Outdoor Downtown Plan

“In Motion” represents the next stage of implementation of the Outdoor Downtown Plan’s goals and priorities to make Downtown Denver more livable, diverse, and thriving than ever.

See what we’ve already put “In Motion” in 2017!

A SOCIAL DOWNTOWN

Fundamental to the public’s desire to spend more time in the downtown realm is that they feel safe and invited. This year, emphasis was placed on improving safety and security through expanding capacity of the City’s Ranger Program, increasing security infrastructure, bolstering operations and maintenance, and increasing everyday activation in Downtown parks.

Downtown Operations Highlights

- 3 restrooms converted to year-round facilities
- 30,108 flowers planted
- 79,185 maintenance hours

Ranger Program Highlights

- +6 additional rangers from 2016
- 48% of total goal

Patrol hours

Contacts

+48%

Avg. Response time 5 seconds faster than 2016

Security Infrastructure Upgrades

- 37 new lighting installations in Confluence Park
- 46 security cameras installed throughout Downtown parks
- 162 replacements of existing pedestrian lights with high-efficiency LED lights on 16th St. Mall (credit: PW & DDP)
- 20 new LED fixtures installed on 16th St. Mall (credit: PW & DDP)

DOWNTOWN 2017 HIGHLIGHTS

Introduction

This document offers a snapshot of a “year in the life” of Downtown parks, public spaces, and those who care for them comparing from 2016 to 2017. Denver Parks & Recreation (DPR) is excited to share the highlights from 2017 as we continue to work to help build a Downtown Denver that is vibrant, safe, and comfortable for all.

Thank you to our Downtown partners: Civic Center Conservancy (CCC), Denver Community Planning & Development (CPD), Denver Arts & Venues (AV), Denver Public Works (PW), Downtown Denver Partnership (DDP), The Greenway Foundation, LoDo Neighborhood Association, University of Colorado Denver, & Riverfront Park Association.

The Downtown Denver parks system consists of:

- LoDo Neighborhood Association, University of Colorado Denver, & Riverfront Park Association
- Denver Arts & Venues (A&V), Denver Public Works (PW), Downtown Denver Partnership (DDP), The Greenway Foundation

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Downtown Parks

- The Downtown Denver parks system consists of: 
  - 149 acres of parks, medians, & parkways
  - 25 parks & plazas
  - 6 athletic fields
  - 5 playgrounds
  - 4.3 miles of trails
  - 3 dog parks
  - 3 sports courts
  - 1 recreation center

Outdoor Downtown Plan

Released in October 2017, the Outdoor Downtown Plan is a 20 year master plan for Downtown Denver’s parks and public spaces.

The plan centers around five vision elements: Social, Recreational, Connected, Cultural, and Sustainable.

A RECREATIONAL DOWNTOWN

As everyone who lives, works, or plays in Denver knows, recreation is an integral part of Denverites’ daily lives. In 2017, DPR made several strides to increase the recreational core of Downtown through the creation of pop-up parks, the offering of free outdoor fitness classes and music concerts, and the addition of a new, recreation-oriented permit category in Commons Park.

Outdoor Fitness Classes in Parks

- +36% of total goal

Commons Park Free Activities

- 6 free recreational activities offered at Commons Park
- +3 from 2016 (collab. with Recreation & Riverfront Park Assoc.)

POFA

Private Outdoor Fee-Based Activity

- 6 permitted in 2017

New Commons Park Permit

Public permit for a class, clinic, camp, guided activity, or recreational program

Pop-Up Parks in Action

- Square on 21st (collab. with CPD & DDP)
- 2 Temporary pop-up parks
- Creating new park space and testing new ideas

Skyline Beer Garden

- PC: Downtown Denver Partnership
-细则: DDP

Swallow Hill Music Series

- 1/monthly

Confluence Park

- New lighting installations in Confluence Park
- New LED fixtures installed on 16th St. Mall (credit: PW & DDP)

Everyday Activation

- new permit types offered at Commons Park
- new staff position created

- Demonstration projects at Skyline Park: 
  - Beer Gardens 4 months
  - Ice Rink 3 months

- Downtown Parks Program Coordinator started July 2017

Outdoors Downtown Plan: In Motion

- 2
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Parks and public spaces offer an opportunity to embed performance, art, and culture into the public realm to create a vibrant expressive downtown and to encourage daily interaction. Working with our cultural partners such as Arts & Venues, DPR’s parks and trails hosted numerous creative activities and endeavors, including temporary and permanent art installations and various year-round cultural and historic events in 2017.

### Year-Round Outdoor Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Season</th>
<th># permitted public events by season</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spring</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Summer</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Winter</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### History Connections

Completion of renovations at SHOEMAKER PLAZA in Downtown’s CONFLUENCE PARK, known as the “Birthplace of Denver”

As part of the Mayors’ Monarch Pledge, the gardens in front of the City and County Building were converted into pollinator gardens to help restore the monarch butterfly’s habitat in Denver.

The garden now incorporates native pollinator plants, perennials and milkweed, the monarch caterpillar’s exclusive food source.