

# Boulder Valley Comprehensive Plan – Phase 1 Summary of Engagement (through Oct. 16, 2015)



## Responses Regarding: “What Do You Love About Boulder? What’s Working Well and Should Be Protected?”

*This summary includes responses from the online poll and comment sheets (gathered at the Aug. 31 kickoff event and pop-up meetings)*

People love a lot of things about Boulder. Clearly those who took the time to respond care deeply about the quality of life and future of the community. The responses to this question highlight Boulder’s natural and social capital and existing physical assets of the community.

- Overwhelmingly, the community is defined by access to open space, nature and outdoor activities. People love access to parks and locally-grown food as well as the ongoing commitment to environmental preservation and issues.
- The ease of getting around without a car was also stated by many respondents, praising the bikeable, walkable nature of the community and great facilities.
- People love Boulder for the characteristics of the people with many admiring the forward-thinking, highly engaged, healthy, and family-friendly aspects of the population.
- Aspects of the built environment garnered many responses including the historic downtown, small-town feel and safe neighborhoods. People also listed “top-notch” transportation, recreation, and entertainment facilities.
- Many people noted that Boulder’s innovative and entrepreneurial business environment with good jobs, great schools, the University of Colorado, and a smart and well-trained workforce is very important and should continue to be fostered.

### Following are the 420 responses to this question from:

1. Comment sheets from the Aug. 31 Kick Off (99 responses) shaded in orange
2. Comment sheets from the pop up meetings (29 responses) shaded in green
3. Comment sheets translated from Spanish (16 responses) shaded in blue
4. Comments from the online poll held from 8/3/15 to 10/12/15 (276 responses) shaded in purple

## Comments from the Kickoff Event, Aug. 31, 2015

There are great hiking trails in Open Space. I like the ones that climb up steeply on the west side.
Bike friendly, lively downtown, access to outdoors / trails, family friendly with great playgrounds, libraries, and schools, great food, healthy lifestyle, CU (Shakespeare, sports, student life), like-minded people, growing arts scene, GREEN-minded people.
Environment, Open Space, University
Open Space trails close by. Transportation (mass) is easy. People are community-oriented. People are intelligent and thoughtful.
Its people and environment-friendly. Next year the pools are going greener (less chlorine)! They stopped using poisons in the parks! but not the HUD housing :(! it's introvert-friendly! There are many electric car charging stations.
Commitment to the environment.
It values Open Space, mountains, hiking and biking trails. We like that there is a University and several National labs and NCAR.
I can walk most anywhere I want (while dodging the bicyclists on the sidewalks next to the bicycle lanes).
- open space - vibrant arts/restaurants - bike paths!
Open space - bike and walking friendly transportation infrastructure. CU, BUSD, Climate Action & Stewardship. Collaborative community environment, forward-thinking.
Open space, open views, innovation, and creativity, diversity, transportation modes and options.
open space
community involvement, childhood home, safe for all walks of life, cottonwood tress (all trees) educated citizens, my history is here.
Boulder WAS great because one could enjoy the trails locally without a 2:1 ratio of dogs to humans, one could get around town without getting stuck behind the red light 2-3 rounds and the growth was limited to the available resources and space.
walking, biking, transit around town, access to the outdoors.
small, high quality
relatively compact city, abundant and nearby open space, relatively good, competent government, excellent environmental emphasis within and outside city government.
surrounding open space, alternate transportation (Bike, bus, walk), weather
The weather and natural beauty, the open space and physical environments and the thriving economy and university.
beautiful and ecologically valuable open space is accessible, climate conducive to outdoor recreation.
Open space, trails/bike paths, technology, community schools
clean, active town, university, open space, good schools and neighborhoods. I am a Boulder county resident not the city, and I am not overwhelmed by the high density housing.
Hiking trails, preservation of nature, short buildings to protect views, bike ways, lanes (except right-sizing), rec centers, parks, natural food stores, natural and conventional healthcare, intellectual action through community, Naropa, CU, independent teachers (workshops), spiritual/religious variety in resources, aesthetics, and library branches, engineering for flooding, schools, level of education (highest percentage for women in the US), campus.
Vibrant economy, open space, culture of outdoor activity
Open space
It has great citizens, brilliants & forward thinking, a healthy (overall) lifestyle is the way of Life here, AND more.

<p>Aesthetics  Health conscientiousness  Cultural options  Open space</p>
<p>It has a small population &amp; low density</p>
<p>Quality of life  Alternative health care</p>
<p>It is stunningly beautiful, eclectic, and quirky. It is academic and artistic and scientific.</p>
<p>We have done good innovative things. I hope we can continue this.</p>
<p>beautiful place, nice people</p>
<p>open space  East of getting around  Bike paths / walking path  Availability of outdoors / ease</p>
<p>It is an art &amp; cultural center</p>
<p>1) open space w/ hiking &amp; climbing &amp; biking  2) bike paths  3) pearl street  4) public transportation  5) good public schools  6) CU-Boulder  7) great architecture  8) Outdoor fitness culture  9) Creativity &amp; entrepreneurship</p>
<p>Access to nature (as well as culture, Univ.)  progressive community  climate  low crime</p>
<p>The fact that I don't need a car. I can run all my errands by bike or bus or walking.  We take care of mother earth</p>
<p>of the flatirons &amp; natural beauty  entrepreneurial spirit  low crime  the size of Boulder  healthy living lifestyle + parks  interesting people for the size</p>
<p>we have preserved thousands of acres of open space lands to sustain habitat + ecosystems so native species can sustain their populations in our surrounding lands</p>
<p>hippy culture / good outdoors Dev.  transportation / public  Farmers Market</p>
<p>...of our Open Space + Parks; our wildlife + critical habitat (which need MORE protection),  ...of its Liberal + green ethics;  its commitment to human + civil rights.  Its Climate Action progressiveness</p>
<p>- progressive planning  - open space  - walk, bike &amp; bus-ability  - CU, pearl st. mall, boulder creek, mt. parks + open space</p>
<p>Downtown - Vibrant  Open Space  Education  Size - Land mass</p>

