

Key Takeaways:

- This survey was conducted online in April 26-May 15, 2020.
- There were **522 completed responses** to this survey.
- Survey participants were asked to view a project video (1,131 unique views with an average view duration of over seven minutes) and interactive map concept plans (1,533 unique views) for more information about the project and plan concepts.
- Of those who watched the project video, 63% were between ages 35-44 and 36% between ages 45-54.
- A high level of satisfaction for all three park visions was expressed in multiple choice questions, with **Acacia Park receiving 81% satisfaction rate, Alamo Park receiving 83% satisfaction rate, and Antlers 78% satisfaction rate.**
- **887 individual write-in responses** were received to the four open-ended survey questions. To the open-ended questions, many responses were **design related**. The following themes representing the majority of concerns: people experiencing homelessness, budget and COVID-19 crisis, **safety**, concern for more focus on passive/traditional forms of recreation, tree preservation, and band shell future.
- Participants were **geographically well-distributed**, representing residents in all quadrants of the city—with most respondents living Downtown or in the Northeast. Satisfaction for the master plan was similar despite where the respondent lived.
- All age demographic groups were well represented other than youth under 18 years old (only one respondent) and there was slightly more participation by those aged 18-29.
- For **Acacia Park** and **Antlers Park**, the 50-59 age demographic showed the most dissatisfaction with the design.
- For **Alamo Square Park**, no respondents aged 30-39 were dissatisfied with the design to any degree.
- **Despite over 1,500 people engaged at in the park events, only 3% of the respondents of this survey attended those events.** In fact, nearly 50% of the respondents to this survey had not been previously engaged before. It will be crucial to use information from prior surveys and especially the in-person events where park users and youth were targeted in order to reflect the amount of transformation and type of features in these parks.

How to Use this Report:

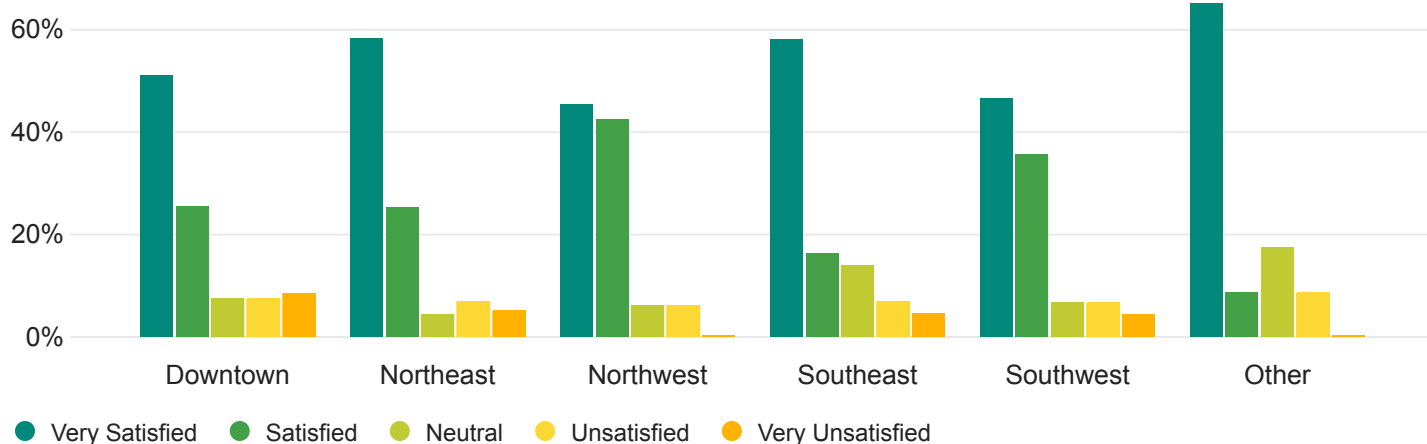
- This report is in the order that the survey was provided in online for the public.
- Certain crosstabs, or filters, were used to highlight particular findings.
- All write-in answers can be found at the end of the report. 887 individual write-in responses were provided to the four open-ended survey questions. These have been sorted by "design related, operations suggestion, positive, neutral, or negative" response by survey technicians for ease of summary review (category was not selected by the survey respondents).

#1) Knowing that there will be design refinements in the future, how do you feel about this vision for **Acacia Park** preferred alternative plan?



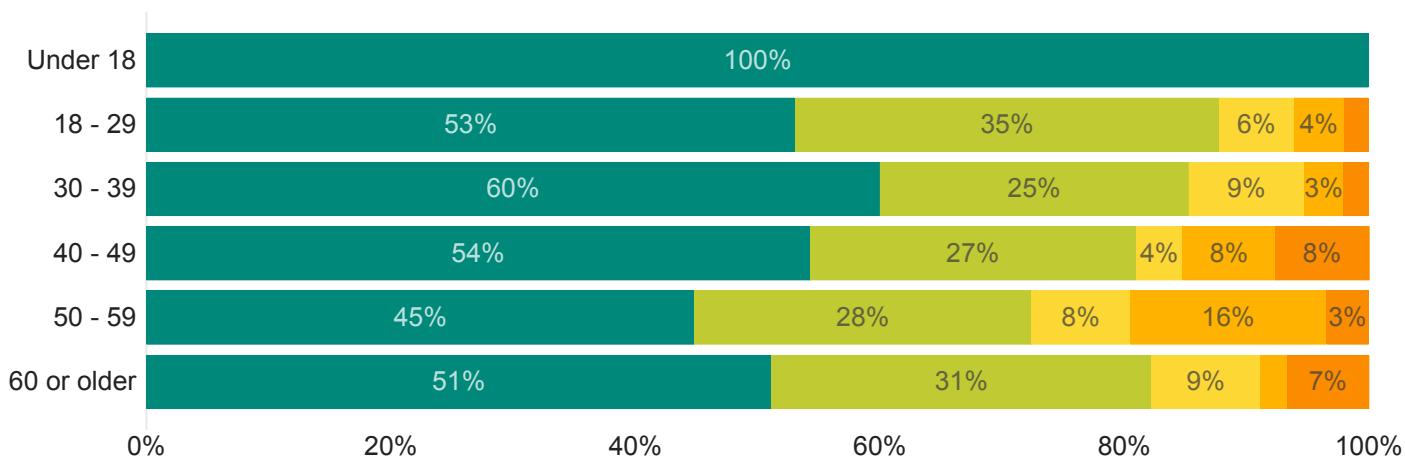
● Very Unsatisfied [5%] ● Unsatisfied [7%] ● Neutral [8%] ● Satisfied [29%] ● Very Satisfied [52%]

#1) (Responses shown by residence area) Knowing that there will be design refinements in the future, how do you feel about this vision for **Acacia Park** preferred alternative plan?



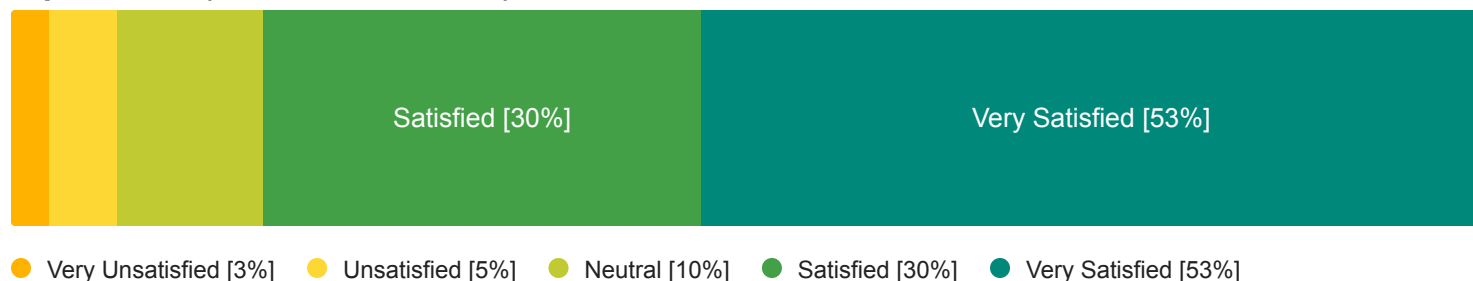
● Very Satisfied ● Satisfied ● Neutral ● Unsatisfied ● Very Unsatisfied

#1) (Responses shown by age) Knowing that there will be design refinements in the future, how do you feel about this vision for **Acacia Park** preferred alternative plan?

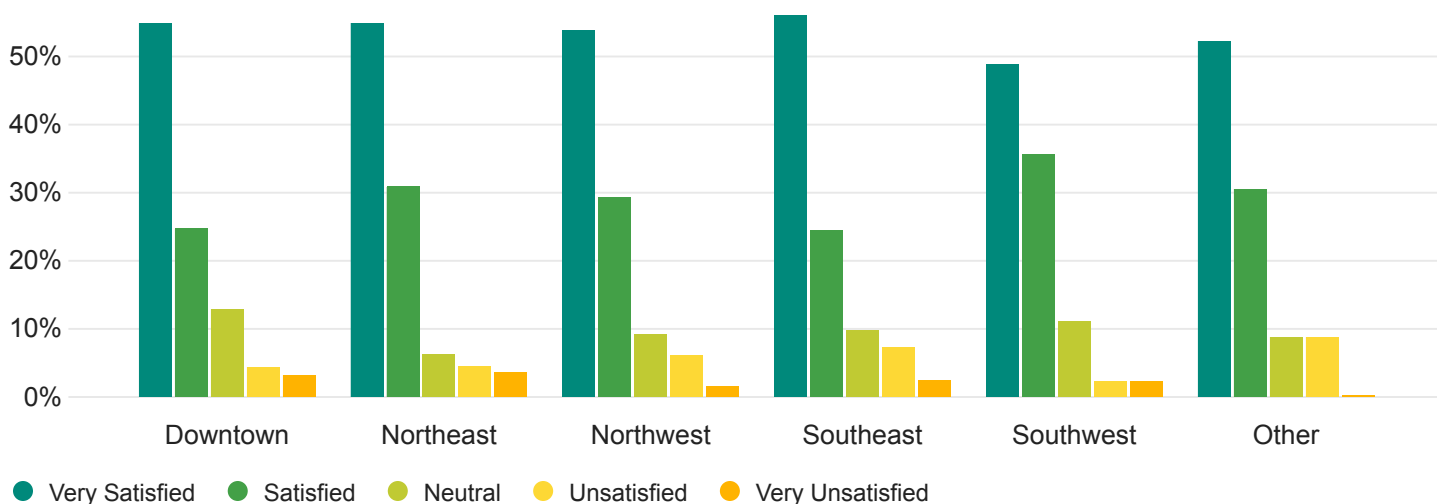


● Very Satisfied ● Satisfied ● Neutral ● Unsatisfied ● Very Unsatisfied

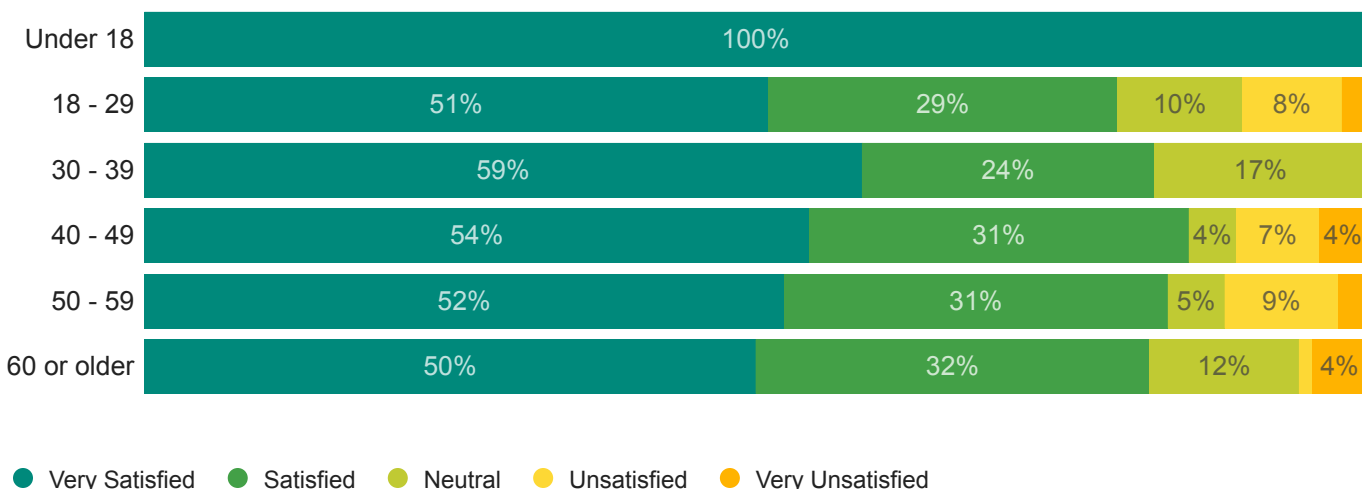
#3) Knowing that there will be refinements in the future, how do you feel about this vision for **Alamo Square Park** preferred alternative plan?



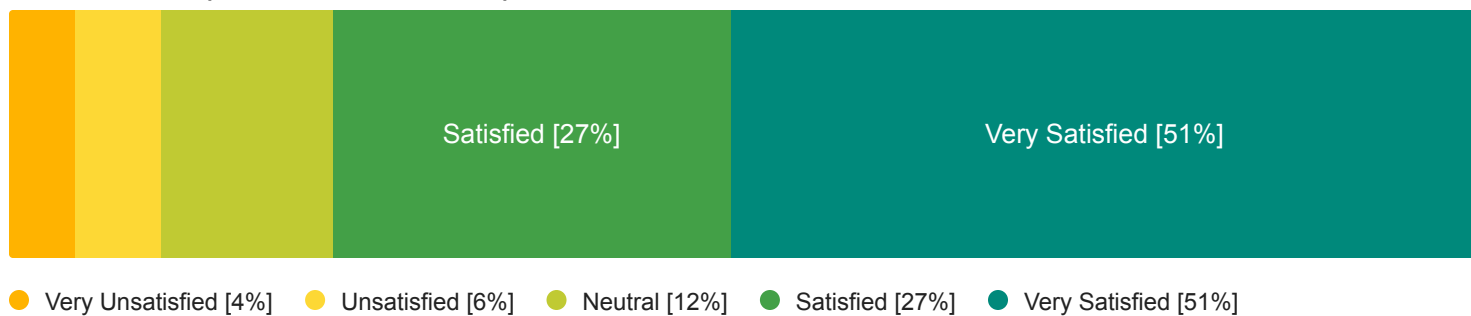
#3) (Responses shown by residence area) Knowing that there will be refinements in the future, how do you feel about this vision for **Alamo Square Park** preferred alternative plan?



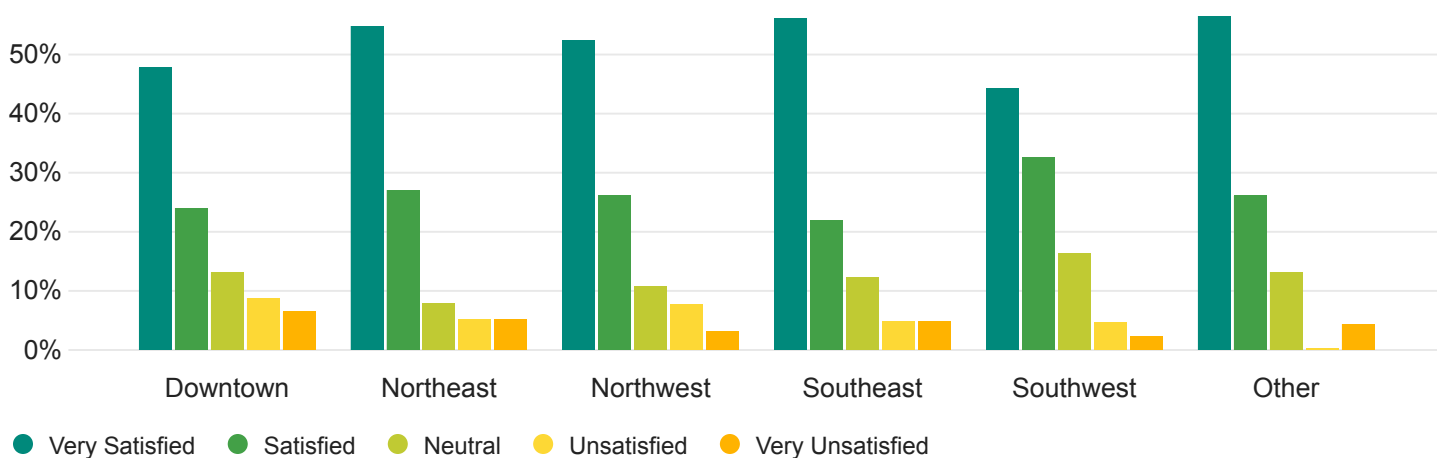
#3) (Responses shown by age) Knowing that there will be refinements in the future, how do you feel about this vision for **Alamo Square Park** preferred alternative plan?



