APPENDIX
A: GAME PLAN GLOSSARY

**Benchmark:** A minimum standard or existing condition against which to compare progress. Denver’s current tree canopy sets a benchmark of 6 percent.

**Breathing Spaces:** Safe, accessible, open spaces within six blocks of home (could be a variety of places, such as small park, community garden, Learning Landscape, natural area)

**Brownfields:** Abandoned industrial sites, often tainted by pollution. In Denver, some brownfields have been cleansed, made safe for humans, and converted to parks or new development.

**Bulbout:** A traffic-calming device that protects pedestrians by extending the sidewalk into the street right-of-way at intersections.

**Grade-separated crossings:** Street crossings that separate pedestrians from auto traffic by a bridge or tunnel under the road.

**Green Streets:** Streets that connect people to parks, schools, transit stops, and connect these civic places to each other. They have adequate tree lawns for trees and sidewalks.

**Level of service:** A standard for cities to provide parks and recreation. National levels of service might suggest an optimum 10 acres of parkland for each 1,000 residents, located within a half-mile of their homes.

**Lifecycle cost analysis:** The total cost of a building, tool, or maintenance technique. For example, a lawnmower that costs $100 but lasts only five years has a higher lifecycle cost than a $200 lawnmower that last 20 years.

**Nonpoint pollution sources:** Pollution that cannot be traced to a single source like a smokestack. For example, nonpoint pollution may be contained in stormwater carrying detergents and oils from paved surfaces into streams.

**Performance goal:** The desired level of service or amenity. One of Denver’s performance goals is to achieve tree canopy of 18 percent in neighborhoods by planting at least 50,000 new shade trees along city streets.
Transit-oriented development (TOD): Development that takes advantage of public transit by concentrating a mix of homes and commercial development within a quarter-mile of a transit stop, the maximum distance most people will walk. TODs are designed with walkable streets.

Universal access: The federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requires all public buildings and spaces to be accessible to people with mobility, vision, and other impairments. The best way to achieve universal access is through universal designs that seamlessly combine access with facilities that are used by everyone.
B: PLAN 2000 BASIS FOR THE GAME PLAN

1. Our Long-Term Physical Environment

Environmental Sustainability
GOAL: Preserve and enhance the natural environment.

Objective 1: Distribute environmental burdens and benefits
Objective 2: Ensure environmental stewardship of natural resources, taking into account the entire ecosystem, not just human needs.

Objective 4: Achieve environmental sustainability in all aspects of planning...

Objective 5: Encourage the broad participation and cooperation of the entire metropolitan community....

Land use
GOAL: Manage growth and change through effective land-use policies to sustain Denver’s high quality of life.

Objective 1: Balance and coordinate Denver’s mix of land uses to sustain a healthy economy, support the use of alternative transportation and enhance quality of life in the city. Citywide Land Use and Transportation Plan. (1-B) Ensuring that the Citywide Land Use and Transportation Plan reinforces the city’s character by building on a legacy of high-quality urban design...preservation of historic districts and landscapes; and maintaining the integrity of the street grid, parks, parkways and open space system.

Objective 3: Preserve and enhance the individuality, diversity and livability of Denver’s neighborhoods and expand the vitality of Denver’s business centers.

Mobility
GOAL: Anticipate and meet the expanding mobility needs of residents....

Objective 1: Diverse Mobility Options. (1-C) Provide Denver’s diverse residents, workers and visitors with a choice of transportation modes that are safe and convenient. Identify areas throughout the city where transportation policies should reflect pedestrian priorities.

Objective 8: Walking and Bicycling. Provide safe and convenient facilities to encourage bicycling and walking for commuting, recreation and other trips. (8-B) Ensure that sidewalks are continuous along all major Denver streets...
Denver’s Legacies

GOAL: Use the best of Denver’s architectural and landscape legacies to guide the future.

Objective 1: Protect and continue Denver’s legacy of inspired urban design in the public realm.

Objective 2: In new development, adapt Denver’s traditional urban design character to new needs, expectations and technologies.

