CENTENNIAL TRAILS AND RECREATION PLAN

2017

Centennial

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Cover: High Line Canal Trail
Spread: Centennial Center Park

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Photo Credits, Cover and Spread: City of Centennial

deKoevend Park

1

INTRODUCTION

Photo Credit, Opposite Page: Design Workshop

WHO WE ARE

CENTENNIAL'S OUTDOORS

In 2016, the City of Centennial surveyed area residents to gain a better understanding of community values and provide direction for long- and short-term planning as part of Centennial NEXT, the City's comprehensive plan update. When asked "What do you LOVE about Centennial?" surveyors identified the top two responses from residents as (1) Parks and (2) Trails.

Centennial's Trails and Recreation system is not only an important asset cherished by community members, it also plays an essential role in the City's identity. Centennial Center Park, the High Line Canal, deKoevend Open Space Park and the Piney Creek Trail are among the many loved and well-used recreation and natural spaces showcasing Centennial's commitment to active and healthy living, support and protection for the natural environment and wildlife, and long-term collaboration with local and regional partners.

Centennial's Trails and Recreation jurisdictional structure continues to be distinct from other municipalities in the region, as it depends on partnerships — with the South Suburban Park and Recreation District, Arapahoe County Open Spaces, the Arapahoe Park and Recreation District, Smoky Hill Metropolitan District and Southeast Metro Stormwater Authority (SEMSWA), along with many homeowners' associations (HOAs) — to develop, maintain and manage resources for Centennial residents. These partnerships will continue to allow the City to make collaborative decisions and wise investments in a growing trails and recreation system for Centennial residents.

Cherry Knolls Park

WHAT WE VALUE

Significant progress has been made in our trails and recreation system since Centennial's 2001 incorporation. Trail expansion, new park facilities and regulatory policies protecting natural assets have progressed over the past 16 years, resulting in the treasured network of amenities that residents use today. As Centennial looks toward the future, it carries essential values to guide the direction of new and renewed policies, capital projects, partnerships and human resource assets:

- Parks, trails, open space and recreational facilities in the City of Centennial are intended for the **entire community**. Accessibility and universal design is an essential feature of Centennial resources.
- Centennial's trails and recreation system is a **functional and activated** network. Creative programming, diverse events and attention to facility maintenance needs inspire community members to engage with available facilities year-round.
- Centennial is a valuable and responsive **regional partner.** The City's role in regional decision-making and investment management is guided by community values and resident feedback.
- Centennial's trails and recreation system is essential to the **community's identity**. Area facilities, landscapes, and structures are reflective of Centennial residents and the City's character.

WHERE WE'RE GOING

The Centennial Trails and Recreation Plan envisions a future for the community's recreation system that builds on area strengths while identifying new components to take the City's parks and trails to the next level. This document is a guiding resource for residents, stakeholders, community leaders, City staff and policy makers as they make decisions about new investments, facility maintenance, policy and governance of the trails and recreation system in the City of Centennial.

Four defining concepts of the plan are directly aligned with resident feedback and serve as the framework for plan recommendations.

Playing at Home

Centennial's Parks describe how park improvements, investments and programming will be identified and managed in the future.

Connecting Communities

Centennial's Trails Network identifies important partnerships to help the City "fill the gaps" in the regional trail system and provides important standards to elevate resident trail experiences.

Serving an Active Population

Recreation in Centennial aligns community feedback regarding athletics and recreation facilities and programming with recommendations for future improvements.

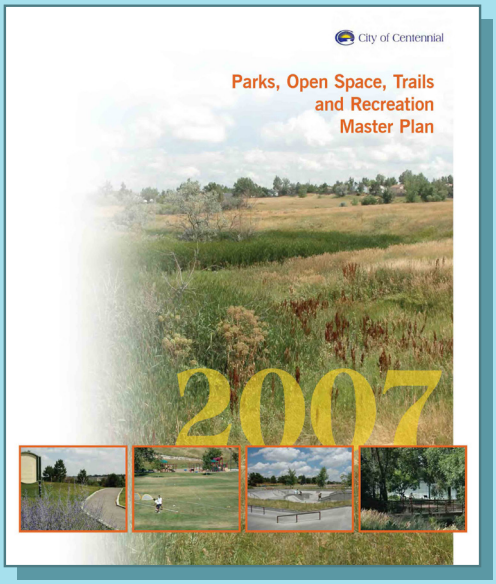
Protecting Our Natural Resources

Open Space in Centennial outlines critical policies and projects to protect and enhance natural areas and Colorado wildlife in the City.

Photo Credit, Opposite Page: City of Centennial

RECOGNIZING OUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The 2007 Parks, Open Space, Trails and Recreation Master Plan strived to create a system that transforms green space into an outdoor living room for Centennial residents. Priorities included strengthening the trail network, addressing equity issues, creating a memorable and unique system and providing spaces for celebration and community events. In 2007, Centennial residents identified the City's green space system as one of the key reasons residents and businesses located to the City. The plan's recommendations and criteria for investment prioritized the development of a network of resources that would instill community pride and raise awareness about natural assets. The plan's essential guidelines continue to align with priorities identified through recent community surveys and many of these priorities carry forward into the 2017 planning process.



Where We Started

In 2007, the City of Centennial had approximately 103,000 residents and covered 28.2 square miles. At the time of the 2007 plan, the City had 1,732 acres of parks and open space, including 524 acres of public park land and 904 acres of HOA managed open space*. There were 52 total parks and playing fields, five of which were considered community parks. There were also 26 miles of principal trail corridors.

Where We Stand Today

Current population estimates indicate there are approximately 110,000 residents in the City of Centennial and population growth is projected to continue. The City has grown to 29.1 square miles in area and 11 percent of this land is now public space. Today, there are 53 parks in the City of Centennial covering 569 acres; 534 acres of private (HOA) open space*; 57 miles of existing trails; and 2,066 total acres of parks and open space.

One of the area's most beloved assets is Centennial Center Park, an 11-acre park located on the north side of Arapahoe Road between South Revere Parkway and South Vaughn Street. The park brings new amenities to the City's center including an award-winning playground and splash pad, picnic shelters, fireplaces, restrooms, fountains, natural areas and a large amphitheatre with capacity for

Checking the Numbers: Today's Facilities

Facility Type	Today (2017)
Number of Parks within City boundaries	**53**
Park acreage within City boundaries	**569.3 acres**
Private (HOA) Open Space* acreage within City boundaries	**534.4 acres**
Public Open Space acreage within City boundaries	**962.7 acres**
Primary trail mileage (includes on and off-road facilities)	**57.7 miles**

* Note: For planning purposes, existing private open space acreage includes HOA open spaces equal to or greater than 0.3 acres in size. Private open space smaller than 0.3 acres is not considered to be accessible or useable and are therefore noncontributing under the assumptions of this plan. The 2007 Master Plan included all private open space. By comparison, the total amount of private open space in 2017, including noncontributing land, is 931 acres.

5,000 visitors. Centennial Center Park is currently the only City-owned and maintained park within the City's boundaries.

The City has continued to build its relationships with area partners, including South Suburban Parks and Recreation District (SSPRD), Arapahoe County Open Spaces (ACOS), Arapahoe Park and Recreation District (APRD), Smoky Hill Metropolitan District (SHMD) and Southeast Metro Stormwater Authority (SEMSWA). These partnerships have resulted in the installation of a number of new trails including the Little Dry Creek Trail and new facilities such as the Arapahoe Road Trailhead.

As we look to the future of our outdoor spaces, the following practices will be important to meet the needs and desires of the Centennial community:

Photo Credit: City of Centennial

2017 Brew 'N Que event at Centennial Center Park

1. Create well-connected public spaces

Through the establishment of new parks, public spaces and an expanded trail system, the City gets closer every year to reaching its goal of all homes in Centennial being within a 1/2-mile of a neighborhood park. Special attention should be given to expanding park availability in currently underserved communities.

2. Establish a strong community image and identity

Parks and trails are among Centennial residents' most cherished community assets. As we continue to build on these strengths, celebrating that identity will be an important feature of Centennial's brand.

3. Practice sound stewardship of open lands

Centennial continues to hold high expectations for sustainability and stewardship, but today's development regulations lack specificity when it comes to preservation and new open space requirements. Centennial's comprehensive planning strategies should reflect the desire to protect open space.

4. Develop a proactive approach to meeting future needs

Projects and metrics identified in the 2007 Master Plan have given the City and its Open Space Advisory Board (OSAB) tangible goals and resulted in many improvements and new facilities. Measurable outcomes continue to be a priority for the City, with a focus on understanding existing assets and asking the community to participate in identifying future needs.

5. Ensure equitable distribution of facilities

As the City continues to grow east of I-25, access to parks and trails facilities east of I-25 have improved. However, this area still has a need for additional green space and improved access to facilities.

LOOKING TOWARD 2030

GOALS + PRIORITIES

In defining goals and priorities for the Trails and Recreation Plan, the City sought community input while working closely with other ongoing planning efforts that interface with the City's trails and recreation system, including the South Suburban Parks and Recreation Master Plan, the Arapahoe County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan, the Community Vision Plan for the High Line Canal and Centennial NEXT, the City's comprehensive plan update. Dozens of existing plans were reviewed while coordinating with parks and recreation providers, property owners, City staff and others to provide direction and define a clear vision for the future of Centennial's parks, trails, recreation facilities and open spaces. The master planning process has been guided by the following goals:

- Reaffirm the community's vision and values as they relate to parks, trails, open space and recreation within Centennial.
- Address the City's policies and practices for collaborating with local recreation districts and other partners.
- Create a plan that provides policy guidance; identifies future capital projects; and includes an implementation strategy for prioritized projects.
- Deliver a plan that meets the expectations of the City Council, the Planning and Zoning Commission and Open Space Advisory Board, and can be supported by Centennial's stakeholders.

