Denver Parks Legacy Fund

The 2018 voter-approved Parks Legacy Fund has allowed Denver Parks & Recreation (DPR) to make significant progress on its **Game Plan for a Healthy City**, a strategic plan to create an equitable parks system that supports the health of residents and the environment. Legacy Fund now accounts for approximately $50 million of DPR’s annual budget, a 49% increase that has allowed substantial investments in alignment with the Game Plan’s guiding principles and Legacy Fund priorities:

**ADAPT → Resiliency**

**LEGACY FUND IMPACT:** New, dedicated funding to help DPR adapt to a changing climate and make the system more environmentally sustainable through resilient landscapes and responsible operations.

- More Trees = Less Heat
- Upgraded Irrigation = Decreased Water Use
- Waterway Restorations = Improved Flood Mitigation
- Landscape Transformations = Healthy Ecosystems
- Workforce Innovation = Environmental Stewardship

**PROJECT EXAMPLES:**
- Rocky Mountain Lake
- Sand Creek Trail
- Lily Lake
- Sanderson Gulch Pollinators

**PROJECTS ON THE HORIZON:**
- City of Takayama & Karmiel Park
- Urban Forest Strategic Plan
- Quebec Medians

**HIGHLIGHTS SINCE 2018:**
- 375+ ACRES OF LANDSCAPE RESTORATION
- 225 MILLION GALLONS OF WATER SAVED ANNUALLY
- 1,100+ ACRES OF WILDFIRE MITIGATION COMPLETED
- 5,800 TREES PLANTED

**DIVERSIFY & GROW → Planning & Acquisitions**

**LEGACY FUND IMPACT:** New, dedicated funding for strategic planning and system growth to ensure equitable distribution of parks, resources and diverse programming so that all residents can improve their health and wellbeing.

- Strategic Acquisition = Equitable Expansion to Meet Population Growth
- Historic Preservation = Uniquely Denver Spaces
- Neighborhood Engagement = Reflective Community Parks
- Visionary Planning = Dynamic Programs & Amenities

**PROJECT EXAMPLES:**
- Platte Farm Open Space
- Iliff & Bellaire Park
- Westwood Park
- Axton Ranch
- La Alma-Lincoln Park Plan

**PROJECTS ON THE HORIZON:**
- Sun Valley Riverfront Park
- Sunken Gardens Park
- High Point Park
- Avion Park
- New Acquisitions

**HIGHLIGHTS SINCE 2018:**
- 479 ACRES NEW URBAN PARKS
- 448 ACRES NEW MOUNTAIN PARKS
- $10.6 M SPENT ON ACQUISITIONS
- 5,500 ADDITIONAL HOUSEHOLDS WITHIN 10-MIN WALK/ROLL STANDARD
REINVEST → Maintenance

LEGACY FUND IMPACT:
New, dedicated funding to reinvest in parks and facility maintenance, ensuring long-term economic and operational health of the parks and recreation system.

PROJECT EXAMPLES:
- City Park Pavilion & Playground
- Sonny Lawson Park Restroom
- Rosedale Maintenance Shop
- Numerous Park & Facility Improvements

PROJECTS ON THE HORIZON:
- Civic Center Park
- Northwest Maintenance Shops
- Barnum Park
- La Raza Park

Facility Improvements & Expansions = Safe and Clean Park Spaces
Updates to Aging Park Assets = Innovative Playgrounds, Splash Pads, and Athletics

CONNECT → Signature Projects, Trails & Outdoor Recreation

LEGACY FUND IMPACT:
New, dedicated funding to create places and programs that connect Denver to its community and cultural identity.

PROJECT EXAMPLES:
- Arkins Promenade
- Genesee Base Camp
- Lowry Multi-Purpose Rink
- Northfield Athletic Complex
- Paco Sanchez Park

PROJECTS ON THE HORIZON:
- City Park Nature Play
- Echo Lake Lodge
- Skyline Park
- Southeast Skatepark
- South Platte River Trail

Signature Projects and Destination Parks = Quality and Unique Park Experiences
Access to Outdoor Activities = Healthy Lifestyles and Recreation Skills Development
New Trails and greenways = Connectivity to Communities & Nature

HIGHLIGHTS SINCE 2018:
- Trust for Public Land ParkScore® Ranking #13
- 70% of improvements in high equity neighborhoods
- $170 spent per resident annually*
- $78M invested in aging assets

HIGHLIGHTS SINCE 2018:
- 14 miles new & improved trails completed / underway
- $23.5M in matching grants leveraged
- $99,000,000 spent on capital expansions
- 8,000+ new participants in outdoor recreation programs

UNIQUELY DENVER

GAME PLAN for a Healthy City

DENVER PARKS & RECREATION