Objective 4: Reinforce the design quality, function and character of connections among public places and activity centers, recognizing that they are places in their own right and an important part of the public realm.

Objective 5: Preserve Denver’s historic resources.

Objective 6: Ensure that City policies support historic preservation.

Objective 7: Support historic preservation in neighborhoods.

Objective 8: Support increased public awareness of historic preservation through education and marketing.

Objective 9: Plan for the maintenance and expansion of Denver’s parks and recreation system.

Objective 10: Protect and enhance the City’s natural areas and mountain parks.

Objective 11: Strengthen Denver’s system of “green” connection, trails, bicycle routes, parkways, greenways and watercourses.

Objective 12: Protect the environmental while maintaining the City’s parks to high standards.

Objective 13: Provide all Denver residents with access to innovative recreation programs that are responsive to community needs and especially to youth.

Objective 14: Promote interagency cooperation to encourage shared facilities for community use.

2. Long-Term Human Environment

Economic Activity

GOAL: Create a sustainable economy that provides opportunities for all.

Objective 1: Workforce development and Support. (1D) In partnership with business, support DPS in its quest to become a first-rate urban school district.

Objective 2: Stimulate the growth of business and the creation of good jobs with business-friendly environment.

Neighborhoods

GOAL: Build on the assets of every neighborhood to foster a citywide sense of community.

Objective 1: A City of Neighborhoods. Strengthen the positive and distinctive character of each neighborhood.
Objective 2: Communication, Partnership, Participation. Engage neighborhood residents and organizations in collaborative efforts to share information, solve problems and plan for the future.

Objective 3: Clean, safe neighborhoods. Make neighborhoods clean and safe places that inspire community pride, where residents and visitors feel secure and comfortable.

Objective 4: Collaborate with Denver Public Schools (DPS) to strengthen the role of neighborhood schools as community focal points.

Objective 5: Management and maintenance of Community Facilities. Maintain the physical and operational integrity of community facilities.

Objective 6: Collaborative Decision-Making. Improve the decision-making process for both new facilities and the expansion of existing facilities.

Objective 7: Plan for community facilities and strive for fair distribution, sensitive siting and quality design to minimize their impact on neighborhoods.

Education

GOAL: Provide Denver residents with lifelong learning opportunities

Objective 1: Working Together. Continue to strengthen the City-school partnership.

Objective 2: Ensure that Denver children enter school ready to succeed by improving the quality and availability of early childhood care, education and child development services.

Objective 4: Support the efforts of no-English speaking individuals to both learn English and maintain fluency in their native language.

Objective 5: Schools as Neighborhood Centers. Meet the educational, vocational, social, recreational and health needs of the communities by supporting the use of schools as neighborhood centers

Objective 6: Provide adults with opportunities to continue learning throughout life.

Human Services

GOAL: Connect people in need to opportunity and support.

Objective 3: Enhance the capacity of neighborhoods to nurture and support community members.

Objective 4: Provide all children and youth with a safe and supportive environment in which to thrive.

Objective 5: Support and enhance efforts that help older adults meet their basic needs, maintain their independence, and provide them with lifestyle choices.

Arts and Culture

GOAL: Strengthen and expand the arts and culture by integrating them into the social and economic fabric of the city.
Objective 1: Support and promote a flourishing artistic community.

Objective 2: Encourage the development and maintenance of facilities within Denver to support diverse cultural and artistic activities.

Objective 4: Broaden the scope, richness and attachment to the arts in Denver by encouraging ethnic diversity in cultural expression.

Objective 6: Value the arts within the civic realm.

3. Metropolitan Cooperation

GOAL: Foster cooperation and share leadership on regional issues.

Objective 1: Growth Management. Share the benefits and mitigate the impacts of growth by forming partnerships with our metropolitan neighbors...

Objective 3: Revenue Sharing. Work with other jurisdictions and state government on methods to modify government revenue streams so that the finance systems support efficient and stable growth.

Objective 5: Natural Resources. Create a shared metropolitan commitment to the conservation and quality of our natural resources.

Objective 6: Openness to Cooperation. Encourage cooperation with metropolitan neighbors by fostering a climate of open, respectful communication...