Photo Credit: Design Workshop

TRP Advisory Committee Meeting

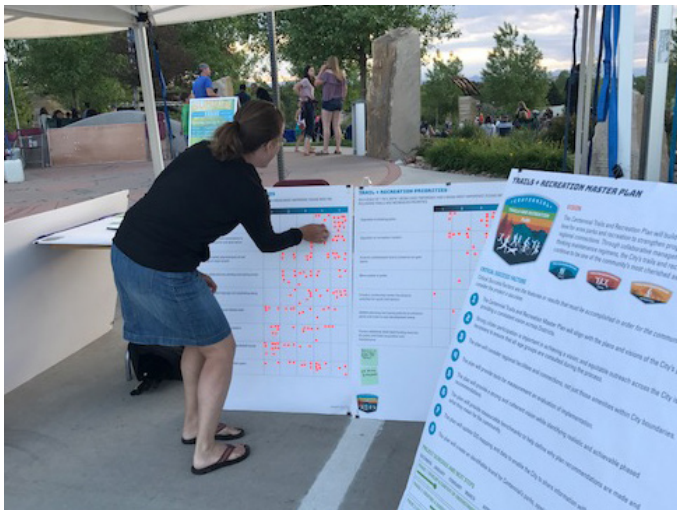


Photo Credit: Design Workshop

Weighing priorities at a park event

CRITICAL SUCCESS FACTORS

In addition to the project goals, the following critical success factors were developed at the beginning of the planning process to guide decision making and set expectations for the adopted master plan:

- The Centennial Trails and Recreation Plan needs to align with the plans and visions of the City's partners, providing a consistent vision across Districts.
- Strong citizen participation is important to achieving a vision, and equitable outreach across the City is necessary to ensure all age groups are consulted during the process.
- Consider regional facilities and connections, not just those amenities within City boundaries.
- Provide tools for measurement and evaluation of implementation.
- Provide a strong and coherent vision while identifying realistic and achievable phased recommendations.
- Include measurable benchmarks to help define why plan recommendations are made and what they mean for the community.
- Update GIS mapping and data to enable the City to share information with the community.
- Create an identifiable brand for Centennial's trails and recreation network.

These goals and critical success factors provide the backbone to the recommendations outlined in this Trails and Recreation Plan. Throughout the engagement and planning process four themes emerged as priorities for the community:

Playing at Home

Connecting Communities

Serving an Active Population

Protecting Our Natural Resources

These themes outline the major goals for each facility type in Centennial's Trails and Recreation system.

PLAYING AT HOME

- Align Park Development with Population Growth
- Activate What We Have

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

- Complete and Fortify the Network
- Elevate the Trails Experience

SERVING AN ACTIVE POPULATION

- Diversify Recreation and Athletics Facilities
- Organize Activities and Inform Citizens

PROTECTING NATURAL RESOURCES

- Provide and Preserve Habitat
- Conserve Historic Character and Landscapes

deKoevend Park

2

A SNAPSHOT OF TODAY

Today, Centennial residents celebrate a parks and trails system that is one of the most loved features of their City. This chapter provides a snapshot of the existing parks, open spaces, trails and recreation facilities that comprise the trails and recreation system, serving as a baseline for today's conditions upon which the plan recommendations are based.

Photo Credit, Opposite Page: City of Centennial

REGIONAL PARTNERSHIPS

WORKING TOGETHER

The City of Centennial partners with local recreation districts, metropolitan districts and other agencies to manage, operate and program the City's existing parks and trails facilities. The South Suburban Park and Recreation District (SSPRD) manages Centennial facilities west of I-25. SSPRD is a community-driven organization that provides indoor and outdoor recreation amenities to the City of Centennial along with five other cities in portions of three counties, including Arapahoe, Douglas and Jefferson. Led by a board of directors, SSPRD maintains master and strategic plans to help guide the direction of facilities in their district and is funded through a mill levy property tax.

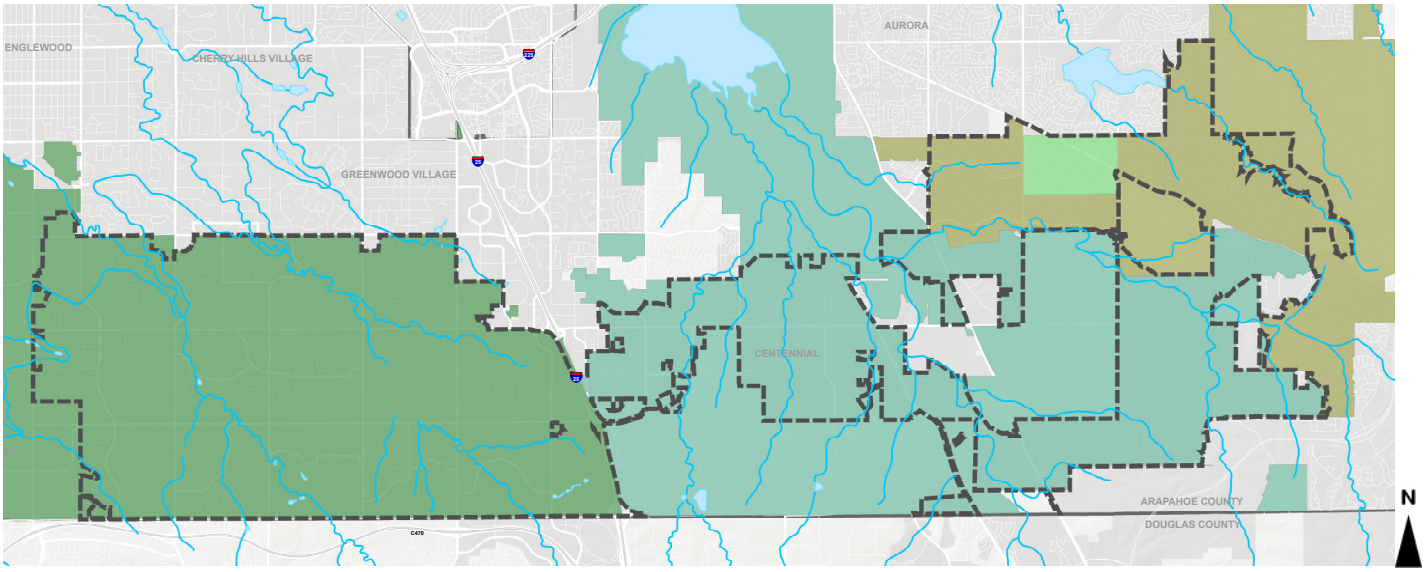
Another major partner in the management of the City's parks and trails is the Arapahoe County Open Spaces. Arapahoe County's Open Space Program began in 2003 when the citizens of Arapahoe County voted to fund the program through a quarter-of-a-penny Open Space Sales and Use Tax. The tax was renewed in 2011 when voters approved to extend the program to 2023 and currently provides over 80 percent of the City's funding for recreation.

Arapahoe Park and Recreation District (APRD) is another key partner for the City of Centennial's recreation needs. APRD plans, develops, maintains and programs parks, open space, trails and recreational amenities for Centennial residents in portions of the east side of the City. The District is governed by an elected board of directors and funded through a mill levy property tax.

The Smoky Hill Metropolitan District collects membership dues from district residents to maintain public areas, seven district parks, drainage areas and a pool and clubhouse in a neighborhood surrounding Smoky Hill Road between Buckley and Tower Roads.

The Parker Jordan Metropolitan District cooperates with the City of Centennial to provide major capital improvements to benefit District residents and property owners. The District was created in 1985 for the purpose of providing streets, safety protection controls, park and recreation facilities, storm, flood and drainage facilities and transportation facilities for the property owners within the District. It encompasses approximately 1,080 acres in southern Arapahoe County.

RECREATION DISTRICTS



LEGEND

- ARAPAHOE COUNTY REC DISTRICT
- ARAPAHOE PARK + REC DISTRICT
- SMOKY HILL METRO DISTRICT
- SOUTH SUBURBAN PARKS + REC DISTRICT

The High Line Canal Conservancy champions the 71 miles of the High Line Canal. Of that overall distance, approximately 5 miles are within Centennial's borders. The Conservancy's recently completed Community Vision Plan intends to preserve and enhance the cherished greenway, and the City of Centennial and partners are committed to the vision established in the plan.

These partnerships play a vital role in the ongoing development and maintenance of the City's recreational assets. The City of Centennial collaborates with these groups to pursue funding, identify potential projects and develop regional plans for the trails and recreation system.

FUNDING CENTENNIAL'S SYSTEM

There are three main sources of funding for Centennial's trails and recreation system. In 2016, these sources generated approximately $3 million and were applied to maintenance services and supplies, capital outlay (including grant-making) and personnel support.

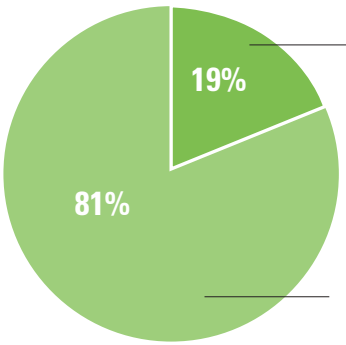
The Open Space Fund, which is generated by the Arapahoe County Open Space Tax, is the largest of these sources and includes revenue generated from sales tax, grant revenues and income made on investments. Fifty percent of funds raised through the Open Space Sales and Use Tax are given back to cities within Arapahoe County and the tax has contributed to the construction or improvement of over 200 miles of trails, more than 150 park and trailhead projects, and the conservation of over 33,000 acres of open space in the County. Schedule to sunset in 2023 if not renewed by a vote of the County population, the Open Space Sales and Use Tax is vital to the continued success of Centennial's trails and recreation system.

The Conservation Trust Fund is a revenue source generated by the Colorado State Lottery Program and includes lottery proceeds as well as investment income.