F&B / Culture / University Smart people / fit people
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- open space + proximity to trails</li> <li>- education - good quality schools</li> <li>- neighborhood with strong sense of community and families of varying socioeconomic background</li> <li>- Parks &amp; bike paths (not bike lanes)</li> <li>- College town</li> <li>- Good downtown + culture + dining (with a few remaining views of Flatirons)</li> <li>- Feel of small town</li> <li>- Farmers Market + access to healthy food</li> <li>- Good music &amp; other shows</li> </ul>
there is a huge variety of people who, for the most part, care about the earth, love the beautiful outdoors, care about human health, care about animals/wild life
Such a beautiful heavenly place, small enough but has an easy access to all shopping & hiking, picnic area
Mountains, Open Space, CU-Boulder, Great diverse neighborhoods
sprawl is contained by open space and we strive to reduce greenhouse gases... and Thursday cruiser bike rides
It's unique character its ongoing goal to constantly improve itself

## Comments from Pop-up Meetings

We have so many wonderful: parks, bike paths, libraries, buses.
Outdoor lifestyle
There are a lot of family friendly places and activities in the area for all ages.
I love this place and I love the fact that people are so willing to help.
The people are so friendly and kind and we are surrounded by beautiful mountains.
It was a great place to grow up and see all the different ideals. The people in Boulder really are great and open.
There are mountains to bike, a nice atmosphere and a good community.
Nice place, no crime. I'm from Nepal - it's a little bit same.
Location is beautiful. People are nice.
Outdoor recreation. Relatively compact city - easy to get around.
Mountains, open spaces! farming and sustainability efforts.
Healthy people
Love the parks and open space. bus route.
I feel safe living here with my kids.
Boulder beautiful place. The people are nice and helpful. safe, beautiful mountains, job opportunities.
Beautiful environment with many different races and cultures.
Nature.
We have a great work/play balance. Great bike-ability. Nice downtown - great activities.
Environmental health - keep it up!
It's history. natural environment / green belt.
Nature, public transit.
Beauty in the landscape in the city. Variety of small businesses. Great city services (aging, open space, forests,).
Open space, smart growth; parks; excellent schools.
Cause I can ride my bike everywhere! People are friendly! I can bring my dog everywhere.
It is a conscious community where people have a strong ethic around social, environmental, and spiritual values. People want life to be better! And the natural beauty here reflects that.
People, culture
Can walk to many places; lots of arts and activities.
Open space, variety of housing options, excellence of schools, libraries, rec centers

## Comments Translated from Spanish

It is a calm and fun town
For me everything is very good for now. In Colorado we are safe.
It is friendly and harmonious
I very much like to live in Boulder because there is a lot of nature, we can go on our bikes and there are lots of places to walk and look at nature.
It's a united city and a very safe place, no violence.
It helps Latinos.
It is a great city with very little violence. Lots of nice and friendly people. Lots of places to do outdoors activities, mountains, biking, you can walk without feeling scared, day or night. I love Boulder.
Because it has well-founded ordinances, and also because it helps the Hispanic community
There are good places to walk, ride your bike. Boulder Creek. The public libraries. I love it here. Focus on youth and children.
It is not so dry and also I like the nature and everyone is so happy here. That is why USA is the best country.
I like living here because there are many resources available to the community and in my opinion the best schools for my children. I have lived in many cities and I have always returned here.
Nature is respected, we recycle and we compost. It is a beautiful city.
I think Boulder is the best city in all of Colorado, it is safe and has great schools.
It is well organized, pretty and very safe.
There is a lot of security (it is very safe)
There are many places to walk and be in nature. I love living here.

## Comments from the Online Poll

very educated and progressive-minded people -surrounding nature and the efforts to maintain it
1. Open space and trail systems 2. Library
A guy can get around on bikes
BIkeable friendly city and great open space
Boulder will not be great in 2030 because of the city council and county commissioners.
Building heights are low so you can see the Flatirons.
CU, outdoor recreation, people from all over
City of Boulder is surrounded by open space and has lots of great local restaurants and stores
Everything you want to do or buy is within walking distance
Fun, Diverse and Active
Geography, climate, small city & access to a major airport.
Gg
Great climate, good values, healthy people
Great views, paths, trails, beautiful homes and open space