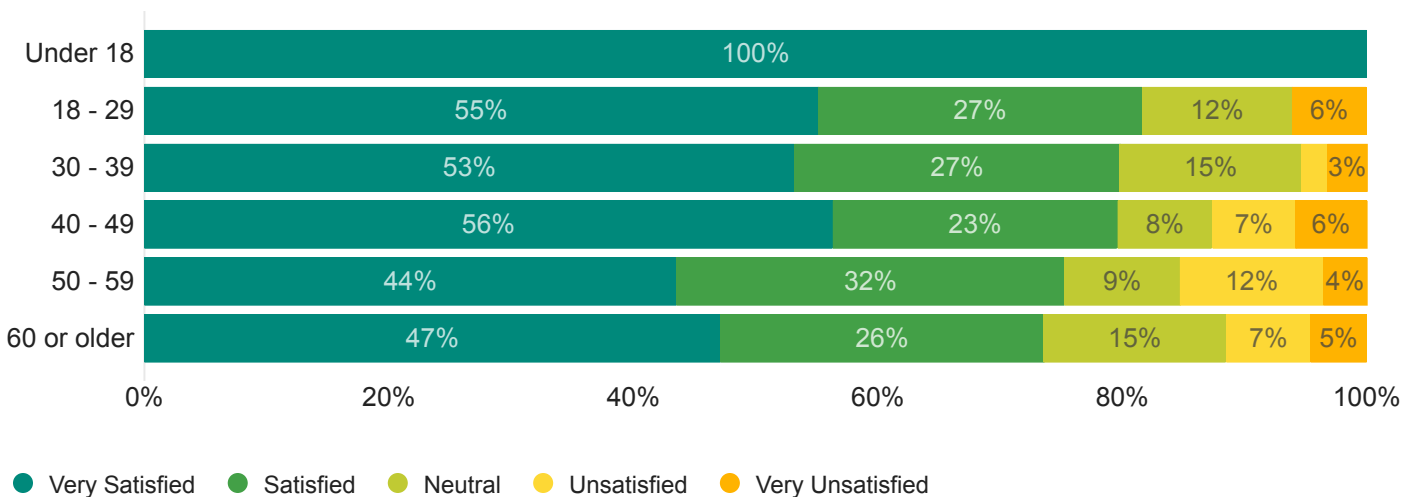
#5) Knowing that there will be design refinement in the future, how do you feel about this vision for **Antlers Park** preferred alternative plan?



#5) (Responses shown by residence area) Knowing that there will be design refinement in the future, how do you feel about this vision for **Antlers Park** preferred alternative plan?



#5)(Responses shown by age) Knowing that there will be design refinement in the future, how do you feel about this vision for **Antlers Park** preferred alternative plan?



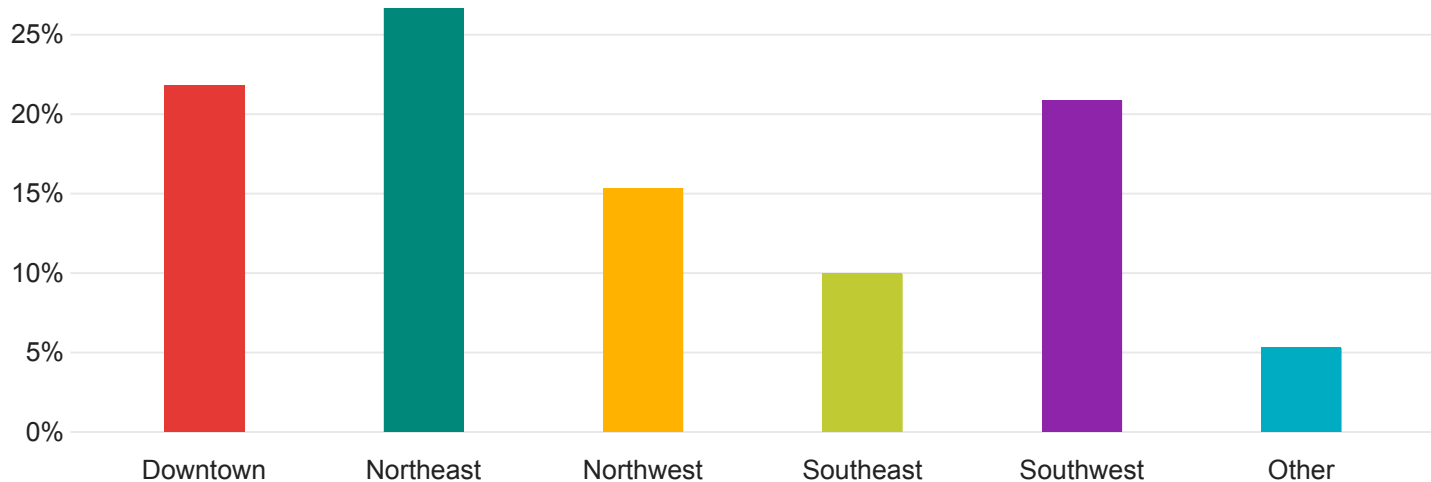
#8) What is your relationship to Antlers, Acacia and/or Alamo Square Parks (select all that apply)?

| Field | I spend time in these parks | I work nearby | I live nearby | I or someone in my family attends school nearby | I own a business nearby | I own/manage property nearby | I Colorado Springs resident | Other |
|--|-----------------------------|---------------|---------------|---|-------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|-------|
| Relationship (COUNT) | 282 | 133 | 136 | 28 | 23 | 29 | 364 | 35 |
| Relationship (PERCENTAGE OF ALL CHOICES) | 27% | 13% | 13% | 3% | 2% | 3% | 35% | 3% |

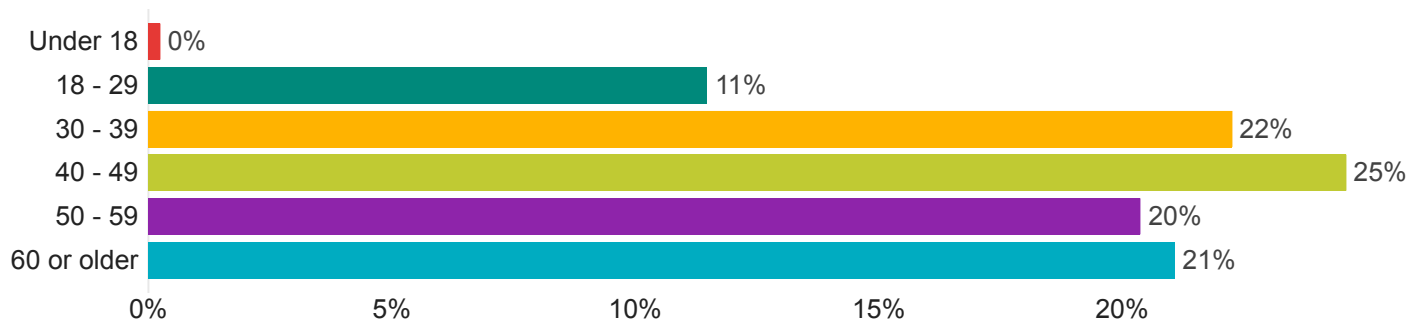
#9) Have you previously participated in this Master Plan process (select all that apply)?

| Field | No | Focus Group Meetings | In-park event input | Online survey #1 (park feature ideas) | Online survey #2 (alternative designs) | Public meeting | One-on-one or small group engagement | Project committee member | Other |
|---|-----|----------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------------|--|----------------|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| Participation (COUNT) | 276 | 23 | 20 | 106 | 73 | 56 | 11 | 3 | 15 |
| Participation (PERCENTAGE OF ALL CHOICES) | 47% | 4% | 3% | 18% | 13% | 10% | 2% | 1% | 3% |

#10) Where do you live?



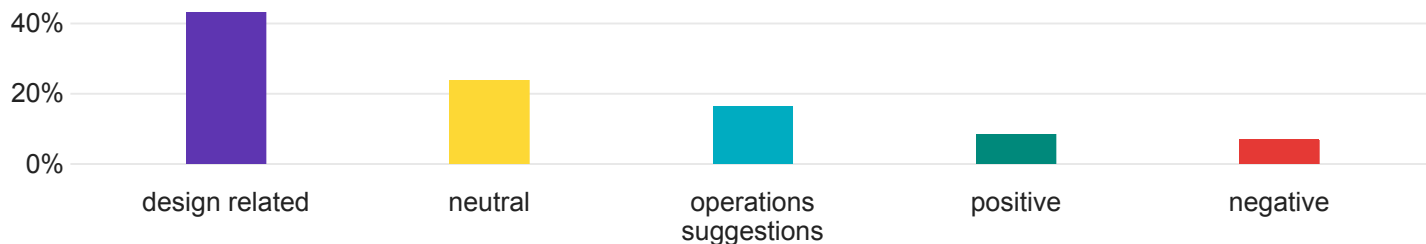
#11) What is your age?



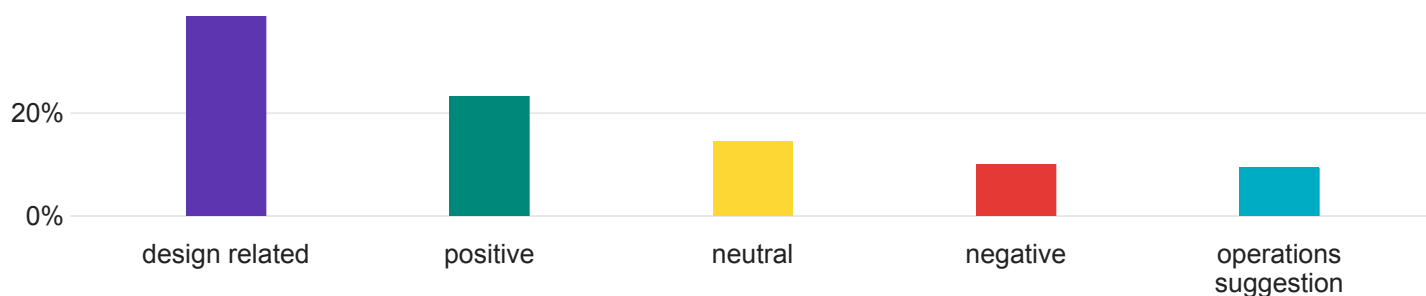
Only 1 respondent to this survey was under the age of 18 and therefore this shows as 0%.

Open ended responses to "what else should we know before moving forward with the Master Plan" were coded. These are the percentage of responses in each theme.

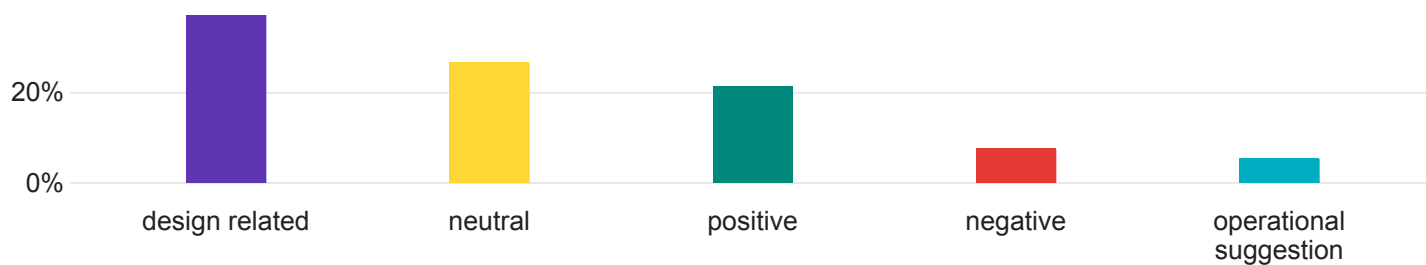
#2) Acacia Park



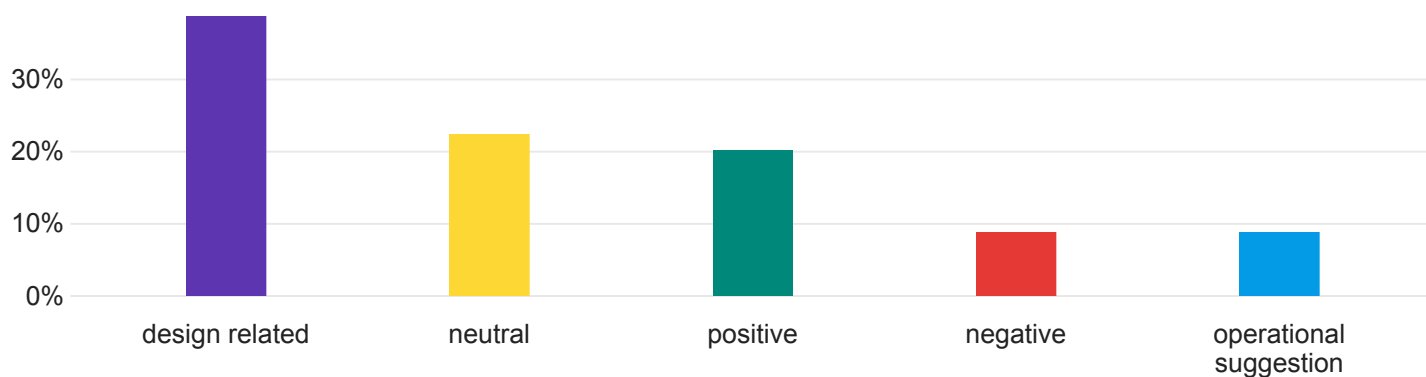
#4) Alamo Square Park



#6) Antlers Park



#7) Any additional support, ideas, or concerns for the three parks?



#2) What other information should we consider before moving forward on Acacia Park Master Plan?

Please build this as quickly as possible, our parks system needs improvements especially in light of social distancing. These rehabilitated parks are sorely needed.

As funding will be challenging, give the community the opportunity to support this project with challenge grants, crowd-funding etc much as has been done with the new Summit House. People are excited about this, it's the community's park as opposed to a neighborhood park and I think they will get behind it. Just ask!

I really like the inclusion of Story Coffee Company and playgrounds.

Please continue this concept of providing a welcoming environment. It's exactly what we need to be doing to maintain the quality of our parks and promote a sense of community and togetherness.

Looks great, thanks for your hard work on this!

Really well thought out design!

I like it a lot. I think it would be cool if the tables were solar powered or had green roofs!

The summer skate rink is important! The cottonwood rink is always too busy. We play bike polo every week and often have to wait in line.

love it all!!

Space and access for farmers markets and other group/community activities

I love it. As a neighbor to this park, I'm very excited for it to be transformed into a space where I want to hang out.

maybe add putt putt golf, LOVE increasing use of the stage

Really hoping that the ice rink is available during the summer such as, bike polo, hockey and futsal.

Your team has done a GREAT job drafting a master plan that will add so much cooperative activity in this park. Many times when regular users of a park see events going on they get upset. This plan allows people with different activity desires to use the park at the same time. It feels active, safe and intentional. Thanks for your awesome placemaking work! Im very excited to use this park.

Love a permanent ice rink and the food stalls. Ensure that they are curated as to compliment, not compete, with downtown restaurants

I think the inclusion of the in large skating rink is a wonderful concept for our city. I hope we could find the funds to build this.

Thank you for adding a play structure area for children - we enjoy this park but having that will increase our enjoyment. I am not sure if I missed it but having water bottle refill drinking fountains at all the parks would be excellent.

I think the new design provides both natural and functional elements that will attract people to the park. I would keep the seating areas as natural as possible, to give the feeling of spending time in nature. I frequently buy coffee from Story Coffee Co., but I never stay in the park to drink my coffee because it is just not that appealing. I'm sure that will change after the project is complete!