In addition, Centennial's General Fund provides support for personnel and services that are funded through the Open Space Fund and Conservation Trust Fund. City Council works with City staff, Open Space Advisory Board and regional partners to identify an annual budget and plan collaborative projects with area districts to deliver trails and recreation services and programs that meet the area's growing population and changing needs.

RECREATION FUNDING

CITY OF CENTENNIAL FUNDING SOURCES*

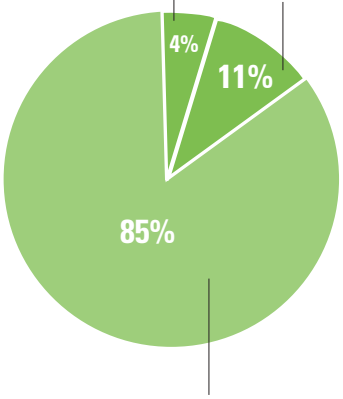


Conservation Trust Fund (CTF)
CTF receives 40 percent of all state lottery proceeds. The Department of Local Affairs distributes CTF dollars from net lottery proceeds to over 450 eligible local government entities (on a per capita basis) that provide park and recreation services in their service plans.

Arapahoe County Open Space Sales Tax
In 2003, citizens of Arapahoe County voted to fund an Open Spaces Program through a quarter-of-a-penny sales and use tax (25 cents on every $100 spent). This tax was renewed in 2011. This important program is scheduled to sunset in 2023.

*Percentages represent 2016 data

CITY OF CENTENNIAL RECREATION BUDGET*



PARKS

Today, the City of Centennial has over 560 acres of dedicated park space, allowing for approximately 5.12 park acres for every 1,000 residents. This land includes parks owned and operated by area recreation districts, and metropolitan district, Centennial Center Park (which is owned by the City), and parks associated with area schools. There are two regional parks, deKoevend and Little Dry Creek, and eight community parks, which are larger in size (over 20 acres) and highly amenitized assets for residents in the area. There are 35 playgrounds in the City to accommodate younger populations, both east and west of I-25, and some special use parks, such as the the APRD Skate Park and South Suburban Golf Course.

Research indicates there is a lack of park space in the central region of the City; however, residents in this area have close access to Cherry Creek State Park as well as a number of trail and open space corridors that run north-south. When asked by a survey as part of the Centennial NEXT comprehensive planning process whether the City has adequate parks and recreation facilities within walking distances of resident homes, 75 percent of respondents indicated there are adequate facilities. However, when results were compared to where in Centennial respondents live or work, only 60 percent of residents east of I-25 indicated adequate facilities nearby.

Beyond the natural assets and recreational amenities provided by parks in Centennial, the system also plays an important role in community gathering and social connectedness in the region. The City currently hosts 10 annual community events at Centennial Center Park for residents to celebrate community and enjoy the local culture in an outdoor setting. Concerts, food events and movies in the park take place throughout the spring, summer and fall, while a Holiday Celebration activates the park and brings residents together for a winter event fostering community pride.

Photo Credit: City of Centennial

Playground at Centennial Center Park

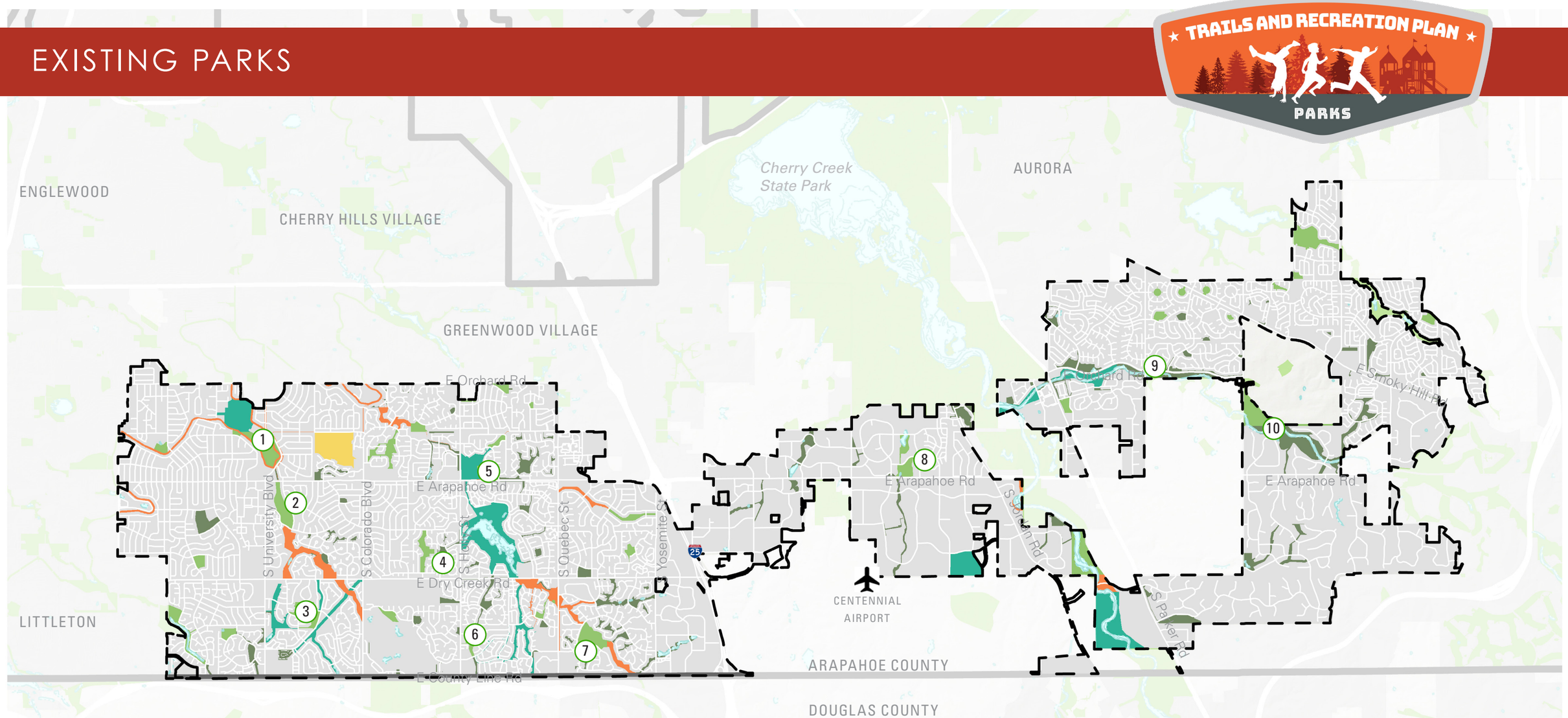
Photo Credit: City of Centennial

Playground at Cherry Knolls Park

Photo Credit: COSKATE.com

APRD Skate Park

EXISTING PARKS



LEGEND

- CITY BOUNDARY
- PARK
- PRIVATE OPEN SPACE
- PUBLIC OPEN SPACE
- CEMETERY
- TRAIL CORRIDOR

COMMUNITY + REGIONAL PARKS

1. deKoevend Park
2. Cherry Knolls Park
3. Arapaho Park
4. Little Dry Creek Park
5. Holly Park + Open Space
6. Fox Hill Park
7. Willow Creek Park
8. Centennial Center Park
9. Trails Recreation Center +Park
10. Piney Creek Hollow Park

*For a complete inventory of all park sites and amenities within the City of Centennial, refer to Appendix A.

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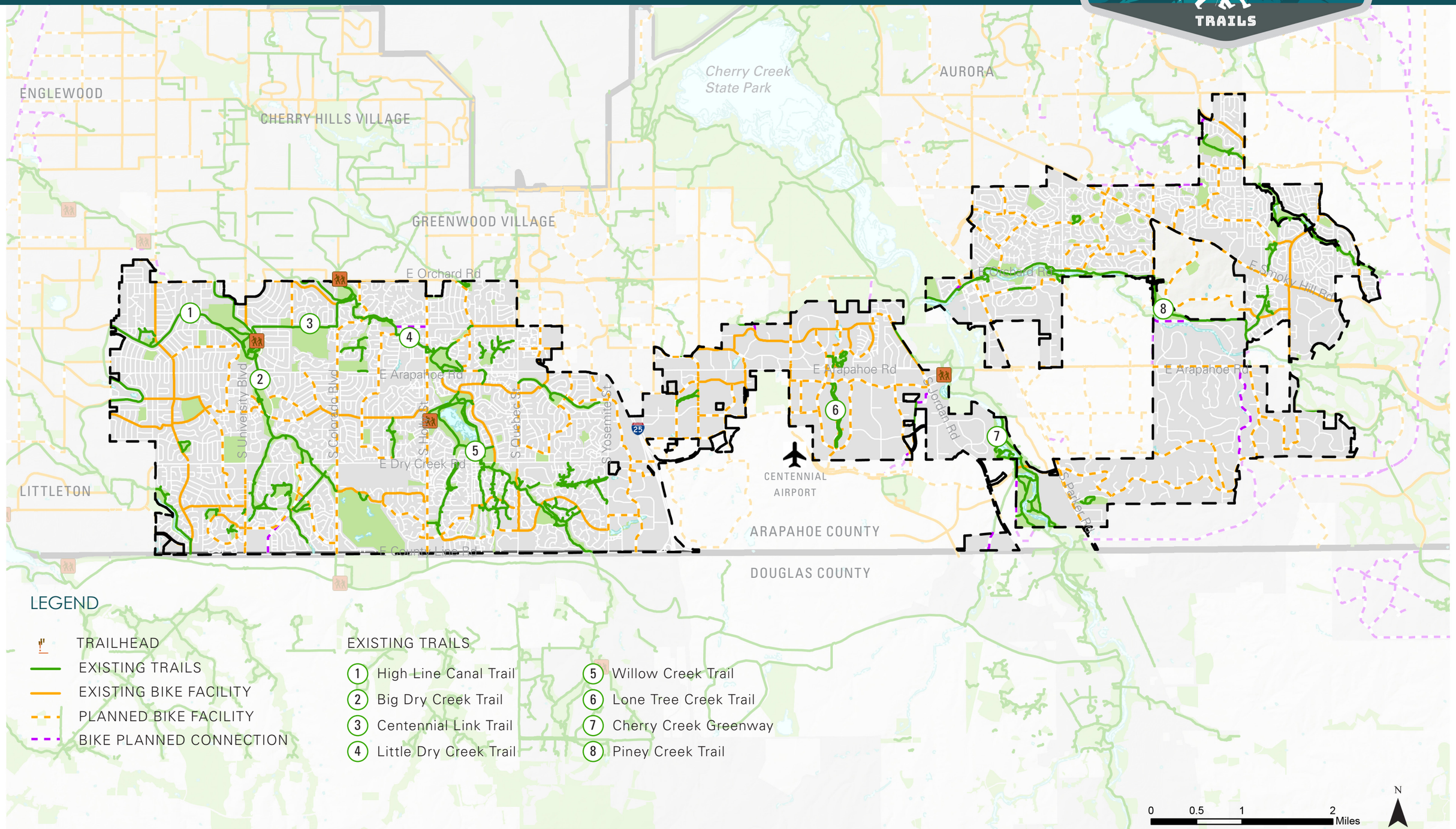
EXISTING + PLANNED TRAILS