4. Implementation

GOAL: Implement Denver Comprehensive Plan 200 in a manner that preserve the integrity of its vision while responding to changing conditions.

Objective 1: Establish action priorities for funding and implementation through the annual budget process.

Objective 2: Regularly track and report progress in achieving the vision, goals and objectives of Plan 2000.

These priorities are organized from a park perspective, i.e. neighborhoods that need more park amenities. Schools identified in the UCD/DPS School Master Plans are noted. And, * indicates playgrounds already completed as of 1/2003.

1. BREATHING SPACES — smaller neighborhood open spaces

Schools in Neighborhoods of greatest need: (areas of greatest growth and with less than 75% of basic park amenities)
- Amesse Elementary
- Ashley Elementary
- Alternative Transition School (Emerson St. School)
- Barnum Elementary
- Castro Elementary (DPS/UCD 2001-2002 Master Plan)
- Cheltenham Elementary
- Colfax Elementary (DPS/UCD 2000-2001 Master Plan)
- College View Elementary (DPS/UCD 1999-2000 Master Plan)
- Cowell Elementary
- Denison Elementary
- *Eagleton Elementary
- Force Elementary
- *Munroe Elementary (DPS/UCD 2001-2002 Master Plan)
- Newton Elementary
- Schenck Elementary (DPS/UCD OfflinePlanning for Master Plan)

Schools in Neighborhoods of moderate need: (areas with stable growth and with less than 75% of basic park amenities)
- Barret Elementary
- Bryant Webster Elementary (DPS/UCD 2001-2002 Master Plan)
- Columbian Elementary (DPS/UCD 2001-2002 Master Plan)
- *Columbine Elementary
- Doull Elementary
- Ellis Elementary
- Fallis Elementary (DPS/UCD 2001-2002 Master Plan)
- *Fairmont Elementary
- *Greenlee Elementary
- Hallet Elementary
- Kunsmiller Middle
- McKinnley-Thatcher Elementary
- Moore Elementary (DPS/UCD 1999-2000 Master Plan)
- Morey Elementary
- *Parkhill Elementary
- Phillips Elementary (DPS/UCD 2000-2001 Master Plan)
- Sabin Elementary
- Samuels Elementary
- Slavens Elementary
- *Smedley Elementary
- *Smith Elementary
- Stedman Elementary
- *Swansea Elementary

Schools in all other neighborhoods:
- Asbury Elementary
- Brown Elementary (DPS/UCD 2000-2001 Master Plan)
- Bradely Elementary
- Centennial Elementary (DPS/UCD 1999-2000 Master Plan)
- Del Pueblo Elementary
- Edison Elementary (DPS/UCD 2001-2002 Master Plan)
Community Spaces in all other neighborhoods:
- Carson Elementary
- Cory Merrill (DPS/UCD Offline Planning for Master Plan)
- East High School
- Gove Middle (DPS/UCD Offline Planning for Master Plan)
- John F. Kennedy High School
- Manual High School
- Rishel Middle School
- Skinner Middle School
- South High School
- Stock Elementary
- West High School

Additional Schools in DPS/UCD Master Plans and not identified by Game Plan:
- Beach Court Elementary
- *Bromwell Elementary
- Carson Elementary
- Cheltenham Elementary
- *Cowell Elementary
- *Crofton Elementary
- *Eagleton Elementary
- Ebert Elementary
- *Fairview Elementary
- Gilpin Elementary
- Gust Elementary
- Marrama Elementary
- McGlone Elementary
- Pioneer Charter Elementary
- *Remington Elementary
- Southmoor Elementary
- Traylor Elementary
- *Whittier Elementary
Proposed Greenstreets — Index

D: GREEN STREETS

LEGEND

- Proposed Green Streets
LEGEND FOR QUAD MAPS

- Recreation Centers
- Green Streets
- Denver Parks
- Denver Future Parks
- Denver Golf Course
- Regional Open Space
- Breathing Spaces: Elementary and Middle School Learning Landscapes
- Community Campuses: Secondary Schools and University Facilities
- Elementary and Middle Schools
- Existing Platter River Crossings
- Proposed Platter River Crossings
- Light Rail - Active
- Light Rail Stops - Active
- Light Rail - Proposed
- Light Rail Stops - Proposed
E: WATER CONSERVATION PLAN