The permanent hockey rink is an amazing asset to put in the park - when it's not being used in the winter time for ice skating, a huge variety of sports can take place here, including bike polo tournaments and competitions!

It looks nice. I don't currently bring my family to Acacia park because I feel uncomfortable and unsafe spending time with my family in this park.

The design looks fabulous. My only concern is that homeless people will take over the park making it unsafe and inhospitable to be there

Make the ice rink permanent, and transform it to another use during non-winter months. Too much wasted time, materials and money putting it up and taking it down every year.

I think you are gathering the needed inputs from both citizens and downtown businesses.

Could additional seating options attract more homeless, and with the addition of concessions, what's the plan for trash?

Safe and clean restrooms

Lower or no parking fees for locals!! You raised the rates too much and for too long each day! No one is going to come hang out at parks when it's \$2+an hour!!

Volunteer opportunities

Have you consulted with the staff & students at Palmer High School as to the impact for them? Many visit and patron the downtown restaurants and eateries. Will the transformation affect their ability to get to and from business during lunch time without being late. When construction begins - will it be too loud for the classrooms?

A solid operational plan

Please make it so it feels safe! Many homeless people congregate there and while the park should be open to them, it should be well lit and not encourage them.

how will all of these elements be maintained after they are built, it seems like there is a lot going on.

Park Security is critical, tolerance of Loitering and various Personal Conflicts such as Panhandling, Drug Deals and using the Park as a Residence (Shopping Carts) will deter the enjoyment of the "New Acacia" Park experience.

This will not work with the amount of transients we have in the park currently. What is your plan to remove them to make this safe and inviting?

DuchBros Coffee stand.

To me, the most important aspect is park activation. Give people a reason to be at park at all times of the day and year.

How are Palmer HS student having access to the park during the day?

I'd be worried the ice skating rink wouldn't be maintained and would be an eye sore after some time. Wouldn't want it looking like the rink at cottonwood creek park

Let us know ETA for completion & grand re-opening; hope re-design will happen in phases so parts of park remain accessible.

There is no PikeRide station in this plan. This park would be a wonderful destination and would possibly see more use as a station would make it more accessible. Additionally, it's unclear to me how it will be more safe than it currently is. Although I do think that if more people are using the park it will be seen as safer, so making it more user friendly is probably the best for this particular park.

Provide a safe place for the homeless population to be served by the community. Partner with downtown churches to feed the hungry in this place.

Let's face it the usage by the "homeless" population creates a "distraction" and a unsafe feeling towards usage in Acacia Park, it needs to be controlled better with more park staff and or police presence! It's too bad you can't make that area, CAR FREE as it would make it more inviting for safe family usage!

There is no PikeRide location in this park. Please ensure station remains on the south side of the park. Thanks.

Please include information on how homeless encampments will be discouraged or removed

Lighting and cleanliness

I think the design is great, but the homeless population loves to camp out in this park and make it feel unsafe. Something will need to be done to improve security and safety, otherwise the park will go unused.

The absolute number one priority for improving Acacia Park is to ensure that there are precisely zero homeless population at the Park at all times, including overnight. All the improvements in the world will not help if residents do not feel that the park is absolutely safe and clean. An increased police presence would help as well.

Security services available on premises M-F, during daytime hours

The ongoing expenses of an ice rink. Do the temporary ice rinks break even?

The design will be really lovely in 20+ years when reality catches up with the vision. For both versions, what is the plan for security and daily public use? Is the range of commercial venues in the center sufficient to make it welcoming for those beyond campers?

Have police presence to keep it from becoming a homeless hangout only.

How loitering is to be controlled. Public restroom use. How festival vendors are to load and unload.

Manage homeless population in this area. As a tax payer, I have never felt safe taking my family to use this park.

security, such as cameras or police foot patrol

Prune and manage existing trees before removal. "Future" susceptibility to insect invasion is insufficient grounds for removal. Shade provided by mature trees is so valuable during hot summer days.

Making the park smoke free. I don't like taking my children here because people openly smoke marijuana and cigarettes in the park. The park has attracted a lot of vagabonds and is very unenjoyable. None of that has been addressed with the new plan. Perhaps put a patrol shack in the park. Also more playground equipment. One structure doesn't seem like enough for the space.

Parking issues - inaccessibility due to lack of safe and affordable parking in the area

The security aspect of the park has not been addressed. How do you propose to keep drug dealers out of there?

I love the plan. Please make sure that there are dog waste stations (bags and trash cans) available around the park at entrances and exits! These seem to get forgotten and there are so many people with pets that use the park systems that if they can grab a bag and throw the poop away as they enter/exit the park, it would make it easier for people to pick up after their pets. :)

Consider some sort of solution for folks that don't pick up after their pets. Not everyone is a dog owner and many people are not good about cleaning up after their pets. Dog poo is a quick way to ruin a good park.

some type of help/info kiosk with personnel. In order for patrons to feel more safe, we need a presence to keep homeless and illegal activity at a minimum.

Bike Racks & bike share. Would really like to see some type of accommodations off of Tejon or Bijou Streets

I do not see a PikeRide bike share station anywhere which is important for downtown mobility, especially between the newly designed parks!

Area parking to support greater park usage

Parking

Cameras? To keep things looking cleaner than they are. I've lived here for almost 30 years and I've never felt safe at Acacia Park.

This is a great plan, but will be a waste of money if we cant figure out how to get the park to stop being a refuge for the homeless and panhandlers. You can put the entire citys budget into the park, but if its filled with unhealthy and dangerous people, no one is going to use it.

Public trash disposal locations. Trees that bear edible fruits for citizen consumption. Surveillance camera placement. Homeless encampment deterrents.

An ice rink requires a ticket office, skate rental counter (check-out and return), storage and maintenance space for ice resurfacing machine, retail sales area and office for manager. The existing HUB is not big enough and unable to provide adequate service to patrons. It is extremely difficult to operate such a popular venue with the existing space.

Lighting at night, updating Playground, to make sure it is still available to children living in the neighborhood.

The plan has been a hang out for drug dealer and the homeless population. Where will this population move given a new and revitalized park? I hope not to street corners around the park.

Dealing with homeless and their use of the park as a place to sleep and relieve themselves is an ongoing concern.

Address the homeless population

As much safety as possible. Concern for the homeless and other money seekers that gather while our children are just trying to play

Increasing affordable low-income housing sites throughout the area and city to reduce homelessness, which impacts all three downotwn parks. Developer incentives (carrots and sticks) likely must be enacted to force this necessary step forward.

Safety!

how are you going to keep the homeless away from here? I don't feel safe going here with my young kids, nor do I feel safe with my 9 year old being around them- the language, the mental issues, they scare him and their instability does not make any of us feel safe.

A better solution for the homeless population and a safe atmosphere for everyone.

homeless problem

how it will be impacted by homeless and bad actors; how well does it hold up to misuse vandalism

I am assuming there would be heightened security, I won't visit often after dusk due to the homeless population who always seem to be loitering in ALL of the City parks.

Keeping the homeless out

What is the plan for the homeless hanging out

Managing the city's population of individuals experiencing homelessness

How long will it take to complete this project?

How can you make it significantly better? It doesn't really seem much different than what's already there.

Adding extra lighting won't fix the vagrant problem. In fact, I worry about adding extra seating because downtown the vagrants take up any available seating.

Please make this a space for homeless people to enjoy as well.

Cleaning up/clearing out the homeless population

The homeless population needs to be addressed, also how students use the space during the school year

Security, keeping the "street people" from gathering.

The homeless

Homeless issues?

The park currently feels very unsafe (Especially at night) due to the large homeless presence and drug use. Please consider ways to make the park feel safer and more family friendly.

Although the recommendations are amazing, I need to ask whether this city is kidding or not. It's like the elephant in the room! Let's get rid of the homeless in the park, or otherwise the city will spend more money fixing the beautiful new improvements. People do not feel safe there, and it is because of the homeless. Nobody wants to take their children down there. Nobody wants to walk around for fear of being stuck with a needle. Stop building amazing venues for the homeless!

Not new info but the highest priority should be on safety/security as that is the biggest deterrent people gathering regularly in Acacia and Alamo Park.

I am confused what "Further Feasibility Study of Bandshell Renovation/Replacement" Where is the coffee shop going to go?

Make sure to keep it safe and not let it become a homeless hangout!

Recognition of the history of the downtown community

Safety MUST be first priority. The last time I came to that park I swore it would be my last.

Continue to be concerned about our growing homeless population that tends to take over our downtown parks and creating an unsafe feeling from others.

Focus on tree canopy

If the city does not take care of homeless, beggars, injections on the playground, teenagers and young adults misusing the playground, no parent in the right state of mind will take their children there.

Just please don't remove any history from it.

Somehow keeping homeless people out of here. We used to have an Airbnb and that was always peoples' complaints about our downtown is how the parks are overrun by homeless people and they don't feel safe in them. We are such a touristy city and I am not sure what we can't have parks that are safe and usable.

ways to prevent vagrancy

How it will be safe for use rather than populated by the homeless.

How to handle Homeless population

Maintain green space as much as possible to reduce urban heat

Will the homeless be urged to move on so we can bring grand kids?

Parking, safety (considering large number of homeless who currently congregate there)

Providing space for Farmers Markets & Trade shows

Greater security so my children can enjoy the park

Safety as there is a large homeless population

The plan is nice as long as we are comfortable to use it. What are the plans to remove all homeless people out from the park?

What about vagrants and homeless taking over the park when it's redesigned?

Homeless will take over creating unsafe place

Must address homelessness in the area, otherwise all of the effort is only providing an improved environment for vagrants. Will not bring my family otherwise. Please do not waste tax money without addressing this issue. Lighting alone will not suffice.

Consider Palmer High Student presence to ensure student's comfort and safety as well as prevent drug sales.

Homeless and security

I don't mean to be insensitive, but my primary concern has been the transients who congregate at Acacia Park. More than once I have been approached by people aggressively begging for money or other items, and have seen transients with open injuries, obvious contagious symptoms (sneezing, coughing, etc.), and/or symptoms of intoxication of various kinds. I have not heard much in the presented materials about how the city intends to maintain the parks and keep them clean and safe in regard to transients. I would love to share the park with anyone, but don't want to risk being assaulted or confronted by aggressive people, nor do I want to risk getting a communicable disease or pest (like bed bugs). I've occasionally met transients who have made use of a shelter's resources to maintain cleanliness, sobriety, and good health, and I have enjoyed their conversation and company, but they have been an exception to the rule.

Renovation of the downtown YMCA

Knowing you will still need more money to finish later means more taxes

We have a large homeless population. Safety at night needs to be a priority.

Keeping it safe and friendly for the High School Students as well as families.

mitigating the homeless/migrant population in the park - especially at night.

Whatever you end up doing with the bandstand, pls be sure to keep a live music venue in the park.

Establish and share a plan to mitigate the vagrancy and crime in downtown parks.

The area surrounding the park (Shops, restaurants) need to attract the people that will use the park...currently that is spotty at best. What will the city do to generate more family orientated businesses to this area. Also, until the city get the homeless population out of downtown, people from around the city will not use it. Your just providing a nicer place for the homeless to destroy.

Homeless population

Trees. History.

how will you address safety for the public and help with the homeless population downtown as well.

If you don't address the homeless problem, other improvements don't matter.

It looks great and I'm excited about it, but I can't help but wonder about the homeless population and the sad fact that the park's success with the public and the level of usage and enjoyment is dependent on their absence.

What should be considered is how to remove the homeless before going forward with any improvements. What would be the point of beautifying Acacia Park if nothing is done to deter the reason no one enjoys going to the park?

This will be a complete waste of time and money if the city/community cannot get a handle on dealing with the aggressive homeless whose behavior currently makes many attractive features and much of the downtown virtually unusable to the majority of the community. The desire to provide excessive "services" and protect dubious "rights" (Who needs to lie down in the middle of the sidewalk, inconveniencing everyone else?) has made public areas of the city a haven for some citizens at the expense of the majority. Upgrading and improving park facilities will be wasted unless this imbalance is corrected.

downtown ice rinks don't work - other user purpose please

Ice rinks, artificial turf and playgrounds are high-maintenance. Colorado Springs has a history of cutting public maintenance during difficult times. When difficult times do arrive (and they always will), maintenance will cease and the whole thing will look awful. Keep It Simple! Trees. Grass. Preserve and maintain the old Band Shell. Grass is easy to maintain. Keep replanting trees. Resist the temptation to pave over green and build interactive what-nots.

My 40 year old north side neighborhood park has seen countless trees die without ever being replaced so there's no shade,, and the city wants to spend all this money for their downtown projects. As a 50+ year resident I'm disgusted with our leadership.

Crowded space...not park like...almost "junky" not pleasant for central downtown.

I just don't understand why the City is spending all this money on Parks most people won't ever visit due to drug dealers, homeless, etc.

Spend no more \$ than the city can afford without using additional citizen tax monies!

Why do much of anything; park is ok as it is. Hello no budget anyway. :/

Getting the bums out of town who pee and poop and leave used needles everywhere. Also, go back to original parking fees. I have no desire to feed meters while watching a homeless guy finger the silverware, use the bathroom and walk by my table leaving a cloud of stench in his wake.

Hold all plans for time being.

What are the cities plans to deal with the homeless and street beggars. It's not worth investing money if tax payers are unable to enjoy the park.

Nothing. Leave it alone. Clean and maintain it and refurbish what exists. We don't want commercial, concrete plazas to replace our green, natural parks. Lighted seats? Concession booths and food courts? A gigantic permanent ice rink. It's ridiculous.

All historical elements have been destroyed and instead of a green peaceful park it looks like a tacky carnival.

Until we can get a handle on the homeless situation downtown, it makes no sense to sink one dime into improving this park.

I will not visit this park due to the homeless that have taken over it.

Homeless population overrun

Considering the current crisis, pull the plug on these plans. You are going to be begging for more money in the near future. Save for a rainy day, as the rain is here.

The only change I would care for is moving Palmer and his horse into the middle of the park. Any money should go to helping the homeless.

If the renovation of the bandshell is not feasible, why not present a new design that retains the classic elements of the original? A modern open-air stage area might clash with the historic look of the surrounding downtown facade. I feel these elements should be considered when introducing anything new to replace the "old".

Keep the bandstand and refurbish!

I think it is important to maintain some of the history -- the bandshell could be redone to serve a more modern purpose, yet still retain the look of the past. I would not like a super-modern look at all!

The bandshell should be restored. It is historic and wonderful. More concert series and events should have involve it. I don't think the ice rink is relevant to as many people as you may think. Most people can't ice skate.

Is there any cultural service or background of Colorado Springs that connects to the park. Uncle Wilber was a huge advocate and volunteer in COS is there a piece of history that can draw our locals and tourists in?

While understanding a feasibility study still needs to happen, it would be great if the historic band stand could be preserved. Nice to have something connecting past and present

perennial gardens

Maximize enhanced PARK SPACE, not commercial amenities. Restore, DO NOT REPLACE, bandshell.

Adequate bike parking.

Leave the 1914 Band Shell alone. There's nothing wrong with it.

PikeRide bike share location

With the paths gone that criss-cross the park, will people just make their own paths across that ruin the ground in those areas?

Don't tear down the historical band shell. Integrate it into your plan.

Continue to focus on security and safety with hostile architecture to reduce homeless individuals from hanging out all day.

Student and other foot traffic that occurs to the grass areas. Lighting to keep vandalism down at night

Please only renovate the bandshell. It is a local treasure.

Renovate the existing stage . Stop trying to make improvements that erase the cities history.

Incorporating the YMCA redo and place for outdoor exercise classes

Incorporate a skate trail with the rink. Parker has a skate trail and there aren't many in the nation. Maybe a clover design with loops off the main part of the rink.

Incorporate interpretive signage around the area

It looks like you plan to plant more trees along the pedestrian sidewalks. Tree roots frequently grow into sidewalk space causing uneven or cracked paths which are jarring or inaccessible to wheelchair users. A drop of a mere one-half inch causes spinal compression and back pain. Trees that overhang pedestrian walkways drop branches and impede quick snow melt, both of which make travel in a wheelchair difficult.

The word Historic is used quite a bit in this plan, yet the plan destroys the history of the park. The band shell needs to remain closed on the back side for audio quality and weather. It's VERY historic and should not be demolished or redesigned. As for a dog park, the city already has so many, do we really need another one? PLEASE stop wiping out history and labelling it 'improvement.