TRAILS

Photo Credit: Design Workshop

The High Line Canal Trail at deKoevend Park

Photo Credit: City of Centennial

Piney Creek Trail signage

Photo Credit: Design Workshop

On-street bike facilities and route signage

Since the 2007 Parks, Open Space, Trails and Recreation Master Plan was completed, the City of Centennial and its partners have been successful in developing area trails and bike facilities while connecting the City's assets to an expansive regional network. Today there are 64 miles of trail facilities in the City, which include both hard- and soft-surface multi-use facilities. Much of this system aligns with major creeks and drainageways that run north-south through the City, including (but not limited to) Big and Little Dry Creeks, Cherry Creek and Piney Creek. There are also approximately 28 miles of bike facilities in Centennial that include on-street bike lanes and shared roadways, as well as off-street shared use paths. Residents have expressed concerns for safety and the need for intersection improvements as priority issues for this system.

To further expand connections and links throughout Centennial, the City participated in the Arapahoe County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Planning process. The County plan proposes an additional 108 miles of proposed bike facilities and 14 miles of proposed trail connections across the County and standardizes trail and bike facility condition and composition. While this plan will not be formally adopted by Centennial's City Council, its recommendations and priorities will have an impact on access to trails for Centennial residents.

Trail signage is an important component of the system providing identity for routes while indicating path options and proximity to destinations. Signage throughout the City today varies based on the regional partner and recreation district ownership. These partners tend to apply their own signage and branding standards that are not always consistent in communication, education or style.

RECREATION FACILITIES

Recreational facilities in the City of Centennial include both indoor and outdoor facilities and amenities and programs. There are a number of important and highly used outdoor facilities including:

- 55 baseball fields
- 20 basketball courts
- 69 multi-use fields
- 24 tennis courts
- 2 golf courses

There are also two indoor recreation centers in the City of Centennial, including Goodson Recreation Center to the west of I-25 and the Trails Recreation Center to the east. Goodson Recreation Center is managed by SSPRD and offers a wide range of indoor fitness and individual recreational opportunities, along with child care, summer camp day programs and arts classes. Trails Recreation Center is managed by APRD and also offers indoor fitness and recreation activities along with cultural, arts and leisure programs. In addition to daily programs, these facilities provide annual events and community-building activities for area residents — such as youth Halloween parties, holiday cookie decorating and spring egg hunts — providing opportunities for community members to connect and socialize.

While supporting growing families in Centennial will remain of high importance in the future, the senior population is projected to increase significantly in the next ten years. Expanding programs and services to reach this demographic will be an important feature of the recreational offerings in the City.