Goal
To create an environmentally and economically sustainable parks and recreation system through planning, construction, programming, and maintenance practices that result in:

- on-going water conservation
- improved quality of water
- respect for the Denver park design legacy and integrity

Products
The Strategic Water Conservation Plan builds on the environmental objectives and strategies stated in the DPR Game Plan and Denver’s Comprehensive 2000 Plan by adding specific goals and tools. The five priorities, which range from immediate needs to long-term planning and improvements, are:

1. A Strategic Severe Drought Plan
   - A comprehensive drought response plan, for 2003 and future droughts, that provides specific conservation goals, three levels of water budgets, priorities, and a watering plan for the entire park system and recreation facilities. The drought plan will have the ability to both anticipate and respond efficiently to varying water supplies.

   - Management guidelines and policies to direct decisions regarding use of permitted playing fields, use of permitted parks for large events, closure of golf courses, etc. Responses may include shortened seasons, limited hours, closures, move to other venues, and event staging modifications. Although final management decisions must be based upon severity of drought and extent of water supplies, they will address:
     - Need to protect the physical infrastructure, the plant materials and sod
     - Social values of serving youth and seniors as priorities
     - Equity across the city in terms of access and impact
     - Important role of Civic Center as Denver’s premier outdoor “stage” for civic festivals; Washington and City Parks’ role as event sites

2. Upgraded infrastructure
   - A yearly capital commitment to replacement and upgrading the existing outdated irrigation system. Current needs
are estimated at $58 million over a 15-year period.

- A facility plan that includes new water conserving features in every park and recreation facility as of 2003, new water conserving facility practices.

3. Increased Efficiency in Operations.
- Consistent maintenance practices and standards to increase efficiency, effectiveness, and accountability in field operations.
- A training program for operations and planning staff members in water hydrology, certified irrigation technology, turf management, and maintenance practices to be put into place in 2003 and continued for all new employees.

4. Design Guidelines and Standards.
- Upgraded irrigation specifications, appropriate for both DPR and DPS.
- Design guidelines for new and existing public right-of-way, including parkways, medians, and (both public and privately maintained) tree lawns. This includes new sections for the adopted Streetscape Design Guidelines.
- Design guidelines for new parks, adapted to the established Denver park system from the innovative work done for Stapleton open space, on-going research, and other park systems, to dramatically decrease water usage, increase water quality, and enrich the existing plant palettes and designs in our parks.
- Design guidelines for retrofitting appropriate areas of existing parks into more water wise and diverse landscapes. This includes an overall inventory of appropriate parks, areas, treatments, and funding opportunities.

5. Public education and partnerships
- An education campaign to help create realistic public expectations of park land and services, to foster an understanding and appreciation of drought tolerant and water quality enhancing designs and plantings, to clearly communicate the department’s commitment to water conservation, and to protect and monitor resources from further damage and use.
- A continued partnership with Denver Water to establish appropriate watering goals and practices for DPR and to pool resources.
- A strengthened partnership with Denver Public Schools, Lowry Redevelopment, Stapleton Redevelopment, and other public, land and facility-owning agencies, to increase efficiencies, pool resources, establish common standards, and provide consistent policies for the public.
- Good communication and a continued partnership with other city agencies and major park users, such as festival organizers.
and sports leagues, to minimize damage to park resources.

- Good communication and a continued partnership with other agencies and organizations, such as CSU Extension and GreenCO, that also are working on landscape research and best management practices.

Principles and Values

The Challenge. Our system of traditional parks, parkways, and tree-lined streets was built with plant materials imported from humid, lush regions and built at a time when labor was less expensive and water was plentiful. How do we balance our love for these places while embracing a new paradigm for our parks that also values the original, and landscape and conserves resources? How do we design new places, retrofit our existing places, and maintain them differently? Here are the values driving the recommendations in the Strategic Water Conservation Plan:

1. DPR should set their own priorities and use water where/when most appropriate to meet reduction goals, rather than following generic citywide restrictions/regulations. For example, if water supplies dictate a 50% reduction, DPR will achieve that by reducing water according to the values and plan set by staff and community.