Please preserve the historic bandshell. That's really all I ask. It means a lot to many people, and I have fond memories from my youth tied to that bandshell. Thank you!

The proposed plan looks good. We hope that the new play area accommodates a lot of children. And, if possible, it would be nice to maintain the existing amphitheater (because it's a historical structure).

Having a cement base for the ice skating rink to use as roller skate rink and host activities on. Easier for maintenance

First, PLEASE do not remove or update the historic bandshell! The other changes sound okay, but I have to ask what the purpose is for these improvements unless something is going to also be done about controlling the large number of homeless people who camp out there.

I love the stage. If you do rebuilt, instead of restore, I hope there's a way you can incorporate elements of the old stage into the new one without being aesthetically detrimental.

Create more parking please

I think that it is important to keep the diagonal path ways in some form. I am referring to the pattern that starts with the diagonal streets Cheyenne and Pueblo Aves and continues through the Acacia and Alamo Parks. You kept that pattern in Alamo Park (thank you) and I think you should keep it in Acacia Park, too. That pattern was laid out by our original City Planners. Please keep it.

If not included, bike racks?

Aspects I like are the dining area, curving walks and that some of the trees have been identified as being kept. I would like to make sure all trees and lilacs are not only kept but identified for their historic significance. I worry how the Palmer students will use this park. HAVe they been asked and involved? I know the bandstand is historic too but understand the need to hopefully just upgrade it - not lose it all together.

Generations of Palmer High School students have also enjoyed its proximity to the school. I'd like to see the band shell renovated and retained.

Bike Share is a great way that I interact with Downtown with friends and visitors - I'd really like to see stations in each of the historic parks, and particularly at Acacia.

I love Story Coffee and supporting a local business, but moving it to the center of the park is less convenient for me to drive up and quickly buy a coffee.

DO NOT make a visitor center and unless you're doing something about the homeless population, do not put a bunch of seating around

I think the ice skating rink should be increased 50% rather than 30%.

I wish that Colorado Springs would consider converting parts of the downtown area around the parks into pedestrian only zones; especially the corridor bound by Platte and Bijou and from Cascade to Nevada Aves. The busy traffic downtown, especially two-way traffic makes it dangerous for pedestrians and especially children visiting Acacia Park.

Don't destroy the bandshell!

Electrical hook up capabilities through the park for events.

There are many students and others who travel thru the park every day. I do think a sidewalk or these visitors should be considered. I think if a sidewalk is not provided, they will walk on the lawn and make paths to cut across the park.

While the updated plan didn't rule out restoring and keeping the existing bandshell as-is, I really think the bandshell should not be "updated" or changed to a different style of structure. The plan already proposes removing the historic layout of the park itself, preserving the bandshell would be one of the last links to the history of the park. As someone who frequently walks around Downtown at night, I want to make sure that Acacia Park (and the others) are all properly lit at night. Acacia is surrounded by streets which are easy targets for speeding. This is both because of how they're built and being gateways for people hurriedly rushing to the Interstate. It would be nice to see some innovative work with the sidewalks around Acacia Park (particularly Platte and Bijou) that use some of the frequently-empty parking spaces to create curves in those streets to help break up the straightaways that are frequent targets for speeding. I also don't like having the park jam-packed with features. The classical, historic lines of the park lend itself as an oasis in the middle of the chaos of urban city life. The park needs more trees and gardens back (as it once had historically), not more "things and attractions." That's what all the businesses and actual attractions in the Downtown area are for, let the park be a park.

interactive art/music centers; educational interactive learning about trees thru phone

Public Restrooms, Bandshell is Obsolete for Public Hygiene.

Why do we need a new visitor center? Who is in charge of all the new landscaping?

Great job on the master plan overall, if you stick to your guns and build it as designed. One word our caution, though. Please resist the temptation to restore the bandshell. It's nearly useless as a venue for performances due to its configuration and orientation within the park. Build a new, open venue with modern power, sound and light capabilities as depicted in the master plan. And keep the seating area as grass covered open space, but with terracing or other features to improve sight lines and interest. When not in use, the open grass area will serve as a gathering (or distancing) space for downtown residents. The downtown parks should not only serve as attraction to bring people downtown--they must also serve as a local park for those of us who live and work downtown. That requires a certain amount of natural open space...

Please renovate and upgrade the existing bandshell. Do not replace it. We have so few historical structures downtown. During renovation and upgrade consider adding historical pictures and/or murals of Colorado Springs to the bandshell interior. When the bandshell is not in use this would provide historical information for visitors as well as residence of our city.

If there is a way to revitalize the current amphitheater before knocking it down to build a new one.

Don't ruin the historic beauty of Acacia Park by removing the bandstand. When I visited Balboa Park in San Diego I was so impressed with their historic preservation. Please don't turn our downtown park into something sleek and modern looking. It will spoil the character and in a few years just look outdated and un-trendy. Offer summer movies in the park on a screen setup in that bandstand and families will come. Allow food trucks to park nearby and people will buy take out food instead of bringing their picnic. We used to do this when we lived in Portland, but CS has nothing to compare.

Accessibility for kids and adults with disabilities

Keep the bandstand.

enough lighting and safety

If you are dealing with the all the upfront work on historical mitigation and altering these historical locales, this is a great opportunity to look into relocating the Palmer Statue out of the roadway intersection and onto the corner of the park. The statue is intrinsically and emotionally invaluable, but it poses a major risk to modern day travel.

This city is beautiful and has so much land to have public gardens but yet we don't see any. There is only one public garden, the HAS demonstration gardens. If we have more gardens with walking paths beside them I think that'd be amazing. It helps many people struggling with mental health, including myself... I would definitely love to see more flowers in this city as beautiful flowers naturally bloom here. Thank you.

Maybe I missed it. It's unclear whether you are incorporating food-growing into these designs. Fruit trees and shrubs are part of our natural landscape in this region and having an interactive vegetable garden in any of these parks would provide education and a unique, but necessary component to our community.

When wanting to redo a historical park, I think it is vital to keep some historical elements. I 100% disagree with removing the band shell. Leave the history or history will be lost which it already is all the time when historic homes are knocked down. Perhaps improvements rather could be done to the shell but while still protecting the historic piece itself. Thank you.

Do not lose another historic structure but renovate the bandshell. I like the playground equipment etc. for kids but no way will we take our grandkids to these parks until something is done with the homeless issues. We used to take our grandkids to America the Beautiful Park and Acacia Park but the homeless problem has become such that we no longer feel safe for us or them going to these parks.

Build full nhl ice sized ice sheet - host youth hockey games

no visitor center. park not large enough. need consolidated visitor center for all parks.

Please consider the historic nature of the bandshell. We're fortunate to have a great and lasting history throughout Colorado springs that hasn't yet been replaced by more modern architecture. This adds to the charm of our downtown area.

Considering the efforts that are constantly made to discourage unhoused people from sleeping downtown, I'm not sure the big benches are a good idea.

The PikeRide station needs to be included.

Make sure to add Cherry blossoms & trees that pop colors during fall. Maybe the homeless can earn money by raking up the park or picking up litter. It will give them pride & keep an eye out for anything else that may be dangerous laying around. Use paint that won't burn hands during summertime.

More information on the Band Stand - this is historic and must stay through renovations

Keep the existing bandshell

Renovation to the concert stage is preferable because it maintains it's historical relevance to our city.

Do you really need to make more space for people to sell stuff in the park? Why can't parks be non-retail?

I love that we are innovating and changing things, but I really care about the history of Colorado Springs. My hope is that some of that can be preserved, especially with the amphitheater stage! I agree a new one would be amazing, but that is a historic structure and I love the idea of preserving it and maybe even having events that focus on its history, like a square dance night or something like that. Its bittersweet to see our historic parks changed and improved, so I just hope preserving and remembering our history will be considered in the midst of the improvements.

Please don't repeat the mistake of those who demolished "Little London" by destroying the current stage. We need to preserve the small bits of history we have left!

The very idea of razing the 1914 bandshell is unthinkable. Many people may "want" a new stage of some sort but that really doesn't justify destroying historic architecture. But that seems to be what we do. Historic preservation of things like this is what our decedents will appreciate. It can be restored and have lighting and such added and still retain it's original design and charm.

Renovating- not tearing down the 1914 era band shell.

Acacia Park is not a huge park. Do not want this beautiful park to seem too congested.

Some basic research on history of parks and their purposes in urban areas and what other cities are doing to maintain green spaces, corridors, areas of respite in their cities. Disappointing lack of such information

As Colorado Springs was founded in 1871, we should honor our early founders and builders by giving any of the permanent structures a Neo-classic look. Before the pandemic closed down my job as a tour leader with Rocky Mountain Food Tours, many of my guests remarked how gorgeous the first two Antlers Hotels were and how nice it was that the Mining Exchange building was enhanced and not torn down. The city was promised that the original Colorado Springs World Arena was to have an homage to the original Broadmoor World Arena looked, it wasn't kept, now Robson Arena has no style and the Olympic Museum's look will be out of place with the downtown. Winfield Scott Stratton built Boulevard Park, where the Colorado Springs Millionaires played baseball, as well as, the Post Office. Let's continue the vision of General William Jackson Palmer.

this park feels very inward where the frontage along Tejon should be more reflective and inviting to that pedestrian corridor. How are people crossing? Are they the same? What about parking? Parking is a mess along Tejon and NO parking exists along Nevada. Is there a larger circulation pattern proposed for this district? Also, what solutions are proposed in regards to the homeless/vagrant population that currently make this park useless by the public?

Potential for "homeless/transient" takeover; maybe putting the recently shut down CSPD Peak Station in the park to allow for centralized DART officers.

Renovate band shell as opposed to new.

keeping the diagonal walking paths. that's part of the heritage of that park.

I would be so sad to see the historic band shell totally destroyed. I hope there is a way that you can renovate or replace it while not losing the historical elements of the structure.

Make sure the ice rink will be large enough to host hockey games.

Free standing and self cleaning restrooms, similar to Bancroft Park.

One of the "possible bandstand" photos included a water feature. I'd hope to avoid that. I realize it is just an example, so perhaps it's not even being considered.

I feel like there should be a little more space for food vendors like Story Coffee; otherwise, I think that this is an amazing vision and hope to see these improvements made soon!

With the history of the bandshell, I believe we should keep the current bandshell and should not tear it down for a new one.

ice skating trail in lieu of or in addition to the ice skating rink

Although I do appreciate the historic band shell, I think it would benefit the park to replace this element with a new structure that fits the design concept more appropriately. This could go a long way in activating the south side of the park.

Incorporate more art, like sculptures

Remove the bandshell completely and make room for smaller mobile vendors to set up. The coffee shop is the only vendor on the grounds, and the limited use of the bandshell doesn't justify its existence. It's a leftover from bygone days.

I feel strongly that the bandshell be preserved and incorporated as closely to the original construction as possible into the new building. As Americans, we generally dispose of our connections to past generations and then regret it. I also hope that shuffleboard is part of the summer use of the new ice arena. Thank you.

the palmer highschool students and how they will interact with the park

Renovate the band shell. Where are the restrooms?

Fewer buildings and structures. More greenery, trees.

More benches

Leave the bandshell alone. This city, like many others, has sustained terrible damage to historic sites and architecture by leaders holding temporary office wishing to make their mark while having no sense of or respect for what has gone before. Please don't just go blundering forward without an eye for what's come before.

Noooo, not the bandshell! Leave our History up !!!

Please preserve the bandshell.

Overall satisfied but don't you DARE replace the bandshell! It's beautiful, unique and part of our history. Renovate but DON'T replace.

Ensure safety and lighting. Given that the YMCA is building apartments right across Nevada, ensure adequate parking remains available.

Well placed trash cans so park stays clean.

#4) What other information should we consider before moving forward on Alamo Square Park Master Plan?

It is too bad that a huge museum is smack dab in the middle of this park causing a very effective use of limited space for this park. What is proposed takes good advantage of the limited space there.

Seems like the least dramatic - but also needs the least work.

The gazebo on the south side of the park is very popular and should stay

Lighting to help keep vandalism down

I really like this plan!

I really liked this transformation. Really ties a central part of southern end of Tejon to the northern end. It reminds me of Balboa park in San Diego and their ability to host Friday food trucks, along with entertainment and free space to enjoy our city. Love this plan!!

Looks great! Love the front porch idea!

I really like the ability to change lighting on the face of the museum

The food truck parking and additional art is a GREAT idea. How fun to know there is a hub for food trucks-- I'd go there often!

LOVE THE TIMELINE

Tree planting is so important.

Acacia and Antlers need the most investment. This is a good plan for Alamo.

The new City Porch will be a welcoming site that ties in well with the new Olympic Museum and even connecting to the new Switchback Stadium

Lighting

I love the labyrinth!

I like the idea of rejuvenating this park as it's more south and I think the south part of downtown continues to need investment and work

Preserving this primarily as a community event space works. And the connection to Vermijo is a good idea.

Well done! Good upgrades and innovative ideas to transform this neglected park.

Yay food trucks!

Dog park needs to be gated. Great idea on more lighting.

Fantastic plan, thank you

Love the food truck

LOVE this concept very much!

Looks great!

looks great

None. I love the proposed improvements.

I love this! I love the City Porch. I love what's being done with the old gazebo. I would love to see lots of natural elements (this goes for all of the parks) in addition to all of the new amenities. I like how trees are being preserved and more are being added, and I just would hate to see too much grass or natural areas taken away to make room for the more man-made gathering spaces.

I think this plan is beautiful.

This park is not in as dire need of a transformation as the other two. I think a bit of freshening up will make this a very desirable gathering space.

Good job of working with what is already there. Hard to reimagine the park due to the large building occupying the center, but the design team did a great job of incorporating citizen input.

Thank you for considering vendors in this space!

I think the reinforcement of food truck Tuesdays is a great move for this design.

Looking at activating this for day time, weekday workers primarily makes sense.

n/a- I like the proposal as stated.

I really like the city porch idea. I think it would be great to have dinner there while we visit the new Olympic museum.

Good job keeping the gazebo - did I miss the Venetucci farm sculpture?

I hope that there is a strong plan to make the park inviting for families and feel less like encampments.

The design looks fabulous. The food truck lane is brilliant! My only concern is that homeless people will take over the park making it unsafe and inhospitable to be there

Currently it does not have a "park" feel so anything that adds more nature is ideal.

I look forward to the city making this site more of a community fixture!

looks great

I like how this had fewer changes. The lights sound fun. But again, can't enjoy it without the homeless receiving help.

Increasing affordable low-income housing sites throughout the area and city to reduce homelessness, which impacts all three downtown parks. Developer incentives (carrots and sticks) likely must be enacted to force this necessary step forward.

Safe and clean restrooms

Low or no parking fees! You have to make it easier to pay for downtown.. Not harder!

None, i think the concept is fantastic- perhaps allowing the food trucks to stay later than currently hours to support dinner options

Parking around this area

Who will be taken care of all the new landscaping?

Maybe food trucks twice a week??

events to draw in the public

Why do you worry about a disease that might affect trees in the future and cut them down ahead of time? That's like saying someday your dog will die so let's go ahead and put them to sleep now.

Removal of trees due to "future" insect invasion is insufficient reason. Pruning and treatment before removal. Shade of mature trees is priceless during hot summer days.

Parking & access; safety (area is relatively deserted at night and limited parking close by limits during the day may limit desired uses)

Love the plan. Please make sure that there are pet waste stations located at entrances and exits since there are so many people with pets. Would make cleaning up after their pets easier!

Need to eliminate unsafe area with drugs/liquor etc of homeless. Look at downtown library as example.

Serious consideration must be made for the small mobile food vendors (hot dog carts) that operate on a daily basis (Mon-Friday) by Alamo park. If the sidewalk is expanded we need an area to operate in that won't all be allocated for the food trucks on Tuesdays. Parts of the sidewalk that are not regulated by the Pioneer Museum and don't require permits for use. We are the small businesses that get no attention or recognition from the city yet provide a service to the citizens in the downtown area.

This is very close to where a lot of new housing and downtown activities will be built, so adequate parking needs to be ensured.

Establish and share a plan to mitigate vagrancy and crime in downtown parks.

add food truck options on Saturdays

Please keep and update the playground for children living downtown.

My concern, again, is how do we keep this park clean and healthy for all to use for recreation, not as a hotel for the homeless.

Address the homeless population

Dealing with the homeless.

