



Children & Youth's Perspective



Growing Up Boulder's Work with Children and Youth to Gather Ideas for the Civic Area Re-design

Summary of Youth Recommendations (all ages combined):

Nature Play

Interaction with the Creek
Climbing Trees
Treehouses

Arts & Cultural Expressions

Interactive art displays
Sculptures
World flags
Quotes and poems on path in different languages
Inspirational chalkboard wall

Outdoor Libraries & Learning Spaces

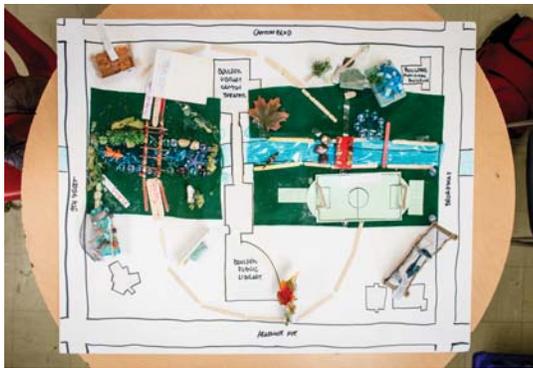
Outdoor lending library
treehouse with book nook and bean bags
sheltered spaces for protections from sun and rain
Hangout spaces
Greenhouse with books about nature

Active Play

Small skateboard park
Space for pick-up games
Parkour course
Slacklines
Climbable animal structures

Affordable & Diverse Food Options

Food trucks
Picnic tables
Coffee shops
Food stands
Shaded seating areas



"More places to go down closer to the creek. We liked a place with lots of rocks where someone could go almost in the middle of the creek. We'd like the idea of being able to cross it more informally."

-High School Student



Summary of the Results (by age group):

Elementary school students expressed their desire to interact with nature through treehouses, zip lines, boat building stations, underground creek viewing tunnels and climbable animal structures. One 8 year old particularly highlighted the importance of nature in the Civic Area. Her niche box was populated with wild animals and a simple mirror. When we asked what the mirror represented, she said, "me and nature."

Middle school students began with a focus on ecological learning and exploration; however, their ideas and recommendations expanded to include spaces for active play, water interaction, and a sanitation station for the homeless. The homeless sanitation station was a reaction to the large transient population within the area and recognition that the area lacked basic services for this population. Other recommendations expanded to include spaces for active play and water interaction. Active play areas included slack-lines and small skate parks, while water interaction was represented with sandy beach-like areas near the creek, water fountains, slides for tubing and bridges with monkey bars below them.

High school students discussed affordable food options because there are currently limited affordable food options within walking distance of their school. Access to food and hangout spaces were integrated, with recommendations for food trucks, food stands, picnic tables and covered seating. The flexible green space would provide opportunities for activities such as soccer or summer movie nights. Secondary students also made clear that they wanted play areas for all ages, including themselves. In their