In spite of superficial polls like these, there is a rich and diverse base of intelligent people.
Is not so great because of social engineering disguised as planning.
It gives everyone the opportunity to lead a healthy lifestyle
It has a vibrant tech community, is near the Rocky Mountains, and supports a healthy lifestyle.
It has easy access to the foothills with lots of trails and parks close-by.
It has good sustainability
It has height limits on the buildings to protect the mountain views, and the open space.
It has lots of open space and bike paths, is leaving Xcel Energy which was unsustainable.
It has open space with public access. It's beautiful. It has been willing to stop growth.
It has so much open space in the city and COUNTY of Boulder.
It implements fascism with a smile!
It is a vibrant and relaxed community full of interesting characters.
It is better than GREELEY!!
It is close to Denver and it is beautiful country side.
It is close to the mountains and the university.
It protects our relationship with nature and fosters a healthy and productive work environment.
It was small, beautiful setting, open space nearby and easy to get around
It's HOME. It is still livable (but somewhat less than it was 15 years ago).
It's a university town
It's beauty and weather. And accommodating food choices
It's pretty, people are active, and it's pretty.
It's surrounded by "greenbelt" and has close proximity to the high country.
Its location is amazing. It is both urban and provides great access to nature.
Its moderate size, proximity to the mountains, downtown, and natural beauty.
Its natural beauty, access to nature, trails, and open spaces,
Its physical setting and the preservation of open space, the blue line and 55' height limit
Just because.
Location--against mountains, parks and good schools. Emphasis on healthy lifestyle
Longmont has a Muni and Boulder is trying to create one.
Lots of open space, nice rec centers, bike paths vs. bike lanes.
Magnificent Rocky Mountain natural landscape & background.
Natural beauty Cultural Opportunities Access to mountains Diverse & creative population
Not anymore, It was great. We are failing at managing our growth and maintain quality of life.
OPEN SPACE!!!! Small town feel
Of all the bike paths.

Of its diversity of all kinds, the focus on health and sustainability.
Of its natural beauty and the energy of education.
Of its open space
Of the close access to hiking and open space.
Of the community, farms, schools and programs.
Of the exquisite natural backdrop and beautiful open space.
Of the open space.
Of the people who live here.
Of the trails, parks, and open spaces
Open Space, Blueline, Heigtlimits, CU, weather.
Open space
Open space is a fundamental part of the community.
Open space/wildlife
Proximity to outdoor amenities and a progressive culture.
Republicans are in the minority.
Small town feel with top-notch amenities
Strong values of inclusiveness, diverse, beauty, building codes. Excellent schools.
The Flatirons and the environment in general.
The community is engaged in creating a better future for its residents and the world
The natural beauty of the city.
The open space and mountain parks give me places to walk, hike, run.
The people of Boulder truly care about it, from littering to policies.
The physical site but not the government nor the BVCP
The unique and diverse experience that it provokes.
The weather is great and it is beautiful. It is full of creative people.
There are always people biking or jogging outside.
There is great access to nature and a humbling yet inviting environment of academia.
Trail system, natural amenities, downtown, culture.
We are a modern, progressive City that attracts good employers, jobs, students and residents.
We have easy access to a vast array of offerings. Nature is close at hand.
We have the university, a vibrant economy and open space.
We're striving to be great.
a focus on local products and businesses and on healthy food
beautiful setting, great facilities, plenty of jobs and economic activity.
because years ago the decision was made to limit growth.

foothills, mt.parks, creek and creek path, libraries, open space., Chautauqua music
geography, weather and proximity to a large metro area.
it has great natural beauty.
it has managed its Open Space assets very well over the years.
it has so much natural beauty
it is a close-knit community with a lot of caring folks.
it is an elitist, pretentious community that only the extremely wealthy can afford.
it is beautiful and the open space is fabulous.
it sees the importance of open minds and one spaces.
it used to be great
it's the coolest.
of all the open space and trails.
of it's beautiful location next to the Flatirons, Indian Peaks and Rocky Mtn. National Park.
of it's historic downtown and scenic views
of it's natural setting and it's location
of it's numerous beautiful open spaces
of its innovation...
of its neighborhoods and strong communities.
of the beauty of it's location.
of the great open space, strong business environment, and great entrepreneurs.
of the jobs and opportunities
of the proximity to so many wonderful adventures!
of the visibility and proximity of the mountains.
of the wonderful views and low traffic volume
of those mountains i see from my window.
people who earn more than affordable housing and less than 6 figures can no longer live here!
proximity to hiking, trails, and walkability for urban amenities.
the weather. It WAS great before it started to be so over built. It needs to stop.
there is a lot of open space that is preserved.
we have living in close proximity to nature
It strives to be a leader and model community in terms of sustainability, walkability, livability, and bikeability.
Its open spaces, access to hiking and biking, great bike lanes (Right Sizing totally unnecessary), vibrant economy, great restaurants and coffee shops.
we have 300 days of sunshine every year, there are many interesting people from all sorts of backgrounds and with varied interests
We have access to so much open space, trails, extensive bike paths, and recreational opportunities.