PikeRide station is in a dangerous location feeding into Nevada Ave

A better solution for the homeless population and a safe atmosphere for everyone.

homeless problem

Still not much of a draw to go there.

Doesn't seem to change much

where is the money coming from for Alamo square and the other 2 parks renovation?

curious as to what is the "story of us" labyrinth, would love to hear more

The homeless situation needs to be addressed before any improvements are started

Please make this a space for homeless people to enjoy as well.

Safety and Security should be top priority.

Hopefully, the benches being built will be comfortable for the homeless. You might want to consider adding cushions.

Continued concern about presence of the homeless population

Parking will probably be a problem with more usage due to the improvements!! Restrooms are needed also.

Please include information on how homeless encampments will be discouraged or removed

Somewhat unrelated to the park, but the Pioneer Museum bell tower should be open for viewing. Would be a great place to get photos or just enjoy the view of downtown and the mountains.

How to handle homeless population

See first comment.

Safety and cleanliness

I will not visit this park due to the homeless that have taken over it.

Trees. History.

Keep the statue of Venetucci handing out a pumpkin to kids. I like that. Keep the gazebo.

If you don't address the homeless problem, other improvements don't matter.

Leave it alone

This will be a complete waste of time and money if the city/community cannot get a handle on dealing with the aggressive homeless whose behavior currently makes many attractive features and much of the downtown virtually unusable to the majority of the community. The desire to provide excessive "services" and protect dubious "rights" (Who needs to lie down in the middle of the sidewalk, inconveniencing everyone else?) has made public areas of the city a haven for some citizens at the expense of the majority. Upgrading and improving park facilities will be wasted unless this imbalance is corrected.

There are literally hundreds of neighborhood parks in the city, dog parks and climbing walls can be installed in the newer parks, not the most historic ones

Please don't move forward.

Resist the temptation to rewrite history. Maintain the park and add trees. Stop trying to decorate.

Although the recommendations are amazing, I need to ask whether this city is kidding or not. It's like the elephant in the room! Let's get rid of the homeless in the park, or otherwise the city will spend more money fixing the beautiful new improvements. People do not feel safe there, and it is because of the homeless. Nobody wants to take their children down there. Nobody wants to walk around for fear of being stuck with a needle. Stop building amazing venues for the homeless!

Other than the electrical it doesn't seem like this park will be useable in any fashion. It is disappointing that this is all that could be done to this space.

Spend no more \$ than the city can afford without using additional citizen tax monies!

Again, why? No budget anyway; park works fine as it is. Wasteful.

Clean up town. Get rid of bums. Stop allowing them to trash the area and bother people.

Hold all plans for time being.

As long as we have a homeless issue not being dealt with it won't matter what you do. It's not rocket science here people.

This park isn't kid friendly at all.

I feel that all this will take away from the pioneers museum

Until we can get a handle on the homeless situation downtown, it makes no sense to sink one dime into improving this park. Any improvements are a waste of money, as they will just be trashed.

Again maybe you should just try to finish one park instead of saying future refinements which I equate to spending more taxpayer dollars

It seemed like the main reason to update this park was to bring in a food truck lane...though it would be nice a few days a year...bringing in food truck is a slap in the face to the restaurants that are downtown, paying rent and taxes everyday.

Again...You're going to complain you have no money very soon. Why spend every dime you have right now?

Is the parking along Tejon being removed as a result of this plan? It seems unclear in the plan image. I would prefer to retain parking over implementing new trees in that specific area, as peak downtown has enough struggles with nearby parking as it is. The city porch is gorgeous. Are there talks of temporary seating being available/provided in this area during events, especially food events?

Consider non-native species like Norway Spruce

Just looks too business like

Adequate bike parking

Continue to focus on security and safety with hostile architecture to reduce homeless individuals from hanging out all day.

include fixing the Museum sign on the east side, which is missing many of its letters

Not enough change. Please consider the future of our parks needs while also maintaining the great asset that is the museum. Do we really need those old fountains and garden planters?

Seating areas on the east side.

It looks like you plan to plant more trees along the pedestrian sidewalks. Tree roots frequently grow into sidewalk space causing uneven or cracked paths which are jarring or inaccessible to wheelchair users. A drop of a mere one-half inch causes spinal compression and back pain. Trees that overhang pedestrian walkways drop branches and impede quick snow melt, both of which make travel in a wheelchair difficult.

Bike share station should be located on the South - the new Vermijo street is a much safer and important link for this mode of transportation - particularly in getting to Tejon or on to Cascade using Vermijo.

It seems Alamo Square Park is primarily a special events site, which is redundant with the events-related aspects of Acacia Park. For the 2-3 days of the year when there are events large enough to use both sites, that's not a problem, but most of the time, Alamo Square just isn't going to get much use, due primarily to its location outside the retail district.

Amphitheater

keeping grassy areas for play is important, some fountains or water features would be nice

I'm not sure that I like the commercialism embodied by this park. It would certainly be a busy park with the food parks and such, but it has no area of respite from the urban sounds, etc., with no calming features like a water feature or garden room separate from the din of the city.

Will you be closing the street to the south? There is a huge need for parking so I would be apposed to closing any streets. Because of homeless I would be cautionary of planting bushes.

There is a pseudo-bike plaza of sorts currently on the South side of the park. It would be nice to continue to have a convenient place for bikes (both personal and public bike share) in the redesigned park. In addition to traditional U-racks for bikes, bike lockers and a bike repair station would also be beneficial to the area. This would be of great use for larger events taking place in the "City Porch" area and for larger events that stretch down to the U.S. Olympic Museum or for parades that traditionally end at the Pioneers Museum.

TOO BUSY; simplify

additional food truck parking. food truck tuesdays averages 14 trucks per week and i only see 10 spots provided. perhaps a couple of the southernmost parking spots on tejon and nevada could be reserved for trucks as well, so they are still close to the patio tables.

Public Restrooms.

Shade must be a priority. It is TOO hot in the summer to enjoy events.

Love the addition of the food truck stalls and the labyrinth. Additional ornamental tress will be wonderful in a few years. Just don't count on these gatherings being too populated. With the current pandemic crisis, I can't imagine if I'll ever want to attend gatherings in public again, certainly not in crowds. You should consider ways to build social distancing into the design because our way of life is forever altered.

The PikeRide station in on Nevada which is a highway and pretty busy. I think the result might be that people would try to ride on the sidewalk to get to another street which is not desired. The Tejon side of the park would be better in my opinion. When I visit food trucks here, I want more shade. I'm not sure if these plans contemplate that, so I'm mentioning it in case there is anything you can do about it. Overall, I really like this one.

Renovations should be emphasized rather than new additions at this locale.

Just wondering what's gonna happen to Mr. Venetucci's statue?

Maybe I missed it. It's unclear whether you are incorporating food-growing into these designs. Fruit trees and shrubs are part of our natural landscape in this region and having an interactive vegetable garden in any of these parks would provide education and a unique, but necessary component to our community.

The PikeRide station in Alamo Square has been moved to the NE side of the park, out of the way of most tourists, and far worse, along a busy 4-lane road that does not include bike lanes. Please keep the PikeRide station somewhere along Vermijo St., away from Nevada Ave or along Tejon St. Thank you.

making it clear where to enter the museum building

maintain gazebo structure only.

Extend the signature light walk to all sides of the park. Provide more seating in the park.

If the food trucks are parked on Vermijo, will any parking remain? It's always hard to find a parking spot, but especially on Food Truck Tuesdays. (I love the Food Trucks and am glad they are in the plan, but parking is definitely an issue.) Also related to the food trucks, Alamo Park could perhaps use some of the seating with tables proposed for Acacia... perhaps something temporary for summers or just Tuesdays.

The PikeRide station should not be adjacent to Nevada, which is a highway. This is not safe. It should be on Vermijo or Tejon for safe accessibility.

Take care that the "upgrades" don't take away from the beauty of the museum building.

Space/appropriate land/hardscaping for festivals?

As a park with a museum, suggest more local historical aspects about the museum's exterior and the city in general.

Bathrooms

How will this park increase diversity and use by minorities.

Iconic and historic value of courthouse landscaping in American history. Value of maintaining some elements of a sense of place.

This looks amazing and I'm so excited about the proposed changes! One thing to consider is with so many new trees, there is potential for blocking the Pioneer's Museum from view, which would be very disappointing - it's such a beautiful building and deserves to be seen from the street!

Katherine Lee Bates's line of site on Pikes Peak is very important, and should not be marred in any way. The gazebo should also be restored and preserved. Downtown parking is as always an issue.

Either shore up and refine the 1914 bandstand or if a new one is built, please use a Neo-classic style.

This proposal looks a lot more cohesive than the others and responds to the space as whole. I enjoy the formal entries on all 4 frontages that center the museum. If anything, more trees would be nice in the lawns as this whole area is currently a terrible place to walk because of the exposed and lack of tree canopy. Maybe "Urban Forest Pockets" in lieu of lawn.

The City Porch idea is great, but can COS support that type of venue in both Acacia and Alamo Square?

The court house needs to continue to be the most important, visible, and accessible part of this part. NOTHING should diminish, or block the building.

Performance space would be nice.

developing the south plaza beyond a labyrinth and provide more of a plaza type area that can handle events better

How will the food truck parking affect the street parking with the very active court house?

This is the park I use the most. I agree, it did not need too much renovation. Im beside myself excited for the "front porch" vision for the Vermjo St. side of the park. I was concerned about moving the Pike Ride station to the north east, but I think your plan to make ramps on the south side is a good idea for diverse use. Thank you for your work on this exciting new city amenity.

Please consider the the "enhanced lighting" feature as one of the very last things you'd do. Or just nix it altogether. It cheapens the beauty of the building.

Ensure that there is sufficient power available to support event vendors, and power is located such that electrical cords are as concealed as possible. I feel like there should be consideration for restroom facilities in addition to the ones inside Pioneers Museum. I very much like the City Porch concept! It connects the current improvements along Vermijo to the historical center of the City. Must be carefully planned to connect the modern aesthetic of the Vermijo Streetscape with the historical aesthetic of the Alamo Square block.

more shaded low wall seating for lunch time visitors

Will this plan include moving Mr. Venetucci's statue? I think that needs to keep a place of importance.

access to the park under or over adjacent streets

Again missing the opportunity for bikes. Northeast corner is not the appropriate location for bike racks. Vermijo is meant to be an active street, so please place bike racks where they can be easily accessed & utilized as a real option to get to/from this destination.

Is there room for historic monuments or statues for future hometown heroes or events?

Electrical access for participants in various events (Imagination Celebration, etc.).

No more sculptures or art, please. Just trees and greenery.

Suggest relocating the PikeRide station from Nevada (which is very dangerous, high-traffic street for bikes) to another corner of the park. Ideally, the NW or SW corner instead.

Permanent seating along the City walk near food trucks (possible theft of temporary table and chairs)

It would be nice to have water features.

More seating areas to enjoy outdoor picnics or lunch

Please don't overly stuff the park. I would like to see a new bandstand created that improves on the lighting, sound and sightline of the stage and yet honor the historic look of the old structure--not too modern. If a bandstand were broadened and open up more, a mural could be created on its south-facing wall, perhaps a combination mural planting screen--lovely historic-looking street lights along the sidewalk? Might the rear wall of the bandstand be slightly curved to the rear and open more broadly to the north? Bijou St. between N. Nevada Ave. and Tejon St., to me, has always looked unkept, almost blighted. This park is historic and should represent CS history in some measure.

I wish you could have kept at least one REALLY creative element for children in the park plan. An earlier version offered a playground, which may not be feasible but some sort of kid-friendly attribute to the park would go a LONG way to make it a more welcoming space. Replacing the trees is great - but nothing you are doing is going to bring more families to the park.

New Irrigation for this site.

Trash can placement

Resurrect the wonderful fountains that went down the west access.

pavement improvements and accessibility improvements seem most important to do first.

I honestly wish that this swing feature could be a feature all the time! If not seasonal. Adults as well as children love to swing...especially on a comfortable swing. I wish the park had either one or both of the following: ***The Musical Swings," by Canadian artist collaborative, Daily tous les jours, returned this year to the Green Box Arts Festival. Or ***Oversized free standing bend swings

PikeRide Station is on Nevada Ave. which is unsafe for cyclists. Consider moving to a safer area.

By placing the food trucks on Vermijo, you are eliminating a lot of on-street parking that is already not sufficient because of the EPC courthouse on the west side of Tejon. I would prefer to keep the food trucks on the park site for this reason. Some people are too far away to walk to this location for lunch, but are willing to drive, if there is sufficient parking within reason.

Keep the bandshell!

asdfas

N/A

None

N/A

Nothing I can think of!

Nothing

#6) What other information should we consider before moving forward on Antlers Park Master Plan?

I believe upgrades are an essential part of keeping our parks relevant and welcoming.

Fencing, safety , lots of lighting

I like the concept very much. Wonder how we'd attract people there, but perhaps the rebirth of the train depot will do that.

*Safe and clean restrooms *shade options *splash pad or simple sprayer for kiddos...we NEED more free, clean, safe water areas families to lounge and spend time in our parks. Having only a couple in town makes them so overcrowded.

Rock wall would be a great addition, this park would find more use with improvement of the surrounding buildings and commercial areas to the north and west.

LOVE the elevated walkway

This plan looks wonderful.

I like the green wall. I think many families are currently afraid to take their children to this park. I wonder how you will navigate this reality.

I like as is- particularly the elevated walkway

Looking forward to the new opportunities to explore in the park!

Love it! Innovative and will compliment Acacia Park. Plus knowing visitors to the new Olympic Museum will wander down to this park, it will be popular. Glad you are including a much needed dog park, natural play area and signage!

The extra trees and green space is great, but the best part is a dog park!!

I really like the idea of adding a dog park to this park. Unfortunately the park is usually really dark/shaded because it's directly behind the Antlers and a parking garage, which might prevent families from using it for the play area.

Love the dog park idea!

LOVE IT...PEOPLE WILL USE IT!

I like the dog park. I'm not sure reopening the bathroom will work but I hope so.

Love the dog park idea!

Lighting and trees are very important.

Looks great!

I like the elevated walkway and the way the park will have some nice gardens to elevate its beauty from a rather dour and dark park with few attractive features. The dog park feature is great as are the garden plans.

This park needs the most renovation. As a child we would use this park for picnics, but would be scared to today. I really like the plan for this park.

Like it overall, but would like to see how some of the conceptual elements come together in design development.

Cant wait to go! Thank you!!

Security concerns will always be an issue, but this concept really works hard to improve that.

Love it! Especially the dog park.

looks very good, lets do it

Looks great! This will be a nice amenity if and when it all pans out.

I guess it is better than just having bums lying around stoned

This is amazing. I absolutely love the raised walkway and the nature-themed playground! I would definitely want history preserved as much as possible with this park, same as the others, and I think that seems to be in the works. I wonder about safety and handling homeless populations with this park and the others, but I am excited and encouraged by these plans!

This is the best revision. The high walk through the trees and addition of playground and splash area is wonderful.

I honestly didn't even realize that this was a park. I think the proposed changes will be really effective for connecting folks to this space.

I grew up in COS and have worked downtown for the past 8 years and have never been in Antlers Park. Of the three proposals, this has the most innovative ideas - dog park, nature play areas, artwork to define entryways. However, based only on my experience, it's the park that is least known/used currently.

Performance space would be nice to have in Antlers.

Love the plan for the dog park! I wish there were more water features/bodies of water available for dogs in Colorado Springs! I'm a lab owner and all my dogs have loved water! Please make sure there are pet waste stations at the entrances and exits with bags and trash cans so it is easy for people to clean up after their pets. :)

LOVE the dog park idea

Love the green screen wall!!!

I was not sure what your improved plans could do to help this park, BUT wow I'm impressed with your plan. The dog park concept isn't something I personally need, but i think it serves a growing population downtown. The concept of adding a elevated walk way is wonderful. It will as so much depth to the park. I love the improved south east entrance and the green wall idea. I hope these improvements create all new activity and love for the community landmark. Thanks you so much.

I am particularly happy there is a plan for a bathroom. When I go to the parks in other Colorado towns, there are typically nice bathrooms with automatic lights and water (to conserve resources). If we want to be a first class city we need to provide accommodations for all guests. I was at Bonforte park recently and someone voiced surprise that the bathrooms were locked. Someone else said, "Well, it's Colorado Springs." That's not the reputation we want.

