TODAY

Welcome + Goals

Presentation
- Feedback Summary
- Draft Goals
- Draft Visions for “parts” of the system

Discussion re: Draft Goals
How well have the draft goals captured January’s brainstorm?
Is anything missing?

Brainstorm Activity re: “What if…”
Do the park system “parts” address the key issues?
What other ideas/scenarios can you imagine for their future?

Denveright Crossover Themes Discussion
What questions do you have for the other Denveright plans?
What themes from Game Plan should they be addressing?
DRAFT GUIDING PRINCIPLES

What does the system want to be?

GUIDING PRINCIPLES + DRAFT GOALS

What is the system now?

DENVERIGHT VISION ELEMENTS

What does the city want to be?

GAME PLAN EXISTING CONDITIONS ANALYSIS

How do we get there?

ACTIONS + STRATEGIES
(IMPLEMENTATION)

Input from Visioning Workshops (January)

Input from Public Forums, Task Force, Community Stakeholder Events, Surveys

TODAY!
PURPOSE OF TODAY’S MEETING

Provide feedback on:
• draft goals
• draft visions for park and recreation system elements

Brainstorm themes and issues to discuss with other Denveright Plans.
Presentation
PHASE 1: UNDERSTAND AND ANALYZE

- Public Forums
- Outreach + Stakeholder Meetings
- Surveys
- Community Task Force Meetings

2016

2017

PHASE 2: ENVISION AND GOALS

Existing Conditions Report

PHASE 3: DRAFT AND ADOPT

Draft Plan
Final Plan

We are here!
Existing Conditions Report
Released March 2017, Available on the Denveright website
Input and the Path Ahead

GUIDING PRINCIPLES + DRAFT GOALS

DRAFT VISIONS FOR SYSTEM ELEMENTS

_ACTIONS + STRATEGIES
(IMPLEMENTATION)

REFINED ELEMENTS
AND MAPPING

THIS WEEK:
Public Forums, Task Force

NEXT TWO MONTHS
Community Meetings, Online and Paper Surveys, Staff Meetings
Coordination with Denveright Plans
Game Plan Guiding Principles
Denver Parks and Recreation will provide leadership to be a more resilient and environmentally-sustainable city.
stormwater as a park amenity

enhancing the city’s urban forest

tree species diversity

multi-benefit solutions

native and drought-tolerant species

water quality

parks as part of the flood solution

green infrastructure

native/natural areas

stewardship

conservation of water and energy in all design and maintenance practices...

preserving/protecting habitat

outdoor/environmental education
Every Drop

Manage water wisely to sustain our natural and urban ecosystems

Promote the management of parks and public rights-of-way as components of vital urban infrastructure

Expand the urban forest to counter climate change and improve air and water quality

Repair and restore healthy wildlife habitats and functional ecosystems

Save energy and resources to minimize harmful environmental impacts

Strengthen outreach, education, and stewardship programs focused on sustainable practices
Every Person

DPR will ensure equity in the distribution of resources and access to our services. DPR will provide programs, places and facilities that promote healthy lifestyle options for all residents.
must address density and growth relative to new parks
creative use of rights-of-way
physical access AND programming access
don’t lose sense of diversity by saying “all”
innovative, diverse programming
community engagement
great routes to parks and rec centers
safety comes from getting people to the parks
training and development for staff
community engagement
innovative, diverse programming
health and well-being
Every Person

Ensure that all Denver neighborhoods have equitable access to parks and recreation amenities

Plan for an enhanced balance between population growth and new park and public open spaces as the city grows

Provide diverse and high quality recreation programs that are available and engaging to all ages and cultures

Invest in community and individual health and well-being through parks and programs throughout the city

Create work environments that support staff success and job satisfaction to better serve the public
Every Dollar

Denver Parks and Recreation will model best practices in fiscal and resource management to ensure the long-term economic and operational health of the system.
partnerships are critical

eliminate silos, work between departments on common goals

strenthen foundations and foster friends-of organizations...

