



Just imagine what it could become

Improving Our Park

Over half of the 27 acres – and the heart -- of the Civic Area is Civic and Central parks with Boulder Creek flowing through, a green spine that unifies spaces and provides natural beauty, ecological richness, shade, recreation, art and places to gather. Park amenities and activities, such as kiosks, food and seating, lighting, and cohesive signage will be added throughout for a consistent look and feel, and green space will expand through the relocation of parking and structures from the High Hazard Zone (HHZ) to other places. Adjacent buildings will create “eyes on the park” and make the area feel more inclusive, safe and family-friendly.

CENTRAL PARK

Music – Performances – Market:

Central Park currently accommodates the historic bandshell and several majestic State Champion trees, and also provides grassy seating for the Farmers’ Market. Bandshell programming will be intensified, with, for example, summer youth drama camp, open mic night and puppet theater. The Farmers’ Market will expand into the park, with additional vendor and/or performer space and new paving and picnic tables. The bandshell may be relocated later to improve its functionality and accommodate enhancements along Canyon Boulevard. In its place could be a new park pavilion, such as a horticultural conservatory, or year-round market hall.



THE CREEK

Splash – Contemplate – Float:

Boulder Creek will continue to be a focal point and unifying element running through the park. The creek will be enhanced by creating opportunities for access, designing viewpoints along the side, maintaining the riparian planting, and varying the shoreline treatment with vegetation in some areas and terraced rock shores in others.



NATURE IN THE CITY

Nature – Play – Water:

Civic Park south of the creek will be a soft, naturalistic, shady refuge that relates to the library and Boulder Creek will be designed with children and families in mind. Features may include a nature play tot lot, a children’s reading garden, a water play sculpture, intimate picnic and seating areas among shade trees and along the creek, and themed gardens, such as edible, shade or xeric/low water.



CIVIC FRONT DOOR

Eat – Relax – Gather:

Civic Park north of the creek will remain an open, sunny space, with today’s Great Lawn for gathering and unstructured sport, but also newly activated with outdoor dining, musical and dance performances, yoga and exercise classes, and other events, such as “Picnic in the Park.” Seating for a new library café will spill out onto adjacent terraces. Food trucks and carts will add culinary diversity, while folks enjoy live music and games, like ping-pong and chess, and browse demonstration gardens and sculpture displays.