The dog park will be an awesome asset and the focus on the kids is great considering the adjacency of Early Connections

I do not have any concerns or suggestions for this park. I have not used it in years and the plans look very inviting.

I like the idea of changing the spark into a family friendly concept, which I hope will become a Destination

The tree canopy and nature play ideas are fantastic. I think having those would make me/my family want to visit that park.

I love the added dog park features, the tree canopy, and the bouldering wall. This seems like a place where the whole family could spend an afternoon playing and enjoying fresh air and shade.

I really like the dog park addition.

The design looks fabulous. My only concern is that homeless people will take over the park making it unsafe and inhospitable to be there

I like the improved access idea - this is most needed for this park.

dog park seems like a needed element downtown, and should help bring people to Antlers park.

how it will be impacted by homeless and bad actors; how well does it hold up to misuse vandalism

The canopy walk seems like it will be a maintenance nightmare! The rest of it seems nice.

How do you connect Antlers Park to rest of downtown, give incentives to make the walk

Some of the things in the park feel like they would need staff supervision (like the rock climbing wall and tree canopy walk). Would the city be able to hire someone to do this full time? What does liability for the city look like if someone gets hurt? Will people have to sign waivers to use the park?

security and family-friendly events

Security services available on premises M-F during daytime hours.

Will there be plenty a security place people can go to for lost & found or a loud speaker for a child lost?

Removal of existing mature trees should be a last resort. The shade of mature shade trees are priceless during hot summer days.

Parking issues

I am very excited about this park's future. However, it has the strong possibility for "homeless/transient" takeover; maybe putting the recently shut down CSPD Peak Station in the park to allow for centralized DART officers.

Our company is located at 2 North Cascade. We would love to host outdoor activities in the park or take breaks there throughout the day but our team does not feel safe using the park. It's a beautiful space, wish my team felt comfortable going there.

Adequate restrooms are important in this park.

Please keep and update the playground.

Please discuss the current state of the Depot restaurant and associated retail possibilities.

Increasing affordable low-income housing sites throughout the area and city to reduce homelessness, which impacts all three downtown parks. Developer incentives (carrots and sticks) likely must be enacted to force this necessary step forward.

Dealing with the homeless

How will it be maintained considering the current homeless population.

There are SO MANY homeless people in this park all the time, how do you think all of this will actually work? The ideas seem good, but will people (other than homeless people) actually return to this park? Is it worth spending the money on--I know that sounds mean, but if nobody uses the new things, is it really worth all of the money?

A better solution for the homeless population and a safe atmosphere for everyone.

homeless problem

Keep it clean and safe

I'm not sold on the dog park, but I guess if it increases use and it is fenced then it is ok. Good luck--I hope this park gets better public use.

All this money for dog parks and climbing walls? What about the homeless problem in the park? Take care of that first or no one will feel safe going there

Clear out the homeless please

How will the city keep all of the homeless population out of the park? I believe that is one reason that many people avoid the park now.

This is a terrifying park to visit in town due to the homeless situation. Until that is fixed the park will remain unusable

Please make sure this is a space for homeless people to enjoy as well.

Clean and safe number one priority. It feels closed in right now which makes people feel unsafe. Going to be challenging to open up and change perceptions...

While it would be nice to have this park fixed up, unless something is done about the homeless population no one will use the dog park and families will not bring their children down there. Everyone knows this park is a haven/home for the homeless and just because you spruce it up doesn't mean the homeless automatically go away. Same with Acacia Park.

Parking around this area

Security!

WHAT ABOUT THE HOMELESS?

Although the recommendations are amazing, I need to ask whether this city is kidding or not. It's like the elephant in the room! Let's get rid of the homeless in the park, or otherwise the city will spend more money fixing the beautiful new improvements. People do not feel safe there, and it is because of the homeless. Nobody wants to take their children down there. Nobody wants to walk around for fear of being stuck with a needle. Stop building amazing venues for the homeless!

Safety and security should be top priority.

The homeless issue still needs to be addressed--agree this approach will help, but still feel there is a significant obstacle from what is to what could be.

I did not even know this park was considered a park until recently. What are you going to do about the massive homeless population that inhabits the park? Are you working with the train Depot?

Great ideas, but again, another area I do not feel safe in with so many homeless. Same reason I do not use Penrose Library

Continued concern about the increased numbers of homeless population

I will admit, not a big fan of the Dog Park idea as dog owners aren't the best at controlling their pets and will clash with pedestrian usage of the other parts of the park. LEASH LAWS need to be enforced with large fines!!! Again the "HOMELESS" population will be a continuing problem as they feel this park belongs to them along with the down town library areas!!! Some times I feel there's too much importance placed on catering to the ULTRA RICH down town urban living population, making them "preferred citizens" over other users!!!! Would be awesome to live in the down town area but there are NO AFFORDABLE housing, especially for SENIOR residents! The ONE complex is always FULL that's even close to down town, jmho.

Please include information on how homeless encampments will be discouraged or removed

Does anyone but homeless people use this park?

I think the design is great, but the homeless population loves to camp out in this park and make it feel unsafe. Something will need to be done to improve security and safety, otherwise the park will go unused.

How to make the make safe for public use.

build up the surrounding area so its a destination people want to go to. a nice park in a bad/run down area is pointless. America the Beautiful park battles this all the time- its a great park in a bad location

How loitering is to be controlled. Stage area access for performers.

Same as Acacia Park. We as the City need to handle the homeless population overtaking our parks and not making them feel safe for families to use.

If keeping the homeless factor out and way down

How does the city plan to enforce the dog owners to clean up after thier pets. And the homeless presence in the area.

Just don't want this park to become an easy haven for the homeless.

Meaning in the history of the development of the City especially in terms of its relationship to transportation and arrival site for many new residents

Safety

What is the plan for controlling the homeless. One reason many people do not use this area is the mess, filth, clutter and presents of homeless people.

Safety and cleanliness

What about vagrants and homeless taking over the park when it's redesigned?

The Antlers Hotel should be torn down and replaced. The city street grid should continue to the west to activate this portion of downtown that is separated currently.

Good ideas are negated by homeless creating unsafe for public. Would never takes kid to area where child molesters live. First solve safety & remove homeless.

How will you keep the homeless out? I will not go there if I have to walk over people sleeping in the park.

Must address security beyond lighting to avoid a waste of time and tax money.

Drawing people into this park (how are you going to do this/). Restaurants and businesses near by in the old train depot.

What would happen if there is a future light rail stop at the old railroad depot?

Where's the restShade for our homeless ??

Nice in theory but the security/safety issues won't just magically go away. This is a destination for our homeless population. My office is by the park and in the last 8-9 years I don't think I have ever seen it used by anyone other than the homeless population. The only time I ever saw a crowd there was when the train engine was moved. Everyone goes east to the cleaner safer alternatives, Alamo and Acacia. People also use the grounds of the Pikes Peak Center. No one from the Antlers hotel will use it. The hotel entrance is on the other side of the building. There is also no residential housing down here. No built-in group of people to use this park. Even fencing probably will not solve the problem. Fences can be climbed. Will there be full time security? That costs money that we (the City) doesn't have. Not meaning to throw ice water on this but I'm not seeing this plan as a viable solution and I'm not sure there really is one. Sorry because I know a lot of work went into this.

Transient presence was not covered

I will not visit this park due to the homeless that have taken over it.

Some concern but with the understanding that people tend to sleep in that park.

Safety considerations associated with homeless population and controlling

Safety has to be the biggest factor. Currently, I wouldn't take my family to Antlers Park no matter what it looks like.

Concerned about the homeless taking advantage of this park and the dog area. Over use by dog owners could make it deteriorate rapidly and it's proximity to the Catholic Charities tends to encourage homeless to hang out and prevents others from enjoying it.

Establish and share a plan to mitigate vagrancy and crime in downtown parks.

If you don't address the homeless problem, other improvements don't matter.

It looks great and I'm excited about it, but I can't help but wonder about the homeless population and the sad fact that the park's success with the public and the level of usage and enjoyment is dependent on their absence.

This park has felt extremely unsafe for years. I don't know how spending a bunch of money beautifying it will help keep the homeless out. It's not a place I'd take any kids to play.

This will be a complete waste of time and money if the city/community cannot get a handle on dealing with the aggressive homeless whose behavior currently makes many attractive features and much of the downtown virtually unusable to the majority of the community. The desire to provide excessive "services" and protect dubious "rights" (Who needs to lie down in the middle of the sidewalk, inconveniencing everyone else?) has made public areas of the city a haven for some citizens at the expense of the majority. Upgrading and improving park facilities will be wasted unless this imbalance is corrected.

Cost!

You gotta get the bums, crack heads and pot heads out of this area! No one cuts to bring their family to spend money when they get attacked by smelly thugs who scare children.

a waste of money

It needs to be safe! It cannot become a homeless encampment! I need to be able to feel safe taking my kids there

Spend no more \$ than the city can afford without using additional citizen tax monies!

The Antlers garage reeks of urine, and poop. Used needles are everywhere. The park behind is a gathering area for the town's tramps.

Hold all plans for time being.

Once again- no homeless mitigation- nobody will care what you do.

Clean it and maintain it. Stop ruining our scarce, historic green spaces with trailer trash changes.

Why are we covering all parks where homeless rest?

Until we can get a handle on the homeless situation downtown, it makes no sense to sink one dime into improving this park. Any improvements are a waste of money, as they will just be trashed.

You are putting a bandaid on what is desired.

Antlers park is a waste of time and money...it is filled with the cities homeless population and very unsafe. Level it and let a business move into the area that can bring in jobs and better the economy.

Seems ambitious for an area that families do not want to spend time in. I wish you would have expanded the Alamo Park plans. They are pretty boring.

Nope. No spending. Hard times are here.

I am not sure about the urban dog park aspect of this area. It is so small and may not enable medium and larger size dogs to move around at all. Will owners pick up after their dog? THANK GOODNESS the City is considering something more than a homeless population park! This park has become an eyesore and needs ANY sort of renovation! Thank YOU!

It would be so nice if we could preserve the amphitheater somehow. We have so few historic buildings in Colorado Springs.

What sort of fencing will be utilized, and how will fencing areas effect the perceived "openness" and "welcoming" of the park? Can a water feature be introduced somewhere outside the dog park?

Bring back the train for additional variety of public transportation.

more flower gardens

What of the Pavilion? America the Beautiful Park is in close proximity and could be better suited for many of the proposals.

Adequate bike parking

This park does not need dog features. This park would be better suited for walking, relaxing for downtown workers. There are minimal dogs downtown and space for dogs should not outweigh space for humans.

Will there be bike parking, including a PikeRide station?

Continue to focus on security and safety with hostile architecture to reduce homeless individuals from hanging out all day.

Many of the dense housing downtown is to the SE, where there are basically no functional parks. More park space needs to be procured and a dog park in those areas would seem to make more sense than in Antlers. The canopy would seem to invite loitering underneath the walkway and seems a superfluous element.

This park needs a shade structure or pavilion. Remove some of the trees from the lawn to keep it more flexible. Please invest in this park immediately. This area of downtown is cutoff from the rest. We need this for our city!

The potential 'green screen' wall, public art, or decorative screen proposed on the parking garage will be a great addition; is there a way to activate that side of the park even more, via access to/from the parking garage, and to/from the hotel? The hotel does not 'face' the park at all except for their outdoor rooftop pool and restaurant terrace, so the park feels as if it's a 'back alley' for the hotel.

Incorporate more of the train history that's in that area.

What is the plan to work with the homeless people of this park? We can't just run them out. Is there a way to increase use and improve their living conditions? Can we install pay showers? The payment for those is a certain amount of recycling? This is possible, innovative, helpful in multiple ways. What parts of this park take into account the growing college student population that could benefit from using this park?

Some walkways to access the park are definitely in need of an upgrade, for safety and aesthetics. I'm glad this will be taken into account

It looks like you plan to plant more trees along the pedestrian sidewalks. Tree roots frequently grow into sidewalk space causing uneven or cracked paths which are jarring or inaccessible to wheelchair users. A drop of a mere one-half inch causes spinal compression and back pain. Trees that overhang pedestrian walkways drop branches and impede quick snow melt, both of which make travel in a wheelchair difficult.

incorporation of history of train station

I would like it if there was an open play space somewhere in the park.

I actually really like this park and its design. I have spent a lot of time here, back when there used to be concerts and look forward to being here again. I absolutely love the dog park, climbing "wall", curving walks but again want to ensure every tree is saved and highlighted. PLEASE!!! our trees deserve to be saved.

This park desperately needs one or more attractions to bring people who will want to spend time there, and return again. It's not a community space today. If the canopy walk, playground and dog features are unique and attractive enough, that may help overcome the park's out-of-the-way location. The Antlers Hotel looming over the park makes it feel intimidating, as does the low lighting and the feeling of isolation when you're there. There's just nobody around that you'd want to have your kids exposed to. Dog park makes sense - people go out of their way for those. Very unique play/climb/adventure space - could do the same. A zip line, or novelty slide structure, either of which could use the hill on the east of the park, could be attractors for families as well.

Incorporating sustainable building materials

Depends on how much lighting is there for night time security.

Bring back the stolen locomotive. Keep the park green, stop trying to add high maintenance objects.

Too many activities for available space. It will be too crowded to enjoy.

Why the dog park

There may too high a % of the area for dog park activity. Staffing?

Very opposed to a dog park in Antlers Park or anywhere else Downtown. Dog owners have already shown themselves to be irresponsible with their pets and their care, with animal waste frequently left all over public walkways and right-of-ways. They have not shown that they can be responsible enough to warrant giving over public park space exclusively to their animals. Until there is better enforcement of animal waste regulations, there shouldn't be an exclusive park space set aside for pets. This park, above all the others, needs a lot of buy-in from its surrounding businesses. If the businesses and landowners around this park don't put in equal effort to attract more customers, patrons, guests, ect. to the area, then it will continue on its current path of abuse and neglect because there was no other reason for people to go there. We need to activate the entire area over there so that there is enough frequency of people there to keep away those who would abuse and damage the park and the investment this plan proposes.

I would like to see better lighting on the streets around the park too

Public Restrooms

Why a sky walk? Dog pond will take too much to keep clean. What will be the deterrent to keep the homeless out? Why is here no food trucks at this park?

Please take care of the Venetucci statue and pumpkin garden area. I didn't see any mention of this in the plans.

Dog parks are nasty. They smell of poo and invite people to drag their dogs downtown when they should be left at home. I NEVER want to encourage more dogs downtown. It is a place of commerce and business and not for dogs. I certainly wouldn't take my kids to play at a park next to dogs. Filthy creatures shouldn't be overrunning city parks. I'm glad you have a vision of people actually wanting to congregate in Antlers park because for the 6 years I've lived here it has been a filthy, scary den of homeless hecklers and drug addicts. I don't even like to park my car on those streets, let alone take my kids to the park. Hopefully you can make some improvements that don't mean paving over the whole space. But how do you think you'll keep the degenerates from peeing all over and leaving dirty needles? I'm super sad about what you've done to Bancroft Park in my neighborhood, it looks uninviting and like everything was paved over to better hose off the urine of the homeless. Just sad. I think you should be able to upgrade our parks without spoiling the historic character of them with concrete.

This will be an interesting re-design. Hope it will attract more folks to the area. Are there still plans for signage about nearby trail, and America the Beautiful Park? Or QR codes so that folks can link to more info about those?

Is the dog area fenced off? I can't tell from the map but it seems like it would need to be. I would like to see a PikeRide station.

Need a center piece to replace engine # 168

Small botanical garden?

remove dog water area, small children would want to play there.

Easy access to/from the Pikes Peak Greenway trail would make this even more of a destination.

This park is underutilized not just due to the location and existing infrastructure. It is a highly trafficked area by the homeless and it is not a place that many feel safe, as it is tucked away. There is no magic fix, but please do consider the element of perceived safety by the users. That should be the first element addressed in the improvements.

Maybe I missed it. It's unclear whether you are incorporating food-growing into these designs. Fruit trees and shrubs are part of our natural landscape in this region and having an interactive vegetable garden in any of these parks would provide education and a unique, but necessary component to our community.

Yeah, no bathroom? And remove yet another shelter from rain or heavy sun? Because there is no other way to deal with the homeless? Weak, weak, weak. No budget money anyway. :/

There is no PikeRide station shown on this design. Will a station be located here?