dedicated funding stream

address aging infrastructure

use data to help set priorities

market our services in a modern way -- social media

efficiency

planting and building with low maintenance burden in mind

customer service
Every Dollar

- Continue to leverage partnership opportunities to maximize investments and shared benefits
- Improve the awareness of our facilities and services and cultivate a stronger public demand
- Maximize our service value to all economic sectors of our city
- Implement sustainable practices to use consumable resources economically and efficiently
- Implement best management practices and data keeping to track progress and guide departmental decision-making
- Develop sustainable, long-term funding resources to expand and renew the park and recreation system in the future
- Acquire and redevelop parks and facilities to provide a growing population with a high-quality services and facilities
- Develop and implement appropriate operations and maintenance standards and reliable monitoring systems
Uniquely Denver

Denver Parks and Recreation will provide high-quality parks, facilities and programs that reflect Denver’s community and cultural identity.
Need strong brand and tagline...

KNOW you’re in Denver

celebrate the system’s historic traits, like parkways

more culture and arts programming!

spearhead programming!

Extend the concept of place to parks

signature elements in parks

more culture and arts programming!

extend the concept of place to parks

more culture and arts programming!

sense of community - unique parks/

centers for unique neighborhoods

proud to say mountain parks are our backyard

city beautiful transform to city functional

balancing landscape history with modern needs/amenities

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Uniquely Denver

Express Denver’s identity and values within its parks and recreation facilities

Highlight and protect the system’s special historic facility and cultural resources

Design parks and facilities that reflect Denver’s neighborhood identity and diversity

Integrate public art and culture into parks and programming

Enhance Denver’s Greenway system and its companion regional and local trails

Provide inclusive facility and programming opportunities and to promote Denver’s outdoor lifestyle
LARGE GROUP DISCUSSION:

How well have the draft goals for each of the guiding principles captured your comments from January?

Is anything missing?

Every Drop  Every Person  Every Dollar  Uniquely Denver
Grounding the ideas in Denver
GROUNDING THE GOALS IN DENVER

What do these goals mean for different elements of Denver’s parks and recreation system?

ELEMENTS EXPLORED TO DATE:
• Mountain Parks
• Neighborhood Parks + Streetscapes
• Regional Parks
• Downtown Parks + Streetscapes
• Linear Parks + Greenways
• Recreation Centers

ELEMENTS TO COME:
• Golf Courses
• Urban Natural Areas
• Historic Parkways + Boulevards
Mountain Parks

Denver’s backyard and historic legacy of mountain parks is one of the most unique and defining aspects of the city. Conservation and appropriate environmental management must be balanced with access for a broad diversity of Denverites.
Neighborhood Parks + Streetscapes

Denver’s neighborhood and pocket parks are as diverse as the city itself, yet they share the critical functions of being collective community space for recreation, social gathering and peaceful reflection in the outdoors.

- Healthy tree canopy to shade paving (1)
- Drought-tolerant plantings + stormwater infiltration (2)
- Alternative activities + fitness programming (3)
- Welcoming frontage, crosswalk + wayfinding signage (4)
- Low-mow + drought-tolerant turf (5)
- Neighborhood partnerships for maintenance
- Unique playgrounds to fit neighborhood context (6)
- Unique social spaces (7)
Regional Parks

Denver’s regional parks, like City Park, Washington Park and Cheeseman Park, are some of the city’s most cherished landscapes. The activities, open spaces and historic features of these parks draw visitors from around the city and beyond.

- Wetland restoration + water quality (1)
- Open space with drought-tolerant plantings (2)
- Park roads/trails with access to dispersed parking + neighborhood connections (3)
- Destination playgrounds + amenities (4)
- Rentable facilities + services/activities (5)
- “Friends of...” partnerships for maintenance + funding (6)
- Adaptive re-use of historic + cultural destinations (7)
- Preserved historic viewsheds + design
Downtown Parks + Streetscapes

Downtown parks occur in Denver’s most densely developed core, and must appeal to one of the broadest constituencies, including local residents, the downtown workforce, and tourists. These are heavily-used and highly programmed spaces that must also provide a green respite from the surrounding urban fabric.