Access to higher education and startups. Excellent food, restaurants, connection to local farms. Walkable.
it is a comfortable urban environment, it has a dynamic community, the community is action driven, caring, pro-fitness; it is a university town, the community strives to balance high-tech and tree-hugging sensibilities, and to accommodate ambition and laid-back personalities.
it's a progressive community with cultural opportunities far beyond what one would expect in a small city. The mountain parks, the miles of open space (for the most part, wisely administered), the gorgeous scenery.....it's all in the mix making this a hell of a place to live.
it has such a large variety of activities to do in nature that keeps people of the couch and active. In the grand scheme of things it makes people healthier.
Of the location, a great University and a smart and well trained community. We have a good balance of business and education at the present.
I can get anywhere in the city because the transit is accessible. Boulder is also great because there is a strong sense of community. People are always walking/biking/ running outside. Also, there are a variety of people in the community, such as families, college students, elderly, and healthy organic people.
Local residents had the foresight to preserve open space and the Boulder Mountain Parks system, as well as build bike trails long before it became fashionable to do so.
a) the foothill setting b) the work by residents to preserve our foothills, open space, create trails and recreational opportunities, protect our neighborhoods c) the small town university atmosphere, which is dangerously close to disappearing d) the artists and musicians who are around here and contribute to the opportunities e) the people who care about this town, long term f) it is pretty safe place and we have a minimum of serious social problems
PLANBoulder had the foresight to create and maintain a buffer from the relentless development (scraping and raping) of the land all around it. To have an unencumbered view of the Flatirons from anywhere in Boulder is our reward...
Historically it has been open to diverse opinions and creative ideas. I came here because it offered entrepreneurial opportunity.
we have a progressive culture, valuing aspects beyond traditional urban amenities - wilderness preservation, fighting climate change, social programs, etc.
Boulder is great because of the different sub sections that exist here. I lived in University Hill for the last two years and experienced life as a Boulder resident among college kids. Now I live in South Boulder and I wake up to the sounds of children playing and church bells ringing. I think it is a great place to find a niche with out having to move to a different city. Wherever I decide to move in this town I can find something new and more on par with who I am.
great bike paths for commuting to work pearl street mall is a great place to hang out cu boulder is here recreational opportunities high tech opportunities spiritual opportunities
Oh wow - the list would be so long. I care enough about all of those things that I'm trying to get involved in our future. It's in jeopardy. The very special things that are Boulder are really in jeopardy. Open space that is accessible by so many, beautiful views, healthy economy, smart people ... it's all right here!
Boulder is great because the community accepts all walks of life without judgment. Add in the vastness of wilderness to explore and play in surrounding the town and you have come to the closest thing called Heaven on Earth.
People are focused on sustainability and conserving the green and natural spaces within and around the city.
of the small town feel, the commitment to environmental issues, the abundant open space and sacred natural beauty, the awesome historical architectural, the university, the arts community, the spiritual

community, boulder creek, proximity to wilderness , skiing and metro Denver.. ....
we have amazing access to the outdoors, vibrant centers of learning and eclectic amenities in town
there are plenty of opportunities to work while maintaining as much of the natural area as possible.
We have beautiful open space, and dog owners are able to take their pups off leash (with blue tag) onto so many of our great trails!
1. The proximity to nature and the gorgeous mountains 2. The hundreds of miles of pedestrian/bike paths, allowing for safe non-vehicle travel all over the city 3. The clean, safe, and beautiful downtown 4. The creative liberal culture, balanced out by a certain degree of sophistication 5. Boulder is a healthy, vibrant and progressive community
#1. *DITTO(USA):"BoulderIsGreatBecauseItWasTruelyCreatedInTheImage(s)Of'GOD'!!!!!!>>> □□□□□□□□□□
You can go all around the world and never see anything more spectacular than fresh snow on the Flatirons with a sparkling blue sky above. The settlers of Boulder called it the Athens of the West and made their vision come true.
It is small town, that is not dense, crowded, or overpopulated. The city has had a history of growth control, limited building height, etc. that make it the desirable place it is. Wonderful low density neighborhoods that don't feel crowded, harried, hassled. Historically, these neighborhoods have a distinct lack of traffic and parking problems. If I wanted to live in a big, dense, crowded City....I would. But Boulder is on the verge of not being great anymore.
It is great because of its ease of walkability for pedestrians, everything is close in proximity, its public transportation system is amazing and convenient, its location is amazing, and all of these factors are what make it FEEL so great living here.
It's a well educated, entrepreneurial town in a beautiful place with lots of healthy, active residents.
its geography, its wildlife, cycling, trails, open space, Pearl St. Mall, the flatirons, nice neighborhoods
It considers the people's best interests and combines them with economic and political values. Such as keeping views of the flatirons because it's important to the people, but also brings tourism i.e. economic value.
of the DENSITY. Just kidding. Nobody EVER said that. Boulder is great because it is a finite situation and will not grow any more, hopefully.
It is a small friendly city with lots of cultural, recreational, intellectual and social resources. The location is beautiful and the views of the Flatirons are wonderful. The schools are fantastic, my daughter just graduated from Fairview High School and was admitted into a great university. It is great to have CU in Boulder.
We are clinging (barely) to a more European mindset that puts a focus on livability. We have beautiful scenery and are located in a truly special place.
of the settlers who spawned a fun loving, strong values community that wasn't too uptight, was forward thinking, and valued time in nature.
it is very convenient to live here. Everything is here and you don't even need to get out of Boulder
it is the epitomy of thinking about what is best globally and acting locally to create change. The population as a whole leads by example even in the face of extreme pressure to conform to outdated norms.
Boulder used to be great because it was neighborhoods, easy to get through the city, open areas in town, great views, trees, and a community feel. Now it's just a large city catering to the vocal minority.
Many people seem to feel good just being in Boulder, picking up on the energy and the vibe, and interacting with nature and others together in common spaces. Also, the mountains, trees, and overall