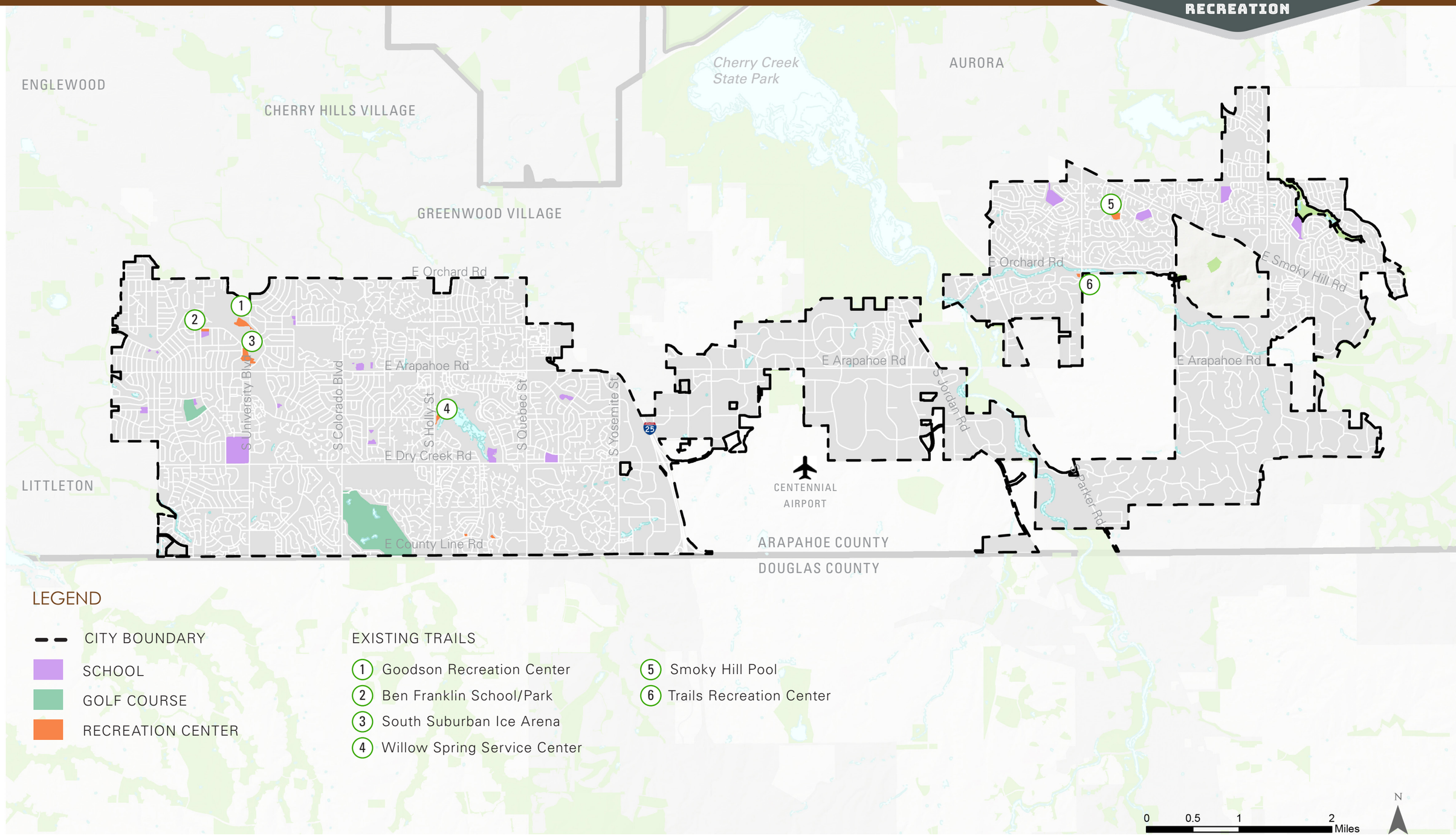
Photo Credit: aprd.org

Trails Recreation Center

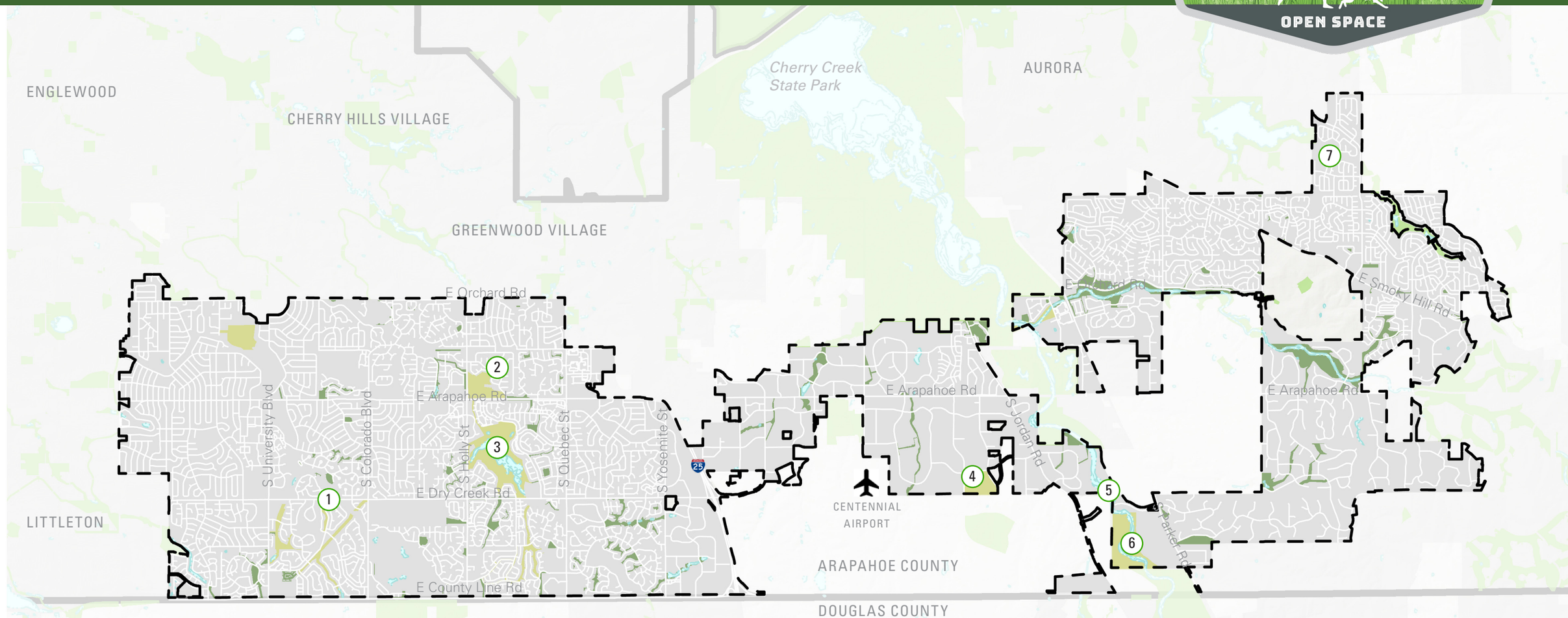
Photo Credit: City of Centennial

Tennis courts at deKoevend Park

EXISTING RECREATION FACILITIES



EXISTING OPEN SPACE



LEGEND

- PRIVATE OPEN SPACE
- PUBLIC OPEN SPACE

OPEN SPACE SITES

1. Monterey Open Space
2. Holly Open Space
3. Willow Spring Open Space
4. Potomac Park Open Space
5. Cherry Creek Valley Ecological Park
6. Parker Jordan Centennial Open Space
7. Fox Hill Open Space

0 0.5 1 2 Miles

N

OPEN SPACE

Photo Credit: Valerian LLC

Parker Jordan Centennial Open Space

Photo Credit: pjmd.org

Cherry Creek Valley Ecological Park

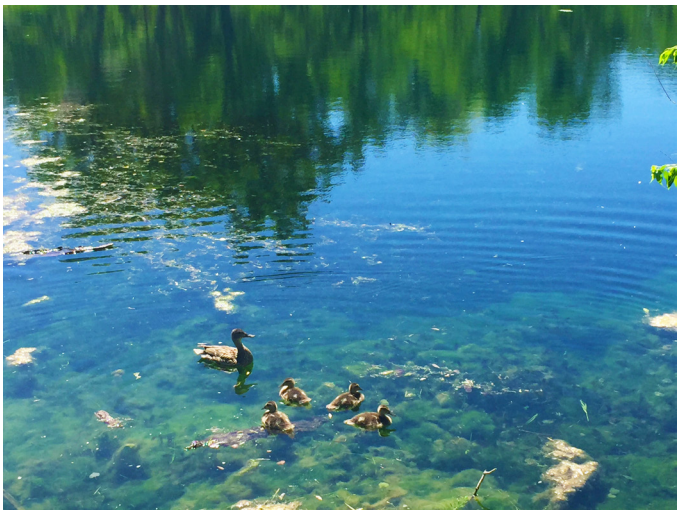


Photo Credit: Design Workshop

Spring wildlife along Big Dry Creek

Open space in Centennial is comprised of both large and small expanses of native landscapes, riparian corridors and natural scenic areas. There are over 960 acres of land in the City dedicated to open space and wildlife conservation. This includes active and passive recreation areas, trails and native habitat. Sites of significant size and habitat include Monterey Open Space, Holly Open Space, Willow Springs Open Space, Potomac Park Open Space, Cherry Creek Valley Ecological Park, Parker Jordan Centennial Open Space and Fox Hill Open Space. Over the past decade, the City has worked to expand connections between open space sites to foster community access to these natural landscapes as well as to support their function as habitat corridors. Centennial collaborates with the Urban Drainage and Flood Control District (UDFCD) and the Southeast Metro Stormwater Authority (SEMSWA) to manage area drainageways and creeks to protect area floodplains.

Little Dry Creek

3

A VISION FOR CENTENNIAL'S OUTDOORS

The vision for the future of Centennial's trails and recreation system is grounded in public input and guidance from City leadership, consultation with partner districts and agencies, and robust community outreach and feedback. This master plan is a tool to guide decision-making and describe that vision for all current and future Centennial residents.

Photo Credit, Opposite Page: Design Workshop

THE COMMUNITY HAS SPOKEN

Photo Credit: Design Workshop

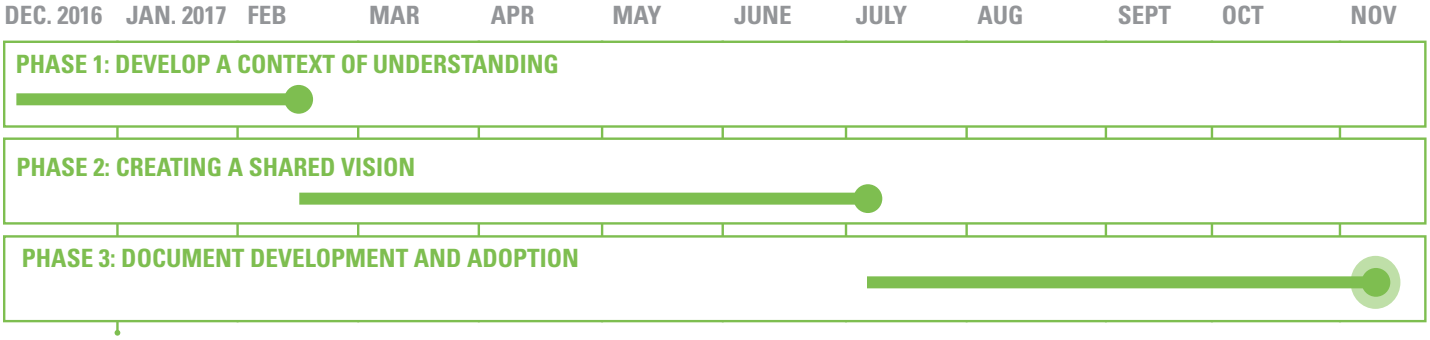
PLANNING METHODOLOGY AND SCHEDULE

The Centennial Trails and Recreation Plan is the result of a ten-month process consisting of three distinct phases that included active public engagement throughout. In the initial phase of work, the team developed an understanding of the effort and expected outcomes. This included review of relevant plans, mapping and inventory of existing network assets, and discussions with Centennial residents, City staff and regional partners to learn the opportunities and limitations of the existing trails and recreation system. Maps and reports were prepared and shared with stakeholders to confirm assumptions and to create the foundation for the following phases of work.

Phase two of the process was focused on creating a shared vision for the future of Centennial's trails and recreation system. Leading a highly participatory process, the planning team reached out to the Centennial community in a number of venues and formats — including public workshops, targeted outreach and surveys — to gather, distill and reaffirm feedback.

With a vision for the future of the trails and recreation system defined by the public, the team proceeded to the development of this plan document. Draft recommendations were prepared based on input during the visioning phase and were iterated through comment and feedback from City staff, regional partners and Centennial residents. Further input was gathered at community events at the Centennial Center Park to confirm the support of plan recommendations.

PROJECT SCHEDULE



PUBLIC OUTREACH SUMMARY

The Centennial Trails and Recreation Plan (TRP) is a synthesis of community input and feedback regarding the network of parks, trails and open spaces in the City of Centennial. Throughout the planning process, Centennial's residents, employers and staff described their vision for the future trails and recreation system, defined the strengths and limitations of existing assets, and responded and reacted to ideas and potential recommendations.

The community engagement process included five major outreach methods. A TRP Advisory Committee guided the planning team's efforts to engage with larger stakeholder groups including focus groups, community workshops, surveys, Facebook Live events, and participation at community events.

Centennial TRP Advisory Committee

The planning process was guided by an Advisory Committee comprised of Centennial residents and business leaders as well as representatives from recreation districts and Arapahoe County officials. The committee was tasked to provide leadership to the planning process, represent their respective communities or organizations, and to report back progress of this master plan.

Focus Groups

Early in the planning process, a series of focus groups convened to chart a vision for the future of Centennial's parks, open space, trails and recreation facilities. These groups included a broad cross-section of the Centennial community and participating districts and jurisdictional agencies, and were organized around four specific themes:

1. Regional Collaboration
2. Serving the Centennial Community
3. Trails and Open Space
4. Parks and Recreation

Community Workshops + Survey

Four community workshops were held at locations across Centennial, including the Centennial Civic Center, Arapahoe High School and Grandview High School. At these workshops, community members prioritized efforts to be addressed in the plan based on three primary areas of focus: Trails; Parks and Recreation; and Funding and Operations. In addition to participating in community events, an online survey was issued to expand the reach of community input.

During the community workshops and in the survey, respondents were asked to share where they live or work in order to track feedback by City Council District. This feedback may determine whether equity concerns exist geographically across the City and to identify priority projects or programs to address these issues.

