people are pedestrians by design

join the movement at www.walkdenver.org
What are the most important public spaces in Denver that define the character of our City?
The Arterials
Connectivity, Circulation, Life’s Blood

The Arterials are the major thoroughfares that provide connectivity and circulation within the city of Denver. They are the life’s blood of the city, facilitating transportation and accessibility. The key arterials mentioned in the document are:

- 38th Avenue
- Colfax Avenue
- Alameda Avenue
- Federal Boulevard
- York/University
- Quebec
- MLK
- Speer/Leetsdale
- Evans
- Sheridan
- Broadway
- Colorado

These arterials are critical for the movement of people and goods, shaping the urban landscape and economic activity of the city.
It’s where stuff is
It’s where people ride the bus
It’s where the bus is most frequent
(Sometimes . . .)
It’s where people walking struggle to cross the street.
It’s where all the serious crashes happen
Denver’s arterials are where life and death happen in our City.
This is the character of our arterials
This is the character of our arterials
This is the character of our arterials Colorado
This is the character of our arterials
This is the character of our arterials

Broadway
This is the character of our arterials.
We are dependent on driving because we designed our primary circulation system to prioritize driving.
It hasn’t always been this way
It doesn’t have to be this way
What would it take to change the character of our city?
We can’t have our cake and eat it too
Clear Priorities: Users

Prioritizing Users in Street Designs

1. Pedestrians

2. Cyclists and Transit Riders

3. People Doing Business and Providing City Services

4. People in Personal Motorized Vehicles
Clear Priorities: Public Space
Clear Priorities: Public Space
Clear Priorities: Land Uses

size for 2 bedroom apartment: 675 FT²

size for 2 parking spaces: 650 FT²

Sources: Transportation Cost and Benefit Analysis II – Parking Costs Victoria Transport Policy Institute (www.vtpi.org)
Graphic Adapted from Graphing Parking (https://graphingparking.com/2013/07/23/parking-across-cascadia/)
Mid-rise density, mixed uses make walking, biking, and transit easy
But what about traffic and parking?
Embrace congestion

Congestion = slower traffic = safety = economic vibrancy
We can’t build our way out of congestion.

We can provide options other than driving.
Capacity: Cars vs People
Capacity: Cars vs People
Capacity: Cars vs People
Capacity: Cars vs People
Stop treating free parking as a fundamental right

Let the market provide the supply that people demand, and are willing to pay for
The paradox of change

• No one likes it
• People are very good at adapting

Atlanta I-85 collapse: The word on Monday’s commute? Not so horrible

Alexis Stevens - The Atlanta Journal-Constitution
Updated 10:11 a.m. Monday, April 3, 2017 Filed in Atlanta News
It’s our choice:
What is the character of the city we want?

What changes are we willing to make?
We get what we intend, not what we wish for

If we intend to be a more people-oriented, less car-oriented city Blueprint Denver should adopt the following policies for our major arterials:

– Dedicate public right of way to prioritize pedestrians, transit, and biking over driving alone
– Promote densities of 30-50 units per acre
– Eliminate parking requirements