

CITY PARK

Fast Facts

Opening (year): 1882

Park size (acres): 320 Acres

Original Cost: \$56,000 (1882 cost)

Full time staff (#): 10

Part time staff (#): 4

Parking (# spaces): 2590 spaces

2005/2006 attendance (#): approx. 3 million

FACILITIES & FEATURES

Recreation facilities: 15 athletic fields; 14 tennis courts; 4 permitted group picnic areas; 2 playgrounds

Park Features: 5 ornamental fountains including the popular interactive water feature; 3 lakes

Historic Landscapes: 5 formal gardens; over 3500 trees representing over 40 different species; 9 historically significant monuments and structures including the Bandstand and the City Park Pavilion;

2 largest cultural institutions: Denver Zoo, Museum of Nature and Science: 3 million visitors/year

Mile High views: spectacular panoramic views of the Rocky Mountain range – classic postcard view of Denver.

Events: City Park Jazz, Denver/Rock 'n' Roll Marathon, Colfax Marathon; Colorado Symphony Orchestra; Almost every summer weekend the park is active with numerous events, races and annual activities, making the park one of the most popular destinations in Denver.

Serves 8 neighborhoods immediately adjacent to the park

Regional Park: 85% of all Denver residents within a 5-mile radius.

BACKGROUND

Over 120 years ago, City Park was originally located on a windswept prairie when the notion of a public park was considered still considered a new idea. Today, the park is situated among some of the most desirable neighborhoods in Denver. Centrally located in the city, it serves not only the 8 neighborhoods immediately adjacent to the park, but the entire metropolitan area. The park is within a 5-mile radius to 85% of all Denver residents. City Park is home to the Denver Zoo, the Museum of Nature and Science; and, the City Park Golf Course. It encompasses 320 acres of developed parkland including 15 athletic fields; 14 tennis courts; 4 picnic areas; 5 ornamental fountains including a popular interactive water feature; 3 lakes, paddle boat rentals; 2 playgrounds, 5 formal gardens; over 3500 trees representing over 40 different species; 9 historically significant monuments and structures including the bandstand and the City Park Pavilion; and, spectacular panoramic views of the Rocky Mountain range. Almost every summer weekend the park is active with numerous events, races and annual activities, making the park one of the most popular destinations in Denver.

Recent Improvement Projects

City Park has undergone several periods of change during its evolution since 1882. The accumulation of changes, shifts in public expectations and a deteriorating infrastructure system led Denver Parks and Recreation to undertake a comprehensive master plan in 2000. A series of improvement projects have been completed based on the master plan in the past years including the Ferril Lake Rehabilitation project, construction of 2 parking garages, greenhouse rehabilitation, roadway improvements, installation of a new MLK, Jr. statue, boat dock restoration, tennis court expansion, interactive water feature, lily pond restoration and interpretive signage, installation of a 5k running path called the Mile High Loop, extensive irrigation upgrades, as well as a complete Duck Lake renovation and wetlands planting project; totaling well over \$50 million.