cohesiveness really make the city shine.
Even though there's been a huge influx of growth, there's STILL a wonderful sense of community and "Pride of Place" in most of the residents. May it always be thus!
It's a paradise. So much economic opportunity (tech, CU, science, government contractors, design, pro sports, real estate, etc) and we also have incredible nature! We are also lucky to have a small town with limited crime, traffic and infrastructure problems.
Boulder was a cut little town with a great view of the Flatirons and divide and clean air. Now it is a congested city where the smog sits down between the new tall buildings as all the cars idle and the drivers look for a place to park. The views of the Flatirons and divide are largely blocked by tall buildings and the streets have become dirty narrow canyons. You Californicated my town.
Beautiful environment, healthy people, informed, educated people, quality of life, social and cultural activities
A healthy, outdoor-lifestyle focused community. Emphasis on supporting local businesses downtown and healthy eating, recycling, and composting.
It is a very rare balance of nature and culture. The foresight of our founders over 60 years ago to preserve green space was priceless. I believe we need to continue our purchase and upkeep of City Lands. Boulder has a 'brand' or public persona as being a healthy, beautiful place to live with a focus and clean living, clean food and an active protection and caring for the planet. From our green spaces, bike paths and organics industries to our alternative approaches to medicines. We need to continue to protect the land our most important resource. Our entrepreneurial back bone combined with a highly educated public helps Boulder to continue to thrive and excel in the financial arena. And often we show the world possibility- the combination of sustainability and financial success. As we continue to strive for excellence, I love living in this city for it's eye to all things sustainable. Our progressive nature with environmental preservation and continuing implementation of alternative transportation. Actively implementing programs which progressively move us towards equality for all. I thoroughly enjoy the availability of world class music, film and the arts. Bringing the artistic work of other cultures to Boulder fosters open thought and new ideas. There are so many things about Boulder that have made this my home for 31 years. Thank you!
It has historically put the quality of life of its citizens first when making decisions related to its present and future growth.
it is a community which takes pride in itself, is liberal, educated, healthy, attractive, rather european like.
gorgeous, focus on outdoors, healthy, arts, education, caring, spiritual (or not), laid back, creative, active, good shops, variety of food.
of views of mountains, open space, the university's diverse influence on culture, vibrant downtown.
Of the level of community involvement and initiative to promote character, preservation, and well being for the various systems and interrelated communities; including but not limited to is ecological and social communities.
It considers alternative approaches to increasing affordable housing even if those approaches are politically less popular.
1) It's a community with a unique character, though we are starting to lose that. 2) We have so much accessible open space around us. 3) We have a variation of neighborhood densities that allows people to chose their lifestyle.
of its location at the foot of the stunning Flatirons, its manageable scale, its motivated citizenry, its liberal leanings, its clean water, its friendliness, its decent schools, its CWA, BIFF, Chautauqua, and The Dairy programs.
Everyone who lives here is pretty much on the same page as far as values, and there's tons of

amenities that support those values (Farmer's Markets, bike paths, public parks, etc.)
Its a strong community in a city center that is very close to open space for recreational activities.
The natural and cultural environment, weather, commitment to progressive policies, proximity to both nature and a bigger city and associated amenities.
it is a vibrant community economically, culturally, spiritually, live and let live. and it is so beautiful. the climate is wonderful.
Open Space Diversity Environmental Leaders Entrepreneurial Spirit Restaurants Great local farms School District
It's a family community, with great public schools and great access to outdoor recreation opportunities.
There are so many opportunities to get around without driving. I bike, bus and walk most places and it is very comfortable to do so. It's also a place that values environmental sustainability and taking action within our small city.
it has all the necessities for happiness and personal well-being. The culture is very strong and organized.
Excellent multi-use path system, good bike routes/lanes; abundant open space, parks, public spaces.
we have access to so many beautiful views and outdoor recreational activities, while still being a college based town with a wide diversity of people from all over the world bringing that extra something special that makes this town such an enjoyable place to live.
Outdoors (open space, mountains), shopping (Pearl Street mall), First class University, climate, range of sports activities, variety of restaurants, small city near a large city (Denver).....
It has natural beauty, open spaces, a flagship state university and, generally, an educated and forward thinking citizenry.
It is a progressive, forward-looking community; it is beautiful; it is a healthy place to live. And the water tastes great!
It has wonderful open space, trail heads, bike paths, local food, and an aware and engaged population.
It is a city of forward thinking, a leader in sustainability and a role model to the country in many ways.
1) The variety of educational opportunities for young people. 2) Boulder is surrounded by Open Space thus urban sprawl is controlled. 3) The buildings have a height limit which does not obscure our enjoyment of the mountains. 4) There are many parks throughout the city. 5) There is a wide variety of trails and outdoor activities year-round. 6) As a community, it supports a healthy lifestyle. 7) Many Buddhist practice and meditation-related opportunities throughout the community. 8) The "Thank You" wave when I let someone into traffic, or pause to let people cross the street. 9) People here actually act on their compassionate beliefs by supporting those organizations which help the needy, and the ill persons among us to be healthier and create more meaningful, productive lives for themselves. 10) There is live music somewhere in the Boulder area almost every night during the warmer months. 11) It's Green. People genuinely care about the environment. 12) They make it easy to do everything from repurposing, donating, and recycling everything. This isn't true in other parts of the country. 13) They let artists like Gravity Glue stack stones in Boulder Creek. 14) Creative minds. The scientists, artists, and entrepreneurs here think outside the box. If it works, they run with it. If not, they move on to the next thing.
there is so much to do here! Difficult decisions on alternative events and outdoor opportunities and great restaurants every weekend!
The foothills are a wonderful resource, BVSD is strong and the University community provides a great level of culture/resources.
natural beauty and the foresight to preserve "greenbelt" open space; the building height limit; fascinating diversity of opinion; vibrant arts