Lighting needs to be a large consideration as well. Antlers park is entirely dark at night time. The trees cover the limited lighting that there is.

this is where food trucks need space...out of car traffic during downtown events. other areas have been revitalized. acacia and pioneer museum areas...this one needs a draw. food trucks or suggested dog park are great.

This is a park that definitely needs improvements and revitalization. I never go to it (and don't expect that to change), so my only comment is that for the sake of other people who visit the park, I hope the dog park is fenced and monitored.

There should be a PikeRide station here as well.

Some concern that no attended buildings or spaces will exacerbate the homeless camps in this area.

Can the existing shelter be incorporated? It is very handsome.

Close to library; learning tie-in could be made...

If possible, bring back the old steam engine that used to be there to tie the park in with the railroad history.

Seems lacking in an overall theme. Being next to the old train depot, suggest aspects that tie to the park's history with railroads and trains, that were major factors in the founding of the City.

Awfully small to have so much going on. Not much room to lay down a blanket and spread out. And the homeless population??

I like the idea of the urban dog park. Is it possible to add a community garden?

Let's still have a monument to Zebulon Pike.

I do not understand the nature of this park - there are so many ideas it is hard to see the final vision. The dog splash pad is too small, will the dog park be fenced, no formal circulation is proposed, the lawn is too large (what events are proposed here that cannot be accommodated at Acacia?), how is this space responding to its surroundings besides adding a green wall? There is a huge opportunity to incorporate the railway infrastructure and add a more historical use of this park than what is currently proposed.

this plan has zero knowledge of how people circulate to and from this park from downtown

Having a climbing wall may create spaces that lack visibility. With the homeless population, its a concern of mine.

There have been NUMEROUS complaints about the Bear Creek Dog Park on Nextdoor - issues such as dog attacks, pet owners not cleaning up after their pets, etc. While the issue of a dog park is great and serves dog owners, not everyone enjoys the sounds of barking in a traditional park. When there aren't events, quiet and stillness is calming. If this was part of all three parks, I would strongly object as I am a non-dog owner and don't enjoy unruly pets and owners who refuse to clean up after them. Thank you for limiting this somewhat.

I really like how this park hosts several new ideas to the City: downtown dog park, nature play area (slide hill & climbing walls), and the tree canopy walk. I have not been inclined to visit this park in the past, but with the new and unique features, I will be very interested in seeing them come to fruition and will be more inclined to visit in the future. I would like to see some sort of hint at this park's historical significance as the entrance to the City, from the train depot to the premier hotel in downtown (Antlers). Can there be some railroad elements subtly incorporated? Or at least a plaque? Consider the adjacent redevelopment and uses at the train depot and Antlers hotel. This park should enhance the surrounding facilities.

As with Acacia Park, a help/info kiosk would be helpful.

access to the parks over or under adjacent streets

Would like to see how this plays with, or into, the rail depot and what view it will present to people if a regional rail becomes a reality and is centered downtown.

Will there be shaded benches or seating areas for library users to enjoy a good book?

Along with green wall, maybe think about an experimental garden that could be hosted by local Master Gardeners, or the Xeriscape garden. Bring some education into the area--along with trash services for the dog park.

No dog park. Green canopy, please.

Not sure what those design elements are, but this park is missing a PikeRide station.

I'm concerned about the safety of the raised walkway.

Not sure about the dog splash pad, seems like there should just be a larger dog park, the splash pad sounds like a mess and a waste of water. Also not sure about the tree canopy, I feel like grassy places for people to sit and relax among the trees would be much nicer.

Safety and the ability to successfully maintain what you put in place. I wish an elevator shaft could be added as an access from the hotel to the park. Just a thought. I think creating space for continual activities and connections to the Depot area, hotel, and the Olympic Museum are crucial--this and safety.

Why have a tree canopy walk when many of the mature trees will be removed due to ash borer? Is there anything in the park that will acknowledge its historic importance as the front door to tourists and newcomers who arrived by train?

dog park splash area is very small, could it be larger

I hope it receives it's projected use. A lot depends on development of old depot and way to get to Arts district by walking.

Trees. History.

no matter what time of day, the park is so dark

I honestly wish that this swing feature could be a feature all the time! If not seasonal. Adults as well as children love to swing...especially on a comfortable swing. I wish the park had either one or both of the following: ***"The Musical Swings," by Canadian artist collaborative, Daily tous les jours, returned this year to the Green Box Arts Festival. Or ***Oversized free standing bend swings

I hope the tree canopy includes an arbor alley with jasmine vines or some other flower-bearing vine hanging from the man-made roof trusses. That would smell so sweet.

Antlers Park Master Plan does not include a PikeRide Station, and it should.

While I understand the importance of trees to the city of COS, I think this park would be better served without so many. Because of the adjacent hotel, it is very dark and dreary, even in the middle of the day. User safety at this location is also of major concern, although that is already a known factor.

Don't like the green screen idea

This place needs to be turned into a homeless shelter. Keep the trees and figure out how to help the homeless with this space, not clog up an already hard to park area with more cars.

Please consider trimming the existing trees versus removal as their height does hide the Antlers and parking garage structure. Our city trees can be healthy if properly maintained.

None

Nothing that stands out to me.

#7) Is there additional support, ideas or concerns for the three historic downtown parks (either Acacia Park, Alamo Square Park, or Antlers Park) improvements you would like to express?

Safety and cleanliness are always a concern. How do we welcome all citizens and still control unsafe behaviors by some park users which threaten the safety and enjoyment of other park users.

Just greater awareness for safety

Lighting

On the whole, I am impressed. I would just like to reiterate my desire for you to save the Acacia bandshell.

Other than to maintain the historical integrity- and again control the homeless situation- none

Really thoughtful designs preserving the history while planning for the future!

Thank you for going through this process Great ideas and plans. Now let's get them built!

Toilets open during park hours would be great. Parking sucks downtown, especially with the short-time meters-- so some better parking would be nice... but only if it doesn't cost a ton. The increase in parking fees really deters me from going downtown now.

I really love the ideas--it all looks great!

fantastic job! Love the addition of all the trees and added lighting. Can't wait!!

The vagrant problem downtown is my main concern. I worry we're dumping money to make the areas nicer looking, but I won't feel comfortable going alone if the vagrant problem is not addressed. I know vagrants are often homeless and I'm not trying to be unsympathetic. Clearly we don't have enough resources put towards affordable housing and rehabilitation, which would solve my main reason for not using the parks downtown. The last time I walked through Acacia park it was at dusk after dinner with a friend and I was catcalled and followed for a short period by a man pushing around a shopping cart. I don't go alone after dusk anymore to any of the downtown parks. How many others in COS have a similar story? Jazzing up the band shell, replacing trees, and changing up the seating comes way after you figure out how to help the homeless. I understand that is not your department, but I would ask you to reconsider spending on downtown parks without a plan for vagrants in mind.

The plans look very promising! Excited to see them come to fruition

I appreciate the foresight that has gone into this project in order to make downtown Colorado Springs once again a destination location!

This would be wonderful and much needed

The primary entryway to most of these parks are on street corners that are designed in ways that unintentionally encourage loitering, illegal street vendors, camping and other illegal gathering. Being forced to walk through these areas to access a park is intimidating for many people, and sometimes puts people in danger when the activity becomes more aggressive. Please design the intersections and entryways to these parks in ways that discourage such activity. The railings on the planters at the intersection of Kiowa and Tejon are a good example. Relatively cheap, but effective. Also, require the police department to enforce existing laws regarding camping and excessive noise. Otherwise, everything you spend on these improvements will be wasted.

My husband and I just moved back after having children and were so surprised at the state of the parks! Although, these plans are fantastic! I'm so happy to see you are already in the final stages, it really does look beautiful. Thank you all so much for your hard work!

Funding will be a concern obviously, but I cannot wait to see the transformations!

I just would like all our history preserved here, instead of destroyed like in other states.

I think all the ideas embody everything about Colorado Springs from keeping iconic places and improving on different places. I love all the ideas!

Stop talking and start building as soon as possible

With so many much-needed new trees going in to augment and replace those there, provide dedicated funding for City Forestry to be able to water and maintain them properly without being way down the list of Parks Department needs and.

I don't understand why you have to cut down trees that might possibly get a disease in the future. This makes no sense. I might get cancer and die in the future but I don't want you putting me to sleep now.

My only concern is keeping up with all of this to maintain it. I've seen our public restrooms in other parks get closed for various reasons over the years and I wonder how these newer, nicer bathrooms and amenities will be kept clean and maintained. We do unfortunately have a large homeless population downtown and that is one obstacle that I see for the vision for the downtown parks. I know there's no easy answer for this, but it is something to be considered as we improve these areas and bring in even more people than before. I enjoy Acacia and Alamo Square Park, but I don't feel safe in Antlers Park and I see a lot problems in Acacia Park as it is now. Overall though, I am fully in support of this and love that we have people who are caring for and trying to improve downtown parks! These plans bring so much potential for a stronger community in Colorado Springs.

2 of 3 of these parks has a serious drug and homeless problem. I don't feel safe taking my kids to them. There needs to be constant police presence or a park enforcement for smoke free environment.

Thank you for all of your hard work on this project. I'm so excited to see and experience the results!

Nice job overall!

These plans are fabulous! It is clear that a lot of time and community input went in to these.

A green screen wall for the parking garage at the end of Alamo Square Park.

GREAT JOB to the master plan team! I cannot wait to enjoy these parks.

The dog park idea is great and I love the food truck idea of Alamo as well!

Focus on making Acacia a true centerpiece

I love these ideas for improvements to our city parks. We use Acacia and can't wait to see what improvements will mean for kid play spaces.

I am so happy that these plans are going forward, especially in these difficult times.

I like the idea of changing the spark into a family friendly concept, which I hope will become a Destination.

Right now these parks are uninviting to families because parking is costly and the transient population can be aggressive with panhandling or their claims of the parks as home.

I love the attention to the trees.

The parking meters will need to be more user friendly so that patrons do not have to race back to the meter to feed it again if they plan on staying at the park for awhile.

how will these parks encourage appropriate use and discourage their use as "hangouts"

Zero tolerance for vagrancy, bums, crack heads, beggars, and parking fees!

Please remember that the homeless will take over areas of the park and that will push people away. I know you are not associated with the police but consider a partnership. Also include in the budget the added trash that will need to be collected often. Thank you for the work put into this!

I think having a farmers market either in one of the parks or on Tejon st. during the summer would be a great draw to the downtown area!

Cleaner Restrooms

1. Homelessness is the primary concern of a lot of people for all three parks 2. Phasing, so some parts of parks remain open at all times

Mainly security so that people feel safe when visiting.

How to handle homeless population? Who will monitor them? Night lighting as much as possible for safety. Love the open air concept. This has been needed in COS & it will make downtown much more Appealing & inviting to all ages.

Will the tree canopy be wheelchair accessible for the disabled? Will some information about the trees or anything have braille for the blind to feel included?

All three plans look to rely heavily on operations and maintenance expenditures hopefully not at the expense of other parks in the city. Low maintenance concepts should take precedent over high use/high maintenance concepts.

When people talk about safety concerns in all three parks, what they really mean are our homeless citizens. They have as much right to be there as anyone else.

Market tents and vendor accessibility. We need more green walls to soften the hard buildings obstructing the views of the mountains downtown.

Fantastic job of soliciting citizen input, then incorporating it into proposed developments. Also, great job of submitting for citizen review via a digital format due to Covid-19. The whole team at work on this project really brought their A game and it shows. I am excited about the revitalization of these three areas.

Monthly parking rates for the parking meters downtown. A slightly cheaper rate that can be put on a city issued debit card that can be used on any meter in the downtown area. Again it would be a plus for the smaller vendors who are in the downtown area on a daily basis.

The suggested renovations will make the downtown area even more attractive.

Dog parks are great in theory, but with no one to monitor them there are problems. Our dog was attacked at the Red Rocks dog park by 2 vicious dogs whose owners did nothing to stop the attack and told my husband to get out of the park. There was no one there to help my husband or to hold these people accountable. Our vet fee was \$1200. Our vet said they are seeing an increase in the number of dog injuries occurring at these types of spaces. Even periodic patrolling of the no leash parks would help with this serious issue.

I think updating the old band shell is an excellent idea and we, as downtown residents, would like to see summer concerts, outdoor movies and events hosted as in all major cities.

Will you have this completed in time with CC hockey stadium, new museum and stadium? Impact of COVID-19 on funding? Construction?

Affordable housing is absolutely essential for the success of this parks project, in order to reduce the negative impact from the homeless population. They do NOT need to be demonized or penalized, they need to be helped.

Until you deal with the homeless issue anything you do will be wasted.

It would be wonderful if there could be a partnership with PPCC for the Antlers park especially since the campus is expanding the Theatre, Dance, Art, and Music programs. The partnership couple provide a great performance space for the arts for the community.

Safety is key with all the homeless

Make it safe for PPCC students

concerns about the homeless population that are over running our parks, making them much less desirable to spend time in.

Please do not do these renovations without considering the impact it will have on our homeless community members.

Please proceed as quickly as possible :)

See above

The homeless population have taken over any and all enjoyment of spending time downtown as well as accessing our great trail/pathway system to get there by bike with my family. It could be a frequent outing that we make but it is frankly disgusting and depressing to ride from Bear Creek Park to downtown. I would like to see more action in cleaning up this beautiful city and clearing out the homeless.

Yes. Get rid of the homeless and let our city take back its parks, the city, and the history!

I like the ideas. Is there enough interest to maintain and get people to come to all of these new projects. Like a concert venue would be my only concern. Maybe you can have fun things for kids during the days like storytime, dance parties, nature explorers.

Homeless and feeling unsafe. Need security hired to do FOOT patrol within the parks

Homeless, drug traffic, etc. is a problem with all of the down town area! TRAFFIC and mass pedestrian combination is a DANGEROUS and ill-conceived! RESTROOMS access is REALLY needed for the parks if your wanting more foot traffic usage.

The homeless population has moved into downtown and has been especially bad since the coronavirus pandemic began. Safety and security of the parks should be the number 1 priority before and after the renovations are complete.

The parks are not likely to be a community asset until residents feel comfortable and safe using them.

make sure parking is easy (location of, and cost) so everyone can enjoy the improvements

I love the idea of improving all of these city parks. Great for our community, but we truly need to get a handle on the homeless population overrunning these parks and making young families uncomfortable where they are not enjoying these parks.

Will there be bathrooms? Where will the homeless go?

The city claims they want to spend the money to improve the area or are they doing this to increase the value of the surrounding properties for tax purposes or to exclude minorities from moving into the area or force them out and make the are a minority free place except when hosting events to encourage them to spend money.

Primarily concerns about historic and geographic contexts which were not at all addressed. The English language has the largest vocabulary of any in the world and yet, consultants and staff had a difficult time finding any verbs other than ACTIVATE. Disappointing lack of mention or understanding of role of parks in urban areas and the importance of Palmer's parks in relationship to America's greatest park building era.

Love the ideas and fixing these areas up to make them more attractive and accessible; main concern is number of people who may cause families and singles to feel unsafe using the facilities and how to accommodate all users and needs. Would hate to see all the upgrades and then destruction due to a few (whatever the cause)

My biggest concern is the ability to use the parks by the general public. Antlers Park is especially dangerous

Homeless population management is a main reason we shy away from the downtown parks. What's your plan to keep it safe and clean

Safety!!! Not good when parks, especially downtown, are taken over by homeless.

Homeless people are areal problem. They have to be restricted from taking over the spaces. If I do not feel safe there I will not use the parks.

More security, less homeless people. We can't enjoy these parks with these nuisances.

Very nice job, not only of the elements, but of the presentation and the interactive mapping. Congratulations, and good luck.

I worry that Antlers park will continue to be a place for the homeless to hang out. It seems like any improvements made to that park should consider the fact that people will be living there to a degree.

All of the parks in the Springs are now homeless camps. Not a place for families to go to.

Please try and keep some of the things from my childhood. I like to see things moving forward but let's not erase the past.

How do you prevent homeless camps/loitering

Planning for bike-share and bike routes between parks, Tourist Information, and visitors should be considered.

Homeless are always a concern. I like the downtown parks but the increase in homeless people along the trails and in the parks has stopped my from going to those locations. I like the online input you provided. I'm not usually able to attend presentations due to scheduling conflicts and this worked perfectly for me.