- Adaptive urban trees, irrigated with stored stormwater (1)
- Robust tree canopy to shade + cool paving (2)
- Convenient, safe transit, bike + pedestrian access (3)
- Diverse amenities for diverse users, buffered when necessary (4)
- Flexible space for food carts + other programming (5)
- Park impact fees on local development (6)
- Memorable + well-designed social spaces (7)
- Safe + festive lighting (8)

• Downtown parks occur in Denver’s most densely developed core, and must appeal to one of the broadest constituencies, including local residents, the downtown workforce, and tourists. These are heavily-used and highly programmed spaces that must also provide a green respite from the surrounding urban fabric.
Denver’s linear parks and greenways help knit the entire city together, connecting open spaces, cultural destinations and neighborhoods. Many follow waterways, such as the South Platte River, Cherry Creek or Sanderson Gulch, and serve as commuter routes, recreation paths and places to connect with nature.

**Linear Parks + Greenways**

- Wildlife migration corridors (1)
- Riverbank restoration + floodwater storage (2)
- Safe + reliable multi-modal paths (3)
- Environmental education opportunities (4)
- Green infrastructure + flood control savings to city (5)
- Nature-based play spaces (6)
- Ribbons of green connecting the city (7)
Recreation Centers

Denver’s **regional recreation centers**, like Central Park center in Stapleton or the new Carla Madison center, are designed to serve residents across the city. They are the largest centers, with the greatest diversity in facilities, programming and hours of accessibility.

**Local and neighborhood recreation centers** are smaller facilities more focused on the specific needs of the city’s communities. They tend to occupy older buildings and provide a more limited palette of amenities and programming.
SMALL GROUP ACTIVITY:
Each of our six tables is a station for one “part” of the system.

1. Take time to explore the “part” in depth.

2. Add your group’s thoughts to the two prompts:
   - Other issues the system “part” needs to address
     i.e. is there anything missing/incorrect?
   - Additional ideas/scenarios to imagine...
     Don’t be afraid to think big and be provocative!

3. Rotate and repeat with a new “part” every 10 minutes
   Respond to and expand on ideas that your colleagues have added!
Denveright
Crossover Themes
A Healthy City

An overarching concept to unite Denveright Vision Elements

EQUITABLE, AFFORDABLE AND INCLUSIVE

ECONOMICALLY DIVERSE AND VIBRANT

STRONG AND AUTHENTIC NEIGHBORHOODS

ENVIRONMENTALLY RESILIENT

WELL-CONNECTED, SAFE AND ACCESSIBLE PLACES

HEALTHY AND ACTIVE
A HEALTHY CITY
Denver is a thriving community with diverse people, places and systems – more akin to a living organism than a set of independent elements. The city's future health depends on effective integration of systems to provide an inclusive, diverse and connected platform for 21st-century innovations and strategies.

Philosophy integrally tied to Denveright Vision Elements

CHANGES EXPLORED IN TYPOLOGIES:
• Parkways + Streetscapes*
• Neighborhoods
• Downtown
• Waterways
• Parks
• Mountain Parks
• Recreation and Community Centers

*NOTE: Streetscape example highlighted in this draft, others can be developed to highlight different crossover themes

AGENCIES:
• DPR
• DPW
• CPD
• DPS
• RTD
• Urban Drainage
• Denver Water
• Arts + Venues

PLANS:
• Blueprint (CPD)
• Game Plan (DPR)
• DM - Transit (PW)
• DM - Peds and Trails (PW)

01_The Philosophy
How can we think about this planning opportunity holistically?

02_The “What”
What is the nature of the changes we need to make?

03_The “Who”
Who is responsible to implement change?
A holistic look at city systems, understanding that inter-agency collaboration and community engagement is critical to the success of multi-benefit solutions.