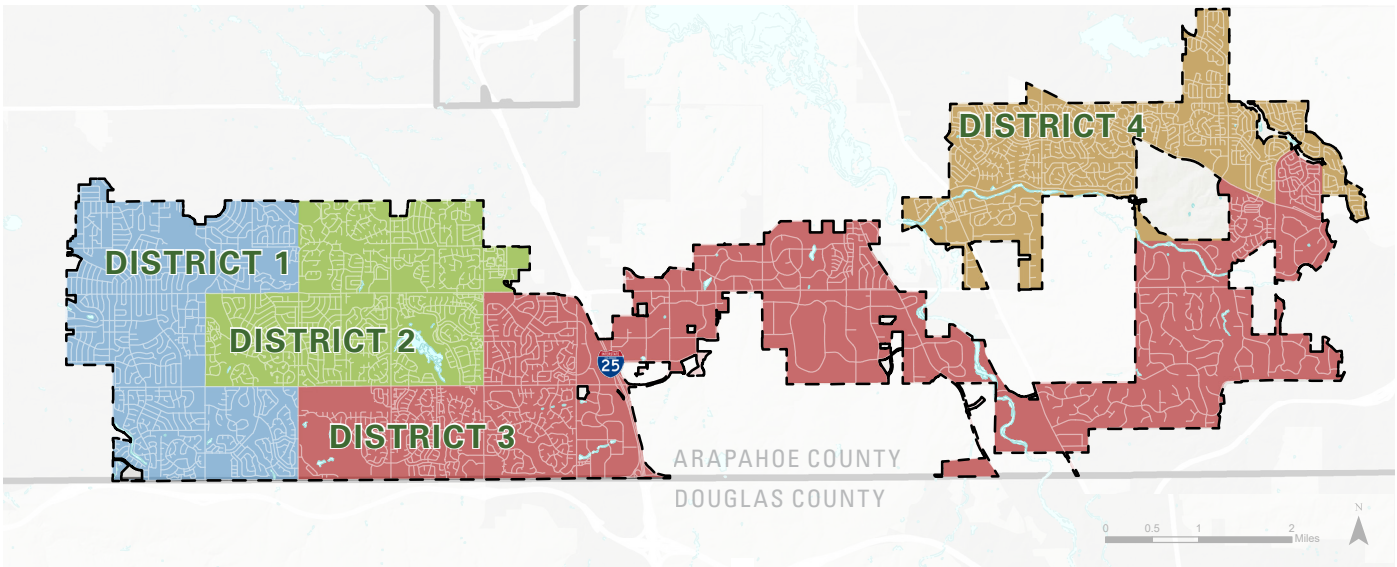
Facebook Live

The City conducted Facebook Live events in the spring of 2017 to share information and ideas about Centennial's trails and parks. These forums allowed residents to pose questions and provide feedback in real-time conversations with City staff.

Community Events

As recommendations were tested and refined, the TRP planning team hosted booths at the Centennial Summer Kick-off and Brew 'N Que events. The team gathered additional community feedback and confirmed assumptions to guide priorities and recommendations.

POPULATION DISTRIBUTION



CITY COUNCIL DISTRICT	AREA (acres)	POPULATION	POP. DISTRIBUTION (Population per acre)
DISTRICT 1	3,680	24,486	6.65
DISTRICT 2	3,289	24,327	7.40
DISTRICT 3	8.846	26,600	3.01
DISTRICT 4	3,194	25,375	7.95

The results of public outreach relative to parks, recreation and open space reflect a strong connection to and appreciation for the surrounding parks and open spaces. In fact, when asked "What do you love about Centennial?", residents ranked parks and trails at the top, while Centennial Center Park, community and recreation amenities, and community festivals and events also rated among the top 10. When asked "What do you want to preserve?", open space, parks and recreation, and trails were the top three choices.

The vision for the future of Centennial's parks, open space, trails and recreation facilities is shaped by creating an image and identity for the City, which is reflected in high quality, active, safe and accessible recreational and open spaces. With over 300 days of sunshine in Centennial per year and an active population, parks and trails should serve as the backbone for robust activity, healthy living and creative play.

Photo Credit, Opposite Page: City of Centennial

deKoevend Park

PLAYING AT HOME

PARKS FOR CENTENNIAL'S POPULATION

The Role of Districts and Partners

South Suburban Parks and Recreation District, Arapahoe Park and Recreation District, and Smoky Hill Metropolitan District each play an active role in providing park space, programs and activities for Centennial residents. With dedicated funding and strong community support, these Districts maintain a high standing in the community and directly serve a large portion of Centennial's population. Within these Districts, Centennial's residents are largely satisfied with the availability of park space within proximity to where they live or work. In fact, 79 percent of survey respondents within District boundaries indicated they currently have adequate access to parks and recreation facilities within a 5-minute drive or 10-minute walk from their home or office.

Arapahoe County Recreation District (ACRD) receives substantially less funding, and is subsequently unable to provide programming and facilities to residents in the southeast portion of Centennial at a level consistent with the remainder of the City. As a result, 60 percent of survey respondents within the boundaries of the Arapahoe County Recreation District indicate a lack of park space within proximity to home or work. This equity concern places an emphasis on prioritizing future acquisition of new Centennial-owned parks within ACRD's service area as well as participating with other partners in the eastern portion of Centennial, such as the Dove Valley Metropolitan District, in funding the expansion of park facilities near Centennial's borders.

The Role of Homeowners Associations (HOAs)

With little developable land and minimal funding available for the acquisition of new park space, HOAs play an important role in filling the gaps in public park space. As new residential development occurs within the City, changes to development policies may be necessary to ensure that land dedications, cash in-lieu payments, and construction and maintenance standards are applied consistently and according to clear standards. Standards should define expectations for the provision of quality parks accessible to the entire Centennial community.

Activating What We Have

Feedback provided to the Centennial TRP planning team helped define a vision for the future of Centennial's parks. This vision focuses largely on improved maintenance and upgrades to existing parks and recreation facilities. When asked to prioritize spending for parks and recreation, nearly three quarters of survey respondents rated the enhancement or improvement of existing facilities as the top priority, while only 29 percent listed acquisition of new park and recreation space.

With parks upgrades and enhancements a top priority, Centennial residents were asked to identify priorities for amenities and activities in parks. TRP survey results indicate a desire to come together as a community in parks, with events, community centers, community gardens, dog parks and additional amenities in parks all ranking near the top. Community input gathered during the 2017 Summer Kick-Off and Brew 'N Que events further validated these priorities.

Parks Funding Priorities - Survey	
Enhance Existing Facilities	**44%**
Improve Maintenance	**28%**
Acquire New Parks	**27%**
Acquire New Athletic Fields	**2%**

Parks Funding Priorities - Summer Kick-off Survey	
Acquire undeveloped land to preseve as open space	**4.4**
More events in parks	**4.4**
Create a community center for youth and seniors	**4.1**
Create community gardens	**3.4**
Upgrades to existing parks	**3.2**

Note: Respondents were asked to rate each on a scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being highest

CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

COMPLETE + FORTIFY THE NETWORK

A Network for All Users

To serve the entire community, the trails system must meet the diverse needs of Centennial's population. From meandering, soft-surface paths through shaded areas to direct, hard-surface connections between transit nodes and employment centers, it is important to provide a system that serves all generations and abilities.

Community feedback in the TRP process has identified three implementation priorities for the trails system:

1) adding sidewalks in underserved areas,

2) park-to-park connections, and

3) land acquisition for off-street trails connections.

As Centennial, Arapahoe County and other regional partners implement new trails projects, the City should encourage funding for these priorities to meet the vision of the community.

The 2017 Arapahoe County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan identifies recommendations and priorities for trail connections and bicycle routes throughout the County, including regional facilities connecting to larger metropolitan corridors that primarily serve recreational and commuter users; on-street bicycle facilities that provide local connections to parks, schools and business centers; and off-street trails and sidewalk connections that support general mobility. During the planning process, recommendations specific to Centennial were evaluated based on community input. This evaluation identified priority projects included both in the Arapahoe County plan as well as additional connections aimed at filling the gaps in the trails network.

In addition to system-wide recommendations the public outreach identified a desire for a continuous east-west trail through Centennial. While there currently is substantial trail infrastructure in Centennial connecting north to south and along diagonal drainage corridors, clear and safe connections between the east and west sides of the City are inconsistent. When asked in community workshops what barriers exist for

residents to get to places they would like to visit by bike or on foot, "I-25" and "lack of connections to Cherry Creek State Park" were identified as the primary challenges to connectivity. Providing infrastructure and wayfinding to bridge these gaps is integral to the vision of City-wide connectivity.

Elevate the Trails Experience

User experience is important to the success of a trails network, and the vision for the future of that network is grounded in coherent design and a wayfinding system that is legible, compelling and consistent. While today the system is largely a series of named trails along drainage corridors and on- or near-street connections, this plan strives to create a network closely linked to the identity of the City, its natural features, and the partner organizations that support and protect the natural and historic character of the trail system.

While trail infrastructure is necessary to provide connectivity, additional resources are needed to provide human comfort, enhance safety and create an understandable and navigable trail network. When asked to identify additional amenities needed along trails, "trees and vegetation" and "signage and wayfinding" received the greatest number of votes in the public online survey. Signage and wayfinding and pedestrian safety improvements at intersections were amenities that ranked high at the Centennial Summer Kick-Off event. In addition, feedback associated with the High Line Canal Community Vision Plan affirms the community's desire to retain and enhance the character of the greenway natural refuge in order to bring people and nature together.

Top 5 Trails Amenities Priorities - Survey	
Trees and Vegetation	**46%**
Signage and Wayfinding	**38%**
Waste Receptacles	**35%**
Soft-surface Trails	**30%**
Shade Structures	**27%**

Note: Respondents were asked to select 3 from among 10 options

Trails Priorities - Summer Kick-off Survey	
Create an east-west bike and pedestrian connection	**4.8**
Expand off-street trail connections	**4.1**
Provide consistent signage and wayfinding along trail corridors	**3.9**
Pedestrian safety improvements at major streets	**3.6**
Provide additional tree planting and seating areas along trails	**3.1**

Note: Respondents were asked to rate each on a scale of 1 to 5 with 5 being highest

SERVING AN ACTIVE POPULATION

DIVERSIFY RECREATION + ATHLETICS FACILITIES

Expanding Access to Receation

To support both daily active recreation and organized team activities, Centennial's athletics and recreation facilities must be flexible and program offerings responsive to evolving needs. Additionally, facilities should be distributed across the City with geographic equity in mind to ensure all residents have reasonable access to recreation opportunities.

An inventory of recreation facilities, including indoor recreation centers, baseball and mixed-use fields, and basketball and tennis courts, indicates a specific lack of recreation facilities in the eastern portion of District 3. As funds are allocated to recreation resources, the City should strive to close the equity gap in this area by increasing the number of fields and courts.