You've got to do something about the homeless. Biggest problem we see now is the city police force appears to be purposely not enforcing the existing laws. We see campers along the Greenway within the 100 foot limit from the creek on every single trip, and we ride at least weekly; panhandlers in medians that are too narrow per the city ordinance almost every day, etc. First step--at least enforce the current laws.

The city must establish a plan and retain full time security in these parks. Currently, none of these parks are safe enough for the „greatest benefit for the greatest number of citizens“ as Palmer envisioned. I would not feel comfortable with my teenage daughter going downtown alone without protection and supervision in any of these parks. Until this is addressed, the parks will continue to be unsafe and unsightly no matter the plan.

My biggest concern with the three parks is the homeless. They are everywhere in the three parks and some can be very mean. I drive by the Antlers park every day after work and the amount of homeless people is concerning. Even with the changes to the improvement of the parks if the homeless are still hanging around I won't be going or taking my kids.

If you don't address the homeless problem, other improvements don't matter.

Very happy with the inclusion of food trucks and the dog park! The presence of the homeless population will need to be addressed, though.

This will be a complete waste of time and money if the city/community cannot get a handle on dealing with the aggressive homeless whose behavior currently makes many attractive features and much of the downtown virtually unusable to the majority of the community. The desire to provide excessive "services" and protect dubious "rights" (Who needs to lie down in the middle of the sidewalk, inconveniencing everyone else?) has made public areas of the city a haven for some citizens at the expense of the majority. Upgrading and improving park facilities will be wasted unless this imbalance is corrected.

Colorado Springs parks are NOT family friendly! You should seriously take a look at a few ideas in the parks in the Three Rivers Park District in the Minneapolis, MN area. If you're going to invest in something "park"-related, put the money into a nice one that families can participate in and get behind!

spend money to upgrade and improve suffering neighborhood parks

Police enforcement of the drug dealers, loiters, homeless residing in the park.

I have significant concern reference dogs in city parks rather than a true dog park! Sanitation will be a major effort as typical percentage of owners do not clean up their dogs' feces.. How do we know pets brought into the city parks have been licensed and have immunizations require?

Yes, as mentioned on the Acacia park survey, I said spending millions of dollars on these parks is futile and a waste of money until you take care of the homeless problem of them hanging out in the parks. We no longer feel safe taking our grandkids to these parks as we used to do.

No money until common sense prevails. Take care of suburban parks first.

just don't lose more downtown history trying to be "modern". All the yuppy apartments are not helping. Worried that downtown residents will scoff at non-downtowner use of the parks.

Now is not the time to be obligating future funds when so many people are suffering from forced layoffs and unemployment

There are but I have about as much faith of being heard as we were on the downtown stadium and the Olympic museum-

Just stop it. This is Colorado not Orlando theme parks...

The homeless will just trash any improvements that would be made, especially since police support is non-existent. First and foremost, we need to get the soup kitchen out of downtown!

I'm concerned about prioritization of funding for this project with the announced 5% decrease in city funds due to the COVID pandemic. Park renovation should not be a priority for city funds.

Get the statue out of the intersection of Nevada and Platte!!!

More for Alamo Park.

Stop spending. You're going to cry poor by next year.

Increased security is mentioned for each park. How will that be accomplished? Will evening lighting be maintained all night?

Sooner rather than later a discussion or presentation needs to occur about how these beautiful new parks will be kept safe and properly maintained, or else it feels as though these renovations are all for nothing. I would also like to see plans for waste disposal areas and types, for dogs included!

Please keep the historic aspects of them all. If our history is erased, we can never get it back.

I would try to involve the community in the building process to make it more personal to the surrounding neighborhoods.

These are smaller LEGACY parks, deeded to the city by General Palmer and should be PRESERVED, NOT DEVELOPED. The long-term viability of maintaining all these "improvements" will make these parks less attractive over time. One or two items per park should be enough and will maintain their intended use as parks and not commercial enterprises. LESS IS MORE in these cases.

The elephant in the room is the homeless population.

Please focus city funds on new parks.

Bringing the parks together with walking spaces and tying them into Monument Park. Create corridor from Acacia to Michelson park north entrance to monument. Make sure all three parks are age friendly and have shaded seating area for people to sit down or watch grand kids

How is social distancing being considered in these plans?

For future planning - it seems all of these parks could be connected by a interactive map for visitors to use certain pathways/streets that connect them all? I think those who visit our city would enjoy knowing they could stay at the Antlers and attend a concert at Acacia, eat at the food trucks one night, use the dog park every day and see the new Olympic area. Prime retail real estate along the pathway. Rental bike stations or bike racks so even us locals can get to multiple areas of the downtown area without needing a car.

A specific 'distinguishing' downtown park element for each space that connects all three together??

Excited to see the updates to these parks!

PLEASE don't change the Acacia bandshell!!!

Enclosed dog park with dog water fountains

Please ensure you are tapping more into the history. I feel you have not shown enough respect for the histories when you are not vested in the bandstand and trees and lilacs. I look forward to your melding of past, present and future. I live downtown so I really get it.

Please review bike access and parking in manners that are safe and inviting.

I'm pleased that these parks are getting this attention. Colorado Springs is both a wonderful place to live and raise a family, and a fabulous vacation destination. A lively assortment of public parks is a big contributor to that fact. THANK YOU to all the volunteers and staff for your work on this project!

great work!

Quit carnivalizing, trashing, paving over and commercializing the parks. Spend the money on maintenance and greenery. There's plenty of space out east for you to pave and decorate if that's what you want to do.

The parks are so small and squished in by commercial establishments and the traffic of Nevada, Colorado, Platte and Cascade. You must find some way of balancing the sense of security with beauty and calming features. I do not like how cookie-cutter our parks are, filled with misshapen or over-pruned and clipped hedges that do not flower much. You must bring in a sense of fun and nature.

Connections to trails etc are clearly marked. A space for food trucks is identified well. Acacia is too frenetic: an over attempt to implement the concept of safety being related to use. An oasis from the downtown density is needed.

All of the local Downtown parks should have better signage directing people to the other parks and the features of those parks. This should, at a minimum include the big Downtown three (Antlers, Acacia, Alamo Square) and Monument Valley Park - what was once called the "Central Park of the West." MVP has a lot of wonderful features to bring to the table and has multiple historic entrances all along the park, but doesn't exactly stick out and may be difficult to find for first-timers. These three parks, being nearly as old as Colorado Springs itself, is a great place for some historical signs, displays, or plaques. Unlike a lot of other cities of our size, we don't have a lot of historic markers or recognitions around. It would be great to use these park renovations as the lynchpin for a new series of historic markers or a self-guided history walking tour since these parks have seen so much come and go over nearly 150 years of existence.

Security and Peaceful Enjoyment.....Shopping Carts (Residence) in Parks should be discouraged.

Where is all the money going to come from? Why is the city prioritizing art instead of infrastructure?

I think lighting in all of these parks should be prioritized. This will make the community feeler safe at late night events and encourage community gathers as well as hopefully discourage crime activities

Please see my comments to each park plan.

Get the homeless out of the parks. That is the best improvement you could make. No one wants to take their kids to the playground where drug addled degenerates are laying on benches or in the grass. I love the concept of making Alamo Park a hub for markets and activities, but am sad because I can no longer imagine a world where it is safe and smart to attend such crowded gatherings. Certainly not in the next couple of years and maybe never again. Instead of trying to turn these lovely historic parks into areas of commerce, please consider making them safe for people to enjoy green spots of nature in the downtown area while staying apart, and not spending money. Not every square inch of Suthers' domain needs to be a revenue generator. With the inhospitable parking meter fees added for 2020, I had quit going downtown before the pandemic hit and I don't need to go way over there to see a park. But it saddens me that visitors to our city might only see that downtown core area and without quiet peaceful recreation space, there is no respite from the carnival atmosphere. Don't turn us into a theme park city. Consider the historic significance of these parks and treat them with dignity, not just a dressed up concrete blanket to make a buck off tourists. Where are the plans for terrific play structures for little kids? The splash pad you have is pathetic and small (and overrun with degenerates) —why add really great ones to each park to spread things out and provide more fun places for kids? How about fantastic climbing structures instead of filthy dog poo areas? Why not nice benches on shady paths to enjoy the inner city greenway instead of concrete steps? Be thoughtful about the history of these parks and be true to their origin and character.

Keep working with enterprises addressing the homeless. The concentration of this population in downtown is a main reason some folks stay away.

I appreciate all the work that has gone into these plans and very much appreciate the opportunity to provide input. If you had a PikeRide station at all these parks, I would have said that I was satisfied, or even very satisfied. Clearly I'm a PikeRide fan and am always looking for stations. Fewer cars driving downtown would be great.

Connect Antlers Park conveniently to Monument Valley trails

It's really the safety.

Do consider that while these parks are simple and do not offer much in the way of 'attractions', that is part of the simple charm and a way for people to think about how they are sitting on steps or by a tree that generations before have. New isn't always better and flash isn't always what draws people to use the parks. I would also like to see some historical informational signage created that shows how/when and by who the parks were created.

Looking forward to seeing what comes of all of this!

Razing our shelters is a weak way of dealing with homeless/bums. Bancroft is stupid to experience now. Paved; and no sun shelter. Stupid in action; and costly. Are we becoming Denver; or Austin? Because they both suck. .

Definitely concerned about the band shell being removed. It's an extremely important part of these historical parks! Leave the shell alone! Improve on it rather if it must!

Not a dollar should be spent towards improving the parks unless we can ensure that they will be safe, clean, well lit and well policed. As long as that is our number one priority, we can move forward with the other improvements and enhancements.

thank upi

I'm glad to see the attention to tree replacement. Let's do that for some of our other older neighborhood parks (Shooks Run, Boulder Park, and Bonforte Park especially come to mind).

Include PikeRide stations in a safe way.

The three parks need "permanent" porta potties, maintained by contractors. We need public bathrooms for everyone, even homeless. There are many clever designs in the world with open tops or open bottoms that are functional, but safe.

Please don't repeat the mistake of those who demolished "Little London" by destroying the current stage. We need to preserve the small bits of history we have left!

hate to see you spend the money 9n these at the present.

I think all improvements should balance the history of the city and also the natural elements that make Colorado unique.

I'm thrilled about the upgrades to these spaces, which could be used so much more effectively! I do have a concern about the further displacement of our homeless population from these areas, and hope that planners (as well as law enforcement officers after these changes are made) will take those folks into consideration.

Community gardens?

How do these parks respond to the HUGE amounts of homeless and vagrants that currently make these parks unattractive, dangerous and dirty? What about larger circulation around these parks? They all look very singular and not responding to their locations. Does the design team even live in Colorado Springs? As a design professional myself, I can tell the designers do no live in Colorado Springs and do not fully understand these parks.

pay more attention the circulation from downtown. the south east entrance needs to be more enticing and most other people with come from the north east entrance, the library, the college. crossing sierra madre will always be a pain the east entrance has more opportunities for people to discover and enter the park

The lack of public restrooms puts a burden on local businesses. However, we cannot provide this because of the issues with the homeless population. With big events, the port-a-potty options would be the most viable solution. It would be nice is there was an alternative. Pay-Pottys - that would be facilitated by a private company. Just some ideas.

I am glad that vendor spaces have been considered. As a vendor myself who can't afford a brick and mortar store, this is a helpful alternative. Plus sales means sales tax, which helps the city. Thank you!

More garden themes to soften edges with different types of seating, grass areas need to be unique in shapes. Be creative

I really like the visions for these parks, I look forward to seeing the improvements implemented. Don't hide the historical significance of these parks, even if its just a plaque that describes the history of the park, I think that it is necessary to preserve the historical context of the parks. If we don't recognize these parks as particularly special civic hubs, they will just be 400'x400' parks and not stand out among the rest of the City Parks. These parks and the reason for their dedication to the City are part of the fabric of the City's story, tell the story! Good work Connie and Design Workshop!

integration intentional bike paths

I would like to see some of the adjacent streets closed off to road traffic to encourage pedestrian use and walking near the parks. It would also encourage use of the many nearby parking structures and keep people from driving loops to find nearby street parking.

bike racks & bike share should be more integrated and thought out.

Interactive digital kiosks for community promotion and art presentations as well as directions to downtown activities and locations at the Acacia location.

The city is constructing buildings flush with walks. More green, please, in the area!

I think the (much needed) improvements and associated investment in these downtown parks is great. The timing could not be better. Only real suggestion is to ensure each location has an obvious PikeRide bike share station installed.

Amazing ideas!!! I can't wait to visit them after work is completed!

Just make sure to continue to prioritize safety and security. A lot of lighting. Maybe phone stations like on college campuses for when people can connect straight to authorities. A lot of line of sight. Security guards roaming if possible (I know this is costly).

It seems like there won't be any open space, everything is filled with some sort of structure or feature. Just nice grassy spaces for people to sit and enjoy the new trees and nature are far better than concrete and benches which limit where people can hang out and eat, gather, enjoy downtown, etc.

My husband and I are not averse to taxes for such public spaces or community important infrastructure. We think the more city-wide grass root's effort you incorporate into this process, the more public support you will receive. Parks and open space are so important to our city, and all of us need to be responsible and involved in their creation and sustainability.

Be careful tearing down the historic bandshell in Acacia. We don't want this to be another Opera House debacle...

add more arts to the parks with live events or artist days where the arts can show their works

Save the trees! Keep the history!

trash bins are well dispersed and clean. the green receptacles we have downtown are dirty and do not encourage people to use them.

I honestly wish that this swing feature could be a feature all the time! If not seasonal. Adults as well as children love to swing...especially on a comfortable swing. I wish the park had either one or both of the following: ***The Musical Swings," by Canadian artist collaborative, Daily tous les jours, returned this year to the Green Box Arts Festival. Or ***Oversized free standing bend swings

Since I love history and nostalgia, as do many other people, I sincerely hope that you will preserve the historical appearance of the parks in whatever you do.

Keep historic relics and maybe include some informative signage giving information & pictures about the relics for visitors to read and understand the significance of the items.

I'm a native of Colorado Springs. The homeless population is my main concern for the city. I take my kid to two of these parks and we are completely satisfied with them as is. What isn't great is having to explain to my child all sorts of things when she asks about the homeless people we see downtown. Figure a way to put the money there - showers, more toilets, more trash cans. Anything other than adjustments that would end up pointless because the homeless would deter people from going. Thank you.

I would like to see city parks work on retaining old growth trees. These trees are not all unhealthy.

None

No

Public Comments to Parks Staff Survey during Preferred Plan Digital Open House

1. Comment & Question:

Interesting article in today's Gazette about the park plans and they look good.

I did not see the Antlers park pavilion that was donated to the city by the Rotary Club of Colorado Springs many years ago being used. What would happen to this historic structure? I don't see any covered structure in the plan and wonder what protection there will be for sudden summer thunderstorms?

2. Question:

I do a Walk MS event each year at Acacia park. I am wondering once the master plan for the 3 parks are approved what the timeline of construction would be?

Do you know yet if the park would be available during construction or will it be completely closed for the whole time?

The Walk MS Colorado Springs is on the 3rd Saturday of May each year.

I just need to know if and when I would need to look for alternatives if needed.

3. Comment:

This is another ridiculous attempt by the downtown crowd to use our tax money to pump money into their pockets. Stop with the downtown foolishness and pay attention to what's happening outside that area. We can't water our lawns because of the influx of people coming into the city, again encouraged by the downtown elite. Look to the future and stop the apartment growth. The traffic is terrible because of the resources put into the downtown area. No thought has been given to traffic mitigation. Law enforcement is stretched to the limit as our city growth has brought the crime of the big city you people want to this area. You can't handle the homeless problem in your downtown area. Will they be included in the ice skating group or soccer stadium participants? This whole development has been a farce since it started. Someone needs to stand up and stop the foolishness. We don't have money to water or take care of the neighborhood parks where will the money come from to maintain an open ice arena? (05/12/20)

4. Question:

Can you tell me to what degree the proposed designs for the three DT parks decrease the amount of permeable surface in each park?

Please do not tear down the Acacia Park band shell. As of now, I am aware of about 16 emails. I can confirm a better number, but you might have the point needed. Some of this was in response to the FB posting to Save the 1914 Acacia band shell.

5. Approximately 26 emails regarding saving the 1914 Acacia Park band shell