**03_The “Who” Example: Streetscape**

- **Development Impact**
  - Fees to support new public space
  - Connectivity to local trail networks; first + last mile connections to transit
  - Social space on the street

- **Convenient, comfortable and environmentally-friendly transit stops**

- **DM: Ped**
  - Tree canopy maintained to provide shade and enhance streetscape for pedestrian comfort
  - Compatibly designed development faces street

- **DM: T**
  - Parks and Rec Centers inform bus routes as trip origin/destination
  - Parks and Rec Centers

- **DM: Ped**
  - ADA accessible routes to parks and recreation centers

- **DM: T**
  - Stormwater captured and cleaned in bioswales

- **BP**
  - Native, low-water plantings of trees and ground-covers
  - Safe bike routes to provide recreation opportunity and connectivity to daily needs

- **BP**
  - New development collects and stores stormwater to offset irrigation

- **BP**
  - Amenity zone with tree lawn required for new development
  - Recycled (purple pipe) water could be used for limited irrigation

- **BP**
  - DM: Ped
  - GP

- **BP**
  - DM: T

- **GP**
  - DM: T
  - BP
### Blueprint Draft Vision Elements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contribution of Parks and Recreation towards that Vision Element</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. EQUITABLE, AFFORDABLE AND INCLUSIVE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks and recreation, along with streets, create the great common ground of our cities. The Game Plan Update will help strengthen and diversify parks and recreation offerings to ensure that all people have access to services, that services and offerings are aligned with need.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2. STRONG AND UNIQUE NEIGHBORHOODS</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parks and recreation facilities often give great strength to neighborhood identity - being the places where character is expressed and celebrated. The Game Plan Update will help to foster clear and unique neighborhood identity established through high-quality, designed parks that are beloved community gathering places.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3. WELL-CONNECTED, SAFE AND ACCESSIBLE PLACES</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our tree-lined boulevards, streets and trails create beautiful green connections between parks, recreation centers and other city destinations. The Game Plan Update will reinforce how these linear open spaces knit the city together in a way that accommodates all mobilities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4. ECONOMICALLY DIVERSE AND VIBRANT</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Great parks and great community resources, like recreation centers, are proven to catalyze development and act as an economic boon for surrounding neighborhoods. The Game Plan Update will help foster the kind of excellent programming and quality design in parks and recreation centers that elevates communities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5. ENVIRONMENTALLY RESILIENT</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our parks and open spaces are our city's greatest environmental asset and well positioned to model best practices for adapting to a changing climate. The Game Plan update will showcase how our landscapes can handle stormwater, use water efficiently, and keep us cool and comfortable as well as how our recreation centers can be energy efficient.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6. HEALTHY AND ACTIVE</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our parks, trails and recreation centers are fundamental to our quality of life, providing us with great spaces to stay fit, recharge, and connect with each other. The Game Plan Update will support programming and designs that promote community health for all Denverites.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### What can the other plans consider to help advance our parks and recreation goals within this vision element?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>BLUEPRINT</strong></th>
<th><strong>MOBILITY- TRANSIT</strong></th>
<th><strong>MOBILITY - PEDS + TRAILS</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• Growth zones and park need</td>
<td>• Links between major rec and park assets and transit</td>
<td>• Equal level of investment in sidewalks and trails</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Equity issues in tree canopy distribution, boulevard distribution</td>
<td>• • Type, number, density of parks in each neighborhood</td>
<td>• Relationship of neighborhoods to park access</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Great sidewalks connecting neighborhoods with their parks.</td>
<td>• Park-based neighborhood identities carry into the design of transit hubs</td>
<td><strong>• Walkable neighborhoods, pedestrian access to neighborhood parks</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Multi-modal boulevards</td>
<td>• • Routes to major destination parks</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Trailheads.</td>
<td>• Regional resource of mountain park system</td>
<td>• Great sidewalks connecting neighborhoods with their parks.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Walkable neighborhoods, pedestrian access to neighborhood parks</td>
<td>• • Transit stop and hubs at parks and rec centers.</td>
<td>• Multi-modal boulevards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Viewshed from transit routes into our parks.</td>
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<td>• • Trailhead and trailhead design incorporating same best practices as parks and boulevards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Park-based neighborhood identities carry into the design of transit hubs</td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>• Walkable neighborhoods</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Infill development, preserve intact open spaces.</td>
<td>• Energy efficiency and emissions that affect tree health and air quality.</td>
<td><strong>• Safe sidewalks/bike routes to parks and recreation centers</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Development is environmentally responsible re: stormwater management, water use</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What questions do you have for the other Denveright plans?

What themes from Game Plan should they be addressing?
Thank you!