Beyond solving for equity concerns, additional recreation facilities have been requested City-wide to support new and evolving trends. While tennis and basketball courts remain viable, community input in the planning process has revealed a desire for additional court facilities, including pickleball courts, handball courts and lacrosse and tennis bounce-back walls. As trends will continue to evolve over time, court facilities should be designed and built to be flexible to change with minimal resources.

Flexibility is also an important consideration in the offerings of programs and activities for Centennial residents. During focus group conversations, both youth and senior groups reported the desire for additional opportunities to recreate in group settings in both traditional and non-traditional ways, including frisbee golf, yoga, skateboarding and outdoor exercise equipment. Accessible programs and infrastructure to support such activities and facilities for all Centennial residents should be evaluated.

Multi-Field Facilities

During focus group conversations, a need for additional athletic fields was identified to meet the growth in competitive field sports, including soccer and lacrosse. When asked about parks and recreation priorities, however, the acquisition of new field space received little support in the community survey. In addition, when asked specifically about priorities related to athletic fields, over one-third of online survey respondents indicated that athletic fields are not a priority.

However, there is acknowledgement that the City should consider participating in the funding of field maintenance and expansion to ensure Centennial residents have access to fields within a reasonable proximity to home. Rather than pursue new facilities within the City that require large expanses of land, high levels of maintenance, and scheduling and programming resources, the City should work with regional partners — including recreation districts and metropolitan districts — to expand the quantity of athletic fields and increase usable hours of existing fields by installing lighting and transitioning from irrigated turf to artificial turf.

Organize Activities and Inform Citizens

While SSPRD and APRD provide the majority of Centennial's recreation facilities, school districts are also important partners in the provision of and access to athletic fields and sports courts. Agreements are currently in place with the Cherry Creek School District to allow access to elementary school parks outside of school hours, providing access to youth sports teams for practices.

Additional resources are recommended to organize and schedule use of fields. In some cases, fields are reserved but not used, leaving them inactive at times when other groups may desire access. Resources could schedule, track and maintain accountability in the availability of athletic fields throughout Centennial.

PROTECTING OUR NATURAL RESOURCES

PROVIDE + PRESERVE HABITAT

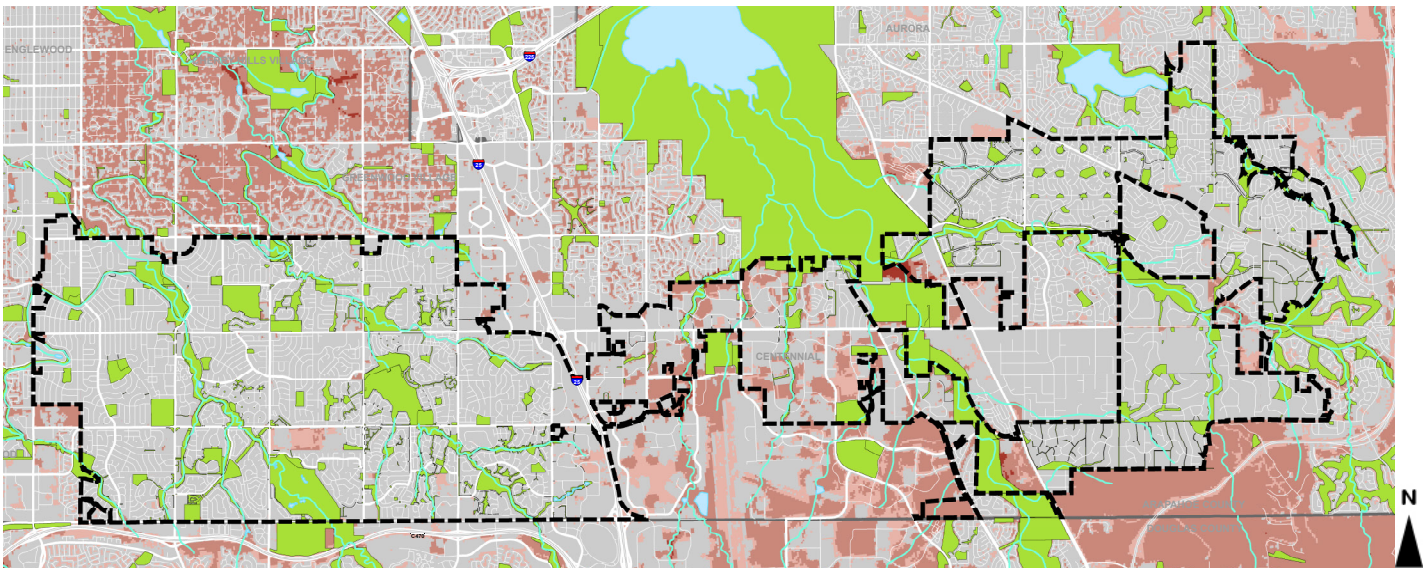
Assessing Our Natural Resources

Open spaces are important to the culture of the Centennial community, and the protection of natural landscapes and wildlife habitats is a priority. When asked during the Centennial NEXT planning process "What do you want to preserve?", respondents listed "open space" as the top priority, with "trails" and "natural beauty and assets" ranking at numbers three and six. Drainageways, natural parks, and physical and visual connections to preserved natural areas, including Cherry Creek State Park, are integral to the identity of Centennial.

When asked to rank priorities for the parks system, acquisition of undeveloped land for preservation as open space ranked as the top priority in both the community survey and in public outreach at the Centennial Summer Kick-Off event. This clear community desire to preserve and protect open space is a cornerstone of the vision for the future of our outdoors.

A natural resources assessment (see Appendix C) was performed as part of the TRP planning process. This assessment identified priority areas for the preservation of open space based on three importance preservation factors: landscape, water and wildlife. Lands at the convergence of these three factors are identified as those with high suitability for preservation. While the majority of high suitability lands in west and east Centennial are already preserved as parks or open space, the assessment identifies currently unprotected land in the center of Centennial — including land adjacent to Cottonwood Creek and Lone Tree Creek, undeveloped land surrounding Potomac Street, and undeveloped land south of Cherry Creek State Park and east of Peoria Street — as suitable for protection. As the City and its partners consider open space protection and/or acquisition, these lands should be a top priority.

OPEN SPACE SUITABILITY



LEGEND

- LOW SUITABILITY
- MEDIUM SUITABILITY
- HIGH SUITABILITY
- EXISTING DEVELOPED AREAS
- EXISTING PARKS, OPEN SPACE, CEMETERIES, GOLF COURSES AND SCHOOL YARDS

Photo Credit: Design Workshop

Open space along the Big Dry Creek trail corridor

Cherry Creek Ecological Valley Park

4

PRIORITIES + RECOMMENDATIONS

Trails and Recreation Plan priorities and recommendations have been developed to provide guidance on capital projects, policy changes, partnership opportunities and staffing needs in order to achieve the future vision for Centennial's outdoor spaces.

Photo Credit, Opposite Page: City of Centennial

GUIDING DECISION-MAKING

Based on the community's vision for the future of Centennial's parks, open spaces, trails and recreation facilities as described in Chapter 3, following are priorities and recommendations for the Centennial Trails and Recreation Plan (TRP). These recommendations are a result of public comment associated with TRP outreach activities, as well as a review of strategies, recommendations and public input from the following documents:

- Arapahoe County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (2017)
- Arapahoe County Open Space Master Plan (2010)
- Centennial Parks, Open Space, Trails and Recreation Plan (2007)
- High Line Canal Community Vision Plan (2017)
- South Suburban Parks and Recreation District Master Plan (2017)

With an eye toward a future trails and recreation system to meet the expectations of the Centennial community, the priorities and recommendations on the following pages serve as the basis for decision making regarding the funding and support of the projects and policies. Priorities and recommendations are numbered according to the type of facility (P for parks, T for trails, R for Recreation and O for open space). Priorities are considered essential to attaining the vision for the system and are indicated with top-level numbering (P1, T3, etc.). Recommendations are desirable action items that support the priorities and are indicated by sub-numbers to the priorities (P1.1, T3.2, etc.).

The priorities and recommendations are further identified as one or more of the following:

CP **Capital Project:** Capital projects are those that require financial or real estate resources. The implementation of these recommendations generally requires coordination with recreation districts' plans and priorities.

HR **Human Resources:** Many of the recommendations are tied to a need for human resources to manage information, collect feedback, and collaborate with regional partners.

PR **Policy Recommendation:** Policy recommendations involve the examination and potential change of City land use, development and transportation policies, and need to be coordinated with the appropriate City departments.

PT **Partnership:** Regional partnerships are integral to Centennial's trails and recreation network and these recommendations require a collaborative approach with regional partners to implement.

IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

In order to support the implementation of priorities and recommendations, the following overarching actions should be taken to provide support for achieving plan recommendations within the 10-year planning horizon. Implementation actions align with the four recommendation types:

CP

Pursue Additional Funding
Pursue additional parks, trails, recreation and open space funding sources based on priorities. While one-time capital infusions (grants, donations, etc.) would be appropriate for distinct projects, dedicated funding should be sought to enhance maintenance- and operations-related funding.

HR

Provide Appropriate Staffing
Review staff workloads and consider the creation of a staff Parks and Trails Liaison position to manage the human resources efforts related to these recommendations and work with districts on Centennial priorities.

PR

Benchmark and Update Policies
Perform an assessment of current development review and land use policies and benchmark against peer cities to identify policy changes that may result in the provision of enhanced quality open space in new development and the preservation and maintenance of natural open spaces.

PT

Strengthen Partnerships
With regional partners, convene a committee with a regular schedule of meetings to review partner priorities, pursue funding opportunities, and review development plans.

ALIGN PARK DEVELOPMENT WITH POPULATION GROWTH

PR HR **P1** Aligned with annual City budgeting and District CIPs, create and maintain a prioritized list of capital improvement projects (CIP) to include acquisition, new construction, upgrades to existing parks and trails, and deferred maintenance needs, as well as estimated associated costs to inform the allocation of funding.