2. The Water Conservation Plan should be based upon those values expressed by the people of Denver and staff and are reflected in the department’s strategic plan, the Game Plan: long term sustainability of the physical system, equity, engagement, and sound economics. The Game Plan also identified youth and youth facilities as the priority users and uses. Safeguarding our investment in the physical resource base is the top priority.

3. Those values translate into these drought/watering priorities (in descending order) for public park land:

- Trees and long-lived plant materials
- Turf areas for youth activities (balanced geographically)
- Swimming pools
- Turf areas that receive heavy use (balanced geographically)

These values also have management and programming implications, such as the removal of heavily attended events to hard surface sites, limited or even lost access to playing fields, protection of fountains while they are empty of water, limited flowerbeds.

4. The Water Conservation Plan should be a balanced approach to the whole system, acknowledging the differences across the city in our parks, parkways, and recreation facilities. Improvements that reduce water
consumption are possible throughout the system.

5. The Water Conservation Plan should acknowledge and the respect the design integrity and heritage of Denver’s tree-lined streets and tree lawns, and its significant historic and contemporary parks with appropriate design and management approaches.

6. Consistency across the city (i.e. public land, private land, developing areas) in guidelines, policies, and practices is also considered critical

**Plan Process**

Staff members from every division within Denver Parks and Recreation were joined by stakeholders from Denver Water, Denver Public Schools, and CSU Extension in drafting these plans. A Water Conservation Committee has been meeting since spring, 2002. A half-day work session, for close to 100 people, in October resulted in nine working committees and the following reports. The work, within the department and with other agencies, is ongoing and many of the design guidelines are in draft form.
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>same as 74% of 2001</td>
<td>50% of 2001</td>
<td>25% of 2001</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water Budget</td>
<td>1,313,075,000 gallons</td>
<td>891,366,500 gallons</td>
<td>445,638,000 gallons</td>
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</table>
| Water Plan     | Water most parks twice a week (24") over whole season | • Water permitted athletic field 24"/year – 210 acres  
• Water Regional Parks at 24"/year – 362 acres  
- City Park  
- Washington Park  
- Commons  
- Huston  
- Civic Center  
- Bible  
- Montbello Central  
- Cheesman  
- Observatory  
- Bear Creek  
- Berkeley  
- Sloan’s  
  210 + 362 = 572 acres @ 24” = 372,773,544 gallons  
• Remaining parks will be 12"/year; 1413 acres @ 12" = 133,599 | • Regional Parks and athletic fields receive 12"/year (186,386,772 gallons)  
• Remaining parks will receive 5.5"/year (214,464,267 gallons)  
• Athletic fields likely will be closed at this level of drought response |
| Flower Beds    | Reduced by 50% | • Flowers planted in regional parks  
• Supplemental water needed for:  
  - Alamo Placita  
  - Harvey  
  - Montbello  
  - Civic Center  
  • .41 acres @ 12" = 133,599 | No flowers planted |
| Trees          | Trees will be watered by irrigation systems | • Trees in regional parks and near athletic fields watered by irrigation systems  
• Remaining trees supplemented with 6 additional waterings: 32,200,000 gallons | • Trees in regional parks and near athletic fields supplemented with 4 additional waterings: 4,992,000 gallons  
• Trees in other parks supplemented with 9 additional waterings: 38,880,000 gallons |
| Fountain       | off* | off* | off* |
| Pool           | open | open | open |
| Estimated Usage | 1,308,618,000 gallons | 873,029,179 gallons | 444,723,000 gallons |
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Lowry Sports and Recreation Fields Market Analysis (1997)
Metro Mountain Recreation and Open Space Project (1989)
Stapleton Parks and Open Space Master Plan (2002)
The Emerald Strands Plan (1990)

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The Park People
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**Links**
www.denvergov.org
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www.goco.org
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www.stapletondenver.org
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