<p>Boulder is rapidly becoming "ungreat" due to over-building, congestion and the poor decision-making of the CC and the Planning Bd. Boulder has lost its character. When the monstrosity being built on the former Daily Camera site is finished, blocking the view of the Flatirons, every bit of charm left in Boulder will be gone. Congratulations. It happened on your watch.</p>
<p>of the employment base, CU, open space and trails, fitness culture and great restaurants and retail. Kudos to the traffic/transportation engineer(s) for doing their best to try to keep people moving and safe.</p>
<p>We have a small, diverse, creative population with thriving local business opportunities. We have public spaces and opportunities that equalize the population- great parks, recreation centers and hiking, climbing and biking trails. And we have great educational and artistic opportunities with outstanding community support.</p>
<p>it's an awesome walkable/bikeable city with a ton of outdoor activities available, and a outstanding amount of cultural diversity around every corner!</p>
<p>it is family friendly. The schools are terrific, the library is excellent, there are many activities for children, and the city is safe.</p>
<p>Land use decisions and open space acquisitions made years ago--height limit, blue line, Pearl St mall, open spaces, bike paths. The general willingness to try new things.</p>
<p>it's the wealthiest, whitest city I've ever lived in and it actively puts down the poor to make our city a more valuable investment for people like me that own a home. The city also does a great job of arresting the homeless and getting them out of sight rather than actually putting our tax dollars towards trying to help the filthy scum bags.</p>
<p>of the copious amount of outdoor space that is easy to get to and welcoming to all levels of activity.</p>
<p>of the green space surrounding it making its residents healthy and happy. It is also great because of the easy to understand bus transit system.</p>
<p>when leaders listen to all and don't force ideas that serve one or two groups on the rest of the citizenry.</p>
<p>Green space, environmentally minded community, easy to access local organic produce/fruit/meat/cheese, farmers market, walking trails, bike culture, and the many Buddhist Sangha's that have a community here.</p>
<p>We have great weather, a healthy economy, and a human-scale city. Our city and mountain parks as well as the large amount of protected open space are what make Boulder such a wonderful place to live.</p>
<p>Boulder is NOT great and the bias of this question is symptomatic of why. It's a racist, classist community.</p>
<p>Of a superior habitable climate, professional and technological economic base, health oriented population.</p>
<p>A beautiful location with a few Universities, open space, great recreation centers and an outside that is accessible almost 365 days a year.</p>
<p>the housing is unaffordable for those who can't afford it. this is the natural reflection of the open space program and other limiting factors</p>
<p>Its proximity to the foothills. Its open space. Its size. Years ago, I would have said it's economic, social, and cultural diversity, but sadly, I can no longer say that :-).</p>
<p>It's in a beautiful setting and commuting to work is reasonable if you can afford to live here.</p>
<p>It recognizes the need to address human causes of climate change and pollution while encouraging healthy, active lifestyles.</p>
<p>Natural beauty, open space, bike paths, walkability, good quality of life, academic hub: CU, Naropa,</p>

etc.
Because Boulder is a manageable size with great amenities. Unfortunately it is becoming more congested everyday and soon will become unmanageable despite the best efforts of everyone to make this a bike/walk community. The reality is this is the West and the West uses cars; especially in lieu of a subway/lightrail or adequate transportation system.
It sits beneath some of the most magical mountains I've ever had the pleasure of exploring, a population of people who love those mountains, and officials who care about preserving that magic.
Open space and multi-use paths. It's a great disappointment that we have shifted our resources away from additional open space acquisition and toward "maintenance" - a development-friendly canard. I say we should stop purchasing open space lands the very second that development stops - and not before.
We have great schools and lots of open space for enjoying Nature. Between now and 2030, we need to focus on much better public transportation.
Of the lovely views of the Flatirons, what used to be shorter buildings, good weather, access to open space, what used to be fairly unclogged roads
Boulder has the Flatirons, Pearl Street Mall, a beautiful Library with free events (Canyon Theater), yet it's 30 minutes from Denver.
its has an active and progressive electorate who have adopted initiatives over the last 57 years to protect its environment, unique character, view corridors, open space and tax base, so as to preserve its various amenities for future generations.
It's close to nature and a small town. It's not urban and crowded like San Francisco or New York. It has amazing views, and wildlife. It has CU and a world class science and research reputation - Tom Chech, NCAR, NIST, LASP etc. It 's close enough to take advantage of what Denver has to offer without having to become Denver.
Natural resources (mountains, open space), livability* (easy place to walk, bike, drive), preservation of historic architecture (and lack of building heights to block views), people and happenings. * Declining due to over crowdedness.
1. We have community radio station KGNU. 2. We have local food at Farmers market and from CSAs and some restaurants. 3. We recognize the importance of stopping global warming.
Boulder is full of life and culture. The transportation system makes all the great aspects of Boulder easily accessible to all. There is a great sense of community because citizens take pride in where they live. As a result, the community is clean, active, and engaging.
The well planned city with all the bike paths; the clean and beautiful downtown where great restaurants can be found; the balance of liberal individuality mixed with education and sophistication; and the amazing rock climbing and proximity to the mountains. Nature is never far away here!
Community leaders instituted programs like the BCCP and BVCP, our open space programs, the Blue Line and the height limitation.
it has a wonderful, largely unspoiled setting, a great university, and many excellent employment opportunities.
Its not sprawl . 15-20 minute ride from just about anywhere in town in any direction can get you to open space.
Of the mixture of natural outdoor beauty, the University of Colorado, and the built environment.
of great access to trails; good public schools, decent public transportation, bike paths, Pearl St., restaurants, kid friendly,
It has strong environmental values, beautiful lands, a good bike and transit network, and lots of economic opportunity.

<p>I thin Boulder is great because of the unique combo of the CU campus and the college town, plus you have the Flatirons. Finally you have a very diverse population with the residents of boulder as well as the student population who come from around the country.</p>
<p>It is has been Progressive, Innovative, Beautiful, Dynamic. Not always given into money, growth, development or business interests. Supportive of 'alternative' options, including mobility. Proactive in environmental issues, locally and globally. Quick, easy access and views to open space, including for recreation.</p>
<p>There is a wide variety of people, cultures, and lifestyles that can provide unique interactions and experiences. This also helps to create unique places in Boulder that I have not found anywhere else.</p>
<p>Mountain parks and open space with good trails. Walkable neighborhoods with good sidewalks and lots of trees. Beautiful views, with limits on building heights to allow views from all parts of the city. Good musical and theater performances at the university, Chautauqua, and the Dairy Center. Wide variety of good restaurants. Good shopping options (but not in lower price range). Excellent public library (in beautiful building). Good bus service. Open and transparent city government that has not been tainted by corruption! City government that listens and responds positively to public input.</p>
<p>Intellectually super vibrant with so many wonderful folks Very environmentally progressive Pretty bikable Great trails, open space</p>
<p>Boulder is great for so many reasons. For starters we are committed to alternative forms of transportation and energy. We have great amenities that allow our citizen to be outdoors and active. Finally, we a a town of roughly 100,000 people, yet we have the amenities of many larger cities. Our transportation, restaurants/entertainment, and recreation are all top notch.</p>
<p>it's beautiful, politically progressive, and environmentally proactive, has great restaurants, is bike-able, has an educated populus, summer music, responsive public services, decent architecture.</p>
<p>I'm not sure Boulder is so great...it used to be so much better when we had a balanced community....the wealthy, middle class and the poor. Now we have the wealthy and the poor. Boulder used to be a little more expensive to live. Now it is outrageous. Boulder caters to the wealthy, the athletes and the cyclists. Boulder has started dictating life style of it's residents. I have lived here a very long time and I want to leave when I die, but will I be forced out earlier because I cannot afford my property taxes?</p>
<p>Boulder is great because: our leadership has set aside open space property both for trails and wilderness and for local organic food growers to produce fresh and wholesome food that does not require long-distance shipping. Boulder is great because we are leaders in sustainability, reducing pesticide use and carbon emissions. Boulder is great because it is a beautiful place full of wonderful, caring people.</p>
<p>Boulder used to be great because our elected officials had foresight and were environmentally concerned. Let's hope this can be changed back to the present tense.</p>
<p>it's a beautiful thriving city with a great mix of activities both in town and in the nearby wilderness. Hiking and mountain biking are two of my favorite activities. It's also great because of its support for bicyclists.</p>
<p>-small town feel with lots of open spaces -access to rec centers and other amenities -great schools</p>
<p>In my experience, what makes Boulder great is that people are happy here. And what makes them happy is 1) feeling part of a vibrant and positive community - inclusive; and 2) the natural setting and environment inspires awe, respect, and love for nature and its healing powers on us.</p>
<p>We have one small elitist group PLAN-Boulder, 1/3rd of 1% of Boulder's population, that has made every major decisions for the past 40+ years. They get all the credit and blame for everything.</p>
<p>Boulder is great because not only are the people friendly and inclusive, they care about their personal wellbeing as well as the wellbeing of the Earth.</p>

<p>... it has a great size and scale in a fabulous geographical location. Many good decisions have been made by its residents throughout its history and it is poised to play a leadership role in a growing, vibrant and ultimately Los Angeles-sized urban region.</p>
<p>Used to be great because: - You could easily bike, scooter or drive around town for errands, shopping, dining, hiking, church or meeting friends; - People had a friendly, easy-going manner and were from a variety of socioeconomic backgrounds. No one judged one another for not being politically correct; - Nice "balance" of business, visitor, student and residents; - Beautiful vistas every where you looked, anytime of year, when you were downtown; - It was a harmonious environment that seemed unpretentious and unassuming - and maybe a little weird, in a cool way; - People drove or rode bikes courteously and there was a possibility of finding parking somewhere downtown, should you choose to go there.</p>
<p>The incredible environment we are surrounded by (like all the natural green space as well as the Flatirons) and the lively, rich, and beautiful culture within this city (Boulder's unique character).</p>
<p>of its location in Colorado and the U.S. Having a great university and a number of government employers helps. It's open space is also a plus.</p>
<p>Quality of life in the Boulder Valley remains high, but recent development has not been well managed by the City and County, and many neighborhoods currently risk degradation.</p>
<p>It is progressive and believes private enterprise and government can coexist to the benefit of both.</p>
<p>Increasingly diversified community (though not as racially and ethnically as I'd like). There's been a huge infusion of entrepreneurial people with bold ideas and different ways of solving big issues. Not to mention the beautiful surroundings and high quality of life which are certainly hard to match most anywhere in the continental U.S.</p>
<p>there is an incredibly great quality of life here ... the climate, the land we share, the educational institutions, the spirit, and much more</p>
<p>The one-of-a-kind open space program, which also literally helps to provide an interconnected community with trails and genuine nature experiences in an ecotone. The views are incomparable. Everyone shares this special, 'backyard'. The size is just right and, after travelling for work and pleasure all over the U.S. and abroad, I do not know of another place that shares the way that Boulder does, either. The friendly and charitable spirit is prevalent. Additionally, the variety of intellectual, cultural and recreational activities and opportunities. Boulder IS a progressive example of 'Think Globally, Act Locally.'</p>
<p>Boulder *HAS* been great because it preserved the feel of a human-sized community via housing density, height limitations, and, in some parts of the city, the feel of neighborhoods.</p>
<p>Past citizen initiatives like the height limit, slow growth, blue line and open space, These have protected Boulder from over growing.</p>
<p>we have tremendous access to the outdoors and outdoor activities: miles of bike paths, bike lanes, open space, trails that are well-conceived and -maintained by the city/county.</p>
<p>the individuals, businesses, schools and non-profits have a sense of community and dedication to making Boulder a better place.</p>
<p>It's a lovely setting and climate, with an unusually well-educated and talented population -- at least some of whom realize Boulder was a special place even before they arrived.</p>
<p>The old consumer/automobile paradigm is fading and a new one is replacing it, we await its emergence, and Boulder is helping shape what the emerging future is going to look like.</p>
<p>The small town atmosphere, with local shops and friendly people. Also because we limit the amount buildings with the green belt it helps to make it feel like a small city that isn't over run with people.</p>
<p>Boulder is surrounded by beautiful open space, has hiking trails, biking trails and walking destinations</p>