PR **P1.1** Investigate the potential to increase the annual allocation of open space tax revenues to deferred maintenance and upgrades needs aligned with CIP priorities.

CP **P1.2** Aligned with Centennial NEXT, identify areas of growth or land use change and pursue opportunities to acquire land adjacent to or within those sites for new neighborhood parks.

HR **P1.3** Develop a master plan to guide the maintenance and future development of Centennial Center Park.

PR **P2** Review and update Land Development Code regulations to establish clear expectations for land dedication, construction standards and maintenance of accessible and usable park space in new development areas.

PR **P2.1** Formalize allocation of cash-in-lieu funds for priority trails and recreation projects aligned with CIP priorities.

PR **P2.2** Formalize park dedications requirements in new development areas to ensure that spaces are of sufficient size and are accessible and usable.

PR **P2.3** Consistent with Centennial NEXT, identify potential redevelopment or infill sites within the City and develop requirements and incentives for developers to create publicly-accessible parks and recreation facilities in redevelopment areas.

CP **P3** Update plans for the development of the Potomac Park open space to provide additional park space in District 3.

ACTIVATE WHAT WE HAVE

PR HR **P4** Working with park districts, maintain an inventory of amenities in Centennial parks — including year installed, expected life-cycle and estimated cost of replacement — to assist in deferred maintenance prioritization.

PT **P5** Identify desired upgrades to existing parks in partnership with park districts and community members.

HR PT **P5.1** Establish a schedule of in-park events and associated community surveys to crowdsource priorities for parks upgrades, including:

- restrooms
- drinking fountains
- seating
- playground equipment
- sports courts

PT CP **P5.3** Identify locations for off-leash dog parks, including City-owned property, and work with park districts and City agencies to provide necessary infrastructure and amenities.

PT CP **P5.4** Identify locations for community gardens on City-owned land or in partnership with other land owners, and work with non-profit agencies or pursue grant funding to provide necessary infrastructure, amenities and maintenance.

PT **P5.5** Working with school districts and non-profit organizations, pursue the creation of community gardens in school yards throughout Centennial.

CP **P5.5** Provide massed tree canopies with seating and understory planting in parks that have dedicated irrigation lines to provide shelter and places of rest and encourage lingering in parks.

HR PT **P6** Working with partner organizations, continue to program of scheduled events and activities in Centennial's parks to appeal to a diverse group of users at locations throughout the City and throughout the year.

HR CP **P6.1** Develop an annual community grant program to support and fund temporary events and projects in neighborhood, community and regional parks to tap into the creative spirit of Centennial's residents through unique activation of open spaces.

HR PT **P6.2** Working with parks and recreation districts, expand City- and/or district-sponsored events to parks throughout Centennial to engage more of the population.

HR PT **P7** In coordination with park and recreation districts, provide consistent communication to inform Centennial residents about parks events, programs, activities and upgrades.

HR PT **P7.1** Create a website, or enhace an existing website, that allows residents to report maintenance issues in parks.

TRAILS AND RECREATION PLAN

TRAILS

COMPLETE AND FORTIFY THE NETWORK

CP **T1** Complete a Centennial-branded continuous east-west trail connection across the City.

HR **T1.1** Develop a consistent brand image and identity for the east-west trail, including signage, pavement markings, crossing identification, etc.

CP **T1.2 Off-Street Trail Connections**

- Centennial Link Trail paving, E. Caley Ave. to Little Dry Creek Trail - Districts 1 & 2
- I-25 Overpass (Arapahoe County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (ACBPMP) Ref. # T-214) - District 3
- Cottonwood Creek Off-Street Trail (ACBPMP Ref. # T-208) - District 3
- Peoria to Lone Tree Creek Trail, south of Cherry Creek State Park - District 3
- Piney Creek Trail widening (ACBPMP Ref. # T-240) - Distict 4

CP **T1.3 On-Street Trail Connections**

- E. Caley Ave., S. Syracuse Way, Peakview Ave. Bike Lanes (ACBPMP Ref. #s 83, 85) - District 2
- Lima Street Bike Lane, Peakview Ave. to E. Caley Ave. - District 3

CP PT **T2** Work with regional partners to connect existing trails to provide continuous east-west connections between the E-470 trail and the South Platte River Trail and north-south connections from the E-470 and C-470 trails through Centennial.

HR **T2.1** Assist Arapahoe County in building community support for regional bike routes as identified in the Arapahoe County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan.

CP PT **T2.2** Prioritize construction of on-street bike projects in Centennial in alignment with the Arapahoe County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. Priority on-street bike projects include:

- Holly Street Separated Bike Lanes (ACBPMP Reference # 72) – Districts 2 & 3
- Smoky Hill Road Sidepath (ACBPMP Ref. # 171) – District 4
- Berry Drive Shared Roadway Path (ACBPMP Ref. #175) – District 4
- Lone Tree Creek Trail - District 3

CP PT **T2.3** Prioritize construction of grade-separated trail projects in Centennial in alignment with the Arapahoe County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan. Priority grade-separated projects include:

- High Line Canal Trail at Broadway & Caley (ACBPMP Ref. # T-197) - District 1
- East of I-25 at Dry Creek (ACBPMP Ref. # T-239) - District 3
- West of I-25 at Dry Creek (ACBPMP Ref. # T-213) - District 3
- Willow Creek Trail at Arapahoe Road (ACBPMP Ref. # T-235) - District 2

CP PT **T3** Aligned with the Arapahoe County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan (ACBPMP), prioritize construction of off-street trails in Centennial.

CP PT **T3.1** Priority trail connections aligned with Arapahoe County Bike and Pedestrian Plan include:

- Piney Creek Trail widening (ACBPMP Ref. # T-240) – District 4
- Piney Creek Connector (ACBPMP Ref. # T-177) – District 4
- Piney Creek Connector (ACBMPP Ref. # T-210) – District 4

- Antelope Creek Trail (ACBPMP Ref. # T-142) – District 3
- Dry Creek to Jackson (ACBPMP Ref. #T-225) – District 3
- Greenwood Gulch Trail, south of Orchard Rd. from Palos Verdes Park to Quebec St. (ACBPMP Ref. #S-73) - District 2

CP PT **T4** Provide dedicated bike connections to all Centennial schools, parks, civic buildings, neighborhood activity centers and business parks from the nearest trail or on-street bike lane.

CP PT **T4.1 Parks**

- Hunters Hill Park, connection to Little Dry Creek Trail - District 3
- Smoky Hill Metro District parks (ACBPMP Ref. #s 155, 171) - District 4
- Village Park (ACBPMP Ref. #154)
- Long Avenue Park (ACBPMP Ref. #134) - District 3
- Palos Verdes Park (ACBPMP Ref. # 73) - District 2

CP PT **T4.2 Schools**

- Ben Franklin Elementary School (ACBPMP Ref. #61) - District 1
- Carl Sandburg Elementary School (ACBPMP Ref. #66) - District 2
- Dry Creek Elementary School (ACBPMP Ref. # 82) - District 3
- Peabody Elementary School (ACBPMP Ref. #63) - District 1
- Lewis Ames Elementary School (ACBPMP Ref. #71) - District 2
- Arapahoe High School (ACBPMP Ref. #52) - District 1
- Indian Ridge Elementary School (ACBPMP Ref. # 160) - District 4
- Peakview Elementary School (ACBPMP Ref. #s 175, 177) - District 4
- Trails West Elementary School (ACBPMP Ref. #171) - District 4

CP PT **T4.3 Civic Buildings**

- Smoky Hill Library (ACBPMP Ref. #175) - District 4
- Castlewood Library (ACBPMP Ref. #80) - District 3
- Southglenn Library (ACBPMP Ref. #61) - District 1

CP PT **T5** Complete missing sidewalk connections throughout the City aligned with priorities established in the Arapahoe County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan.

ELEVATE THE TRAILS EXPERIENCE

CP PT **T6** Working with partners, complete trail improvements to create a consistent and comfortable network for all trail users.

CP PT **T6.1** Provide continuous hard-surface trail connections (minimum 10' wide) along off-street portions of regional bike routes to support commuter and recreational cyclists.

CP PT **T6.2** Provide soft-surface shoulders or separated paths adjacent to hard-surface trails to accommodate walkers and runners.

CP PT **T6.3** Provide soft-surface trail offshoots, as well as seating and shade, to points of interest along or adjacent to Centennial's trails and open spaces.

CP PT **T6.4** Provide amenities at all trailheads within Centennial, including parking, restrooms or portolets, drinking fountains, bicycle repair stations and seating. (

CP PT **T6.5** Provide seating and tree canopy nodes at ½-mile increments (minimum) along trail corridors to provide places for rest and cover from the sun.

HR PT **T6.6** Identify and create digital and paper maps of trail loops of varied distances (1 mile, 5 kilometer, 10 kilometer, etc.) throughout the region to encourage and support activity, completing missing links within the City aligned with the Arapahoe County Bicycle and Pedestrian Master Plan.

CP PT **T7** Provide clear, frequent and consistent signage and roadway markings along on-street bike lanes and sharrows to alert vehicle drivers that they are required to share the road with cyclists.

CP PT **T8** Working with recreation districts and the High Line Canal Conservancy, develop a consistent identity for Centennial's trails and incorporate into standardized signage and wayfinding, trail gateways, pavement markings and informational graphics.

HR PT **T9** Participate in an educational campaign, including maps and information, to illustrate trail corridors and create awareness regarding trail safety and etiquette.

DIVERSIFY RECREATION FACILITIES

CP PT **R1** Working with recreation districts and other partners, participate in the funding of athletic fields to support growing demand in the region.

CP PT **R1.1** In lieu of building new regional-serving athletic parks on City land, participate in funding the expansion and improvement of recreation infrastructