor modifications are envisioned within the setting of the Denver Museum of Nature & Science. These may include modifications to the Museum’s entrance, parking and plazas, modifications to the existing building or facilities required by code or for upgrades, and new features that improve connections between the Museum and the park.

1. Protect established views and allow enhancements to improve selected views.
   a. Comply with the City Park View Plane Ordinance (Municipal Code, Chapter 10, Article IV, Sec. 10-62) to protect the iconic view from the Museum’s west façade and Kessler Plaza.
   b. Protect established views between the Museum and park spaces.
   c. Allow modifications or enhancements to improve the visual connections between the Museum and South Meadow. Ensure these are compatible with park character.
   d. Screen maintenance operations and facilities, including trash and recycling areas, with vegetation and structures.

2. Allow enhancements to the primary vehicular and pedestrian entrance into the Museum and associated parking.
   a. Ensure these are compatible with park character in materials, size, scale, and color.
   b. Design road and trail or walkway enhancements as integral components of the Museum, compatible with park character in materials and color.
   c. Ensure modifications or new features are subordinate to historic structures and proportional in mass and scale.
3. Allow enhancements to the existing Museum building, if an opportunity arises, to assist in bringing a human-scale to the building.
   a. Design these to be products of their own time, reflective of modern-day styles and practices, and reflective of their function and location.
   b. Ensure they are a cohesive component of the Museum and compatible with park character in materials and color palette.

4. Ensure upgrades or modifications to Museum facilities respect park character and are integral components of the Museum setting.
   a. Ensure these are compatible with park character in materials, size, scale, and color.
   b. Ensure modifications or new features are subordinate to historic structures and proportional in mass and scale.
East 23rd Avenue

**Vision:** East 23rd Avenue between York Street and Colorado Boulevard will become a park-like road and a major entrance into City Park. This one-mile section was built along its current linear alignment in the early 1920s, revised from the sinuous route built in 1892 when City Park was first built. East 23rd Avenue will remain as a linear road, serving as a park road, primary entrance into City Park, City Park Golf Course, the Zoo, and Museum, and as a commuter route. Its north edge will be an undulating landscape, defined by topography and forested trees groves that create openings and enclosures. The south edge will be defined by a variety of park and Zoo spaces.

1. Ensure modifications retain the linear road alignment and address the road and edges as one cohesive continuous space.

2. Preserve established and historic patterns, sequences, openings and enclosures, and topography.
   a. Ensure modifications build upon, and are compatible with, these patterns, sequences, openings, enclosures, and topography.
   b. Ensure new plantings, entrances, and features are designed with a cohesive aesthetic along the entire length of East 23rd Avenue.

3. Protect established views and vistas and allow enhancements to improve and better define selected views.
   a. Protect and allow modifications that enhance established views to downtown Denver, the Rocky Mountains, and into City Park Golf Course, and City Park and the Museum.
   b. Allow modifications that improve views towards the Zoo’s tree groves, ‘zooconic’ buildings, or other notable features.
   c. Allow modifications that improve views into City Park Golf Course, i.e., towards the clubhouse.
   d. Ensure new features, vegetation, and modifications respect and do not detract from established views and vistas.
   e. Screen maintenance operations and facilities, including trash and recycling areas.
4. Ensure the north edge’s (City Park Golf Course edge) undulating space of topography and forested groves with defined openings and enclosures is preserved.
   a. Ensure new tree plantings frame entrances and views from the golf course, and enhance established patterns.
   b. Allow removal of existing walls. Ensure new features are of a simple aesthetic, and compatible with park character.
      • Acceptable materials: Natural stone, brick, or architectural concrete, modular systems are discouraged.

5. Preserve and enhance the south edge’s established patterns, and diversity of vegetation along the City Park edge.
   a. Preserve established spaces, vegetation, topography and views into City Park including those towards the Museum.
   b. Ensure a cohesive compatible aesthetic for the Zoo boundary.
      • Ensure modifications are accomplished as a cohesive composition of building facades, walls, fences, openings, and vegetation identifiable with the Zoo. Refer to Denver Zoo for specific guidelines.
      • Allow for enhanced select views at street level and to highlight views above the Zoo boundary.
6. Allow enhancements and modifications to East 23rd Avenue to improve circulation and wayfinding for all modes while providing a park-like aesthetic compatible with park character.
   a. Consider a narrower road cross section or removal of center medians where appropriate.
   b. Ensure pedestrian trails provide continuous access between Colorado Boulevard and York Street.
   c. Allow enhanced mid-block crossings for improved pedestrian and bicycle safety, and enhanced bikeways for improved bicycle safety.
   d. Allow improvements to bus stops including basic amenities and for universal accessibility.
   e. Allow a pedestrian connection from Skyland Neighborhood to City Park through City Park Golf Course.

7. Ensure new park gateways at York Street and Colorado Boulevard are designed in a contemporary style as products of their own time, and as a cohesive park space. Refer to Buildings, Structures and Objects.

8. Ensure new park entrances or enhanced existing park entrances are designed as landscape-focused spaces of topography and plantings with minimal signage. Park entrances are the Zoo / Museum / City Park, the Zoo / City Park Golf Course, and near City Park Greenhouse.
   a. Ensure significant and notable trees are protected and integrated with modifications and new landscape design.
   b. Allow modifications to improve circulation, safety, and wayfinding for all modes of travel.
      • Ensure modifications are compatible with park character in size, scale, materials, and color
      • Ensure traffic control gates are compatible in design with those at other park entrances in City Park.
   c. Ensure signage and wayfinding are subordinate to historic park structures and proportional in height, mass and scale.
      • Ensure design is compatible with park character and park-wide signage system.
      • Signage should be vertical and human-scale, and acceptable primary materials include: metal, wood, brick, and cut natural stone.
      • The destination(s) identifies all applicable destinations.
      • Allow sign placement on the north and south side of East 23rd Avenue at park entrances.
   d. Ensure a common aesthetic of plantings: a backdrop of conifer trees with some deciduous trees and a massing understory of plants.
9. Allow modifications to the alignment of the entrance Zoo / Museum / Park to better facilitate access into the park, while protecting established patterns and significant and notable trees.
   a. Protect significant and notable trees when modifying the south edge for a new park entrance.
   b. Allow signage and wayfinding that is compatible with park character, and part of a park-wide signage system.

10. Allow redesign of the parking at North Meadow.
   a. Ensure modifications to the parking lot respect and do not detract from park composition, tree patterns and established trees, and topography.
   b. Consider the location of the shade pavilion along with the redesign of parking.
City and County of Denver, Parks and Recreation Department
Historic Denver, Inc.

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