CONTINUING THE LEGACY
What legacy will we leave?
DENVER’S PARK LEGACY
CITY BEAUTIFUL ERA

Denver Parks and Recreation has been given an extraordinary legacy by our predecessors, including many of our historic parks and civics spaces, our parkways system, and our mountain parks.

1904 Mayor Robert Speer elected

1912 Cheesman Park Opened

1919 Civic Center Park Opened

1941 Mountain Parks Completed

Mayor Speer brought the City Beautiful Movement to Denver, beautifying many Denver parks.

Cheesman Park was converted from a long-disused cemetery to a city park with Speer’s lead.

Civic Center Park was opened in 1919, after being a long dream of Mayor Speer.

Constructed between 1912 and 1941, Denver’s mountain park system sets the stage for regional open space planning in Colorado.
DENVER’S PARK LEGACY: TODAY

Game Plan for a Healthy City
After a 2 year process, the 2019 Game Plan for a Healthy City lays out a plan for the long-term health and growth of a resilient city and an active, healthy citizenry.

2018
New funding source (Measure 2A) passes!

Innovation in parks & play

2019+
What legacy will we leave?
GAME PLAN FOR A HEALTHY CITY
GUIDING PRINCIPLES & STRATEGIES

The Game Plan provides a roadmap for our parks, recreation programs, and urban forest to serve the needs of all Denverites in the face of population growth and climate change.

EVERY DROP
ADAPT TO THE CHANGING CLIMATE AND LIMITED RESOURCES.

EVERY PERSON
DIVERSIFY PARKS AND RECREATION SERVICES.
GROW THE PARK SYSTEM AND RECREATION ACCESS.

EVERY DOLLAR
INVEST IN DENVER’S PARKS AND RECREATION RESOURCES AND PEOPLE.

UNIQUELY DENVER
CONNECT TO DENVER’S NATURE AND CULTURE.

healthy CITY
CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION
ENHANCE BIODIVERSITY
RESOURCE STEWARDSHIP

healthy PEOPLE
PARK/OPEN SPACE ACCESSIBILITY
IMPROVE & ENHANCE PARKS
IMPROVE & ENHANCE OUTDOOR RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES
Thanks for Denver voters who passed the 2018 Ballot Measure 2A: Parks & Open Space Sales Tax, a 0.25% sales tax has been dedicated to the improvement and expansion of Denver Parks, allowing implementation of Game Plan for a Healthy City to begin!

The additional tax funds, combined with existing city general funding, will create new opportunities to realize Game Plan goals in the following areas:

- Acquiring Additional Land for Parks, Trails, and Open Space
- Improving and Maintaining Existing Parks, Trails, and Open Space, including in Denver’s Mountain Parks
- Building and Maintaining New Parks and Trails
- Restoring and Protecting Natural Features like Waterways, Rivers, Canals, and Streams
- Expanding the Urban Tree Cover in Parks, Parkways, and Public Right-Of-Ways

Our goal is to maintain the legacy we’ve inherited and extend the legacy for future generations.

estimated $37m per year

expect 1st payment Spring 2019

required to complete 5-year plan* that is approved by PRAB & City Council

accountability with an Annual Report

* This 5-year plan will be incorporated into DPR’s 6-year plan required by the Department of Finance.
INVESTMENT IN OUR LEGACY
MAINTAINING THE LEGACY / EXTENDING THE LEGACY

MAINTAINING the legacy
- CATCH-UP ON DEFERRED MAINTENANCE
- BRING PARKS UP TO STANDARDS
- KEEP UP MAINTENANCE STANDARDS

EXTENDING the legacy
- EXPAND ACCESS & OPPORTUNITIES
- PLAN FOR FUTURE
- LEAVE LEGACY FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS
INVESTMENT FRAMEWORK
MAINTAINING THE LEGACY / EXTENDING THE LEGACY

MAINTAINING THE LEGACY

- Parks Deferred Maintenance & Enhancements
- Facilities Deferred Maintenance & Enhancements

EXTENDING THE LEGACY

- Land Acquisition
- Planning
- Signature Projects
- Resiliency
- Outdoor/Indoor Rec
WHAT DATA WILL BE USED TO INFORM FUTURE PROJECTS?

- **GAME PLAN**
- **10-MINUTE WALK STANDARD**
- **PROJECT IDEAS NOT SELECTED FOR BOND**
- **PREVIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECTS (CIP) LIST**
- **CONDITIONS ASSESSMENT DATA**
- **FACILITIES CONDITION ASSESSMENT PROGRAM (FCAP)**
- **CITY COUNCIL & PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT**
PROJECT PRIORITIZATION

MAINTAINING THE LEGACY

HOW WILL PROJECTS GET PRIORITIZED?

• EQUITY
• KIDS & OLDER ADULTS
• PARTNERSHIPS
• GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION
• SAFETY
• SUSTAINABILITY

EXTENDING THE LEGACY
SHORT-TERM FOCUS AREAS

TO GET STARTED, PROJECTS WILL FOCUS ON:

- CURRENT PROJECTS THAT CAN EXPAND SCOPE
- ACQUISITION
- NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS REFRESH
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- **public survey - February & March**
- **town hall meetings - mid-March**
- **Parks & Recreation Advisory Board (PRAB)/public hearing - May**
- **City Council - June**