and a farmers market
It is well planned city with a good balance of growth and preservation of the outdoors. The bike routes throughout the town is awesome. Downtime is awesome. Boulder doesn't have endless strip malls :).
There are so many opportunities here, and such a diverse community. The mix of people and their backgrounds is thriving, and even though it's such a big college town, the rest of Boulder creates a modge-podge of age and diversity.
It's physically beautiful and full of smart, engaged, passionate people who care about quality of life.
of the 1970's citizen initiatives that were put in place to preserve the view of the mountains anywhere in the city, the controlled growth, and the Boulder Culture of a small town feel in a city plan.
I love the trails, the open space, the beauty and the environmental sustainability measures that are in place.
Gorgeous mountain vistas, small town feel, educated, engaged community. Family-friendly city where you can still let your kids walk to school. A sense of respect for the planet and her resources.
previous residents of Boulder had the foresight to preserve and exercise restraint in developing this region. Because of our open space. Because of our setting, nestled in the Flatirons. Because of our great outdoors.
it's very clean, the bike paths encourage fitness and make it easy to ditch the car. Boulder's infrastructure, bike paths, and eGo CarShare have made it possible for my husband and I to live carless for over 7 years. We love that Boulder is so dog-friendly, since having a dog enhances our well-being and being able to bring her places means she's alone less, socialized well, and healthier. Most of all, I love Boulder's commitment to reducing smoking in public areas, like the Mall and city parks downtown. And Boulder's dedication to preserving its open space is beyond reproach.
It's location and beautiful open space. It has until recently had a small town feel which has been very attractive to myself and many others. As I watch what is transpiring,I have great concern we will loose the small town feel. I don't believe our infrastructure was set up for such an urban sprawl. The roads are getting increasingly crowded, roads in the county are not being maintained in an adequate manner,housing is going up anywhere there is open space -that I was under the impression was land not to be bought up by those who have a lot of money and can sway the county and city officials to break land agreements. It greatly frustrates me to see much of the beautiful open spaced be bought up and built on and see roads and housing divisions that are pre-existed not maintained. I am afraid this future vision is destroying what so many people and families have come here to enjoy...open space, quiet,security, and beauty . The more populated the more crime. The more crime the lower the value of peoples homes. I encourage the upkeep of existing infrastructures, maintaining a small town feel and keeping our open space open . I am truly against all the building and the assumption that if you want to build something you just"ANEX" what you want to take for land. I don't appreciate the illusion that the city officials care what the community thinks and has a plan and agenda to do what you want anyway regardless of the communities input. I have loved living and working in this community but really feel concerned about where the city leaders are taking us.
Developed bicycle network. A lot of areas are easy and safe to walk around. Boulder also has a very good bus system for a city it's size. The town has a number of unique businesses.
Concentration of creative, entrepreneurial talent and energy. Open Space. Educated, conscientious citizenry. Emphasis on lifestyle values. Location.
We are a friendly, safe community. The bike paths are clean and easy to use. Our rec centers, libraries, and parks are well-maintained and welcoming. We have a focus on whole-body health and well-being for our residents.
Of it's location to the Flatirons, the small town feel and the various open space and parks. As a 22 year resident, it feels like Boulder is changing very fast lately. I wish there wasn't so much development.
Of the Flatirons and the beautiful mountain surrounding. Of Boulder Creek and the nice creek path for

walking and biking. Of the commitment to open space and the many trails that people can easily use. Of the 55 and 35 ft building height limits which keeps the city looking like a town while preserving the views of the mountains. Of the recreation centers where citizens of all ages can exercise and have fun. Of the enlighten leaders over many years who initiated our open space program, the blue line to prevent development on our beautiful mountains. Of Chautauqua Park and the summer music program there and also our outstanding symphony orchestra and its conductor, Michael Butterman.. Of the historic preservation efforts in the city that have helped us preserve historic homes and buildings from destruction and our amazing History Library on Pine and our new History Museum on the corner of Pine and Broadway. Of the many bike and pedestrian paths throughout the city and into the county. Of attempts to keep citizens safe while crossing our streets, especially the light flashing crosswalks. Of, last but not least, our police, fire, and mountain rescue people who do everything in their power to help our citizens and the guests to our town.

Boulder is a place where we can seriously explore how to live sustainably on every level. That means great education on all levels, great place for kids, great awareness of what it means to be healthy in body mind and soul. Great local healthy food - great connection to our environment, open space, great place to bike everywhere, public transport, lots of local events, energy independence, local organic farms pushing the envelope of sustainable farming, innovation on every level. support for new ideas, business development help...

Boulder is a vibrant community that has incredible open space, superb views, and lots of activities to do around town. The community is greatly involved in the happenings around town, and it is a generally happy, healthy place to live.

I don't think it's that great anymore. I used to love it. Now it's a huge hassle to do anything here.

It is a genuinely nice place to be. It's pretty, it's easy to get around, there are plenty of places to go and thing to do.

Of the lifestyle(s) me and my fellow citizens are afforded to live. I feel safe in Boulder. As a student, an athlete, and an outdoor-minded individual, I feel valued in Boulder. I feel good about telling people that I live in Boulder. Boulder is progressive. Boulder is healthy!

Boulder is great because it has a setting that houses a unique identity. It is historically relevant, culturally rich and diverse, and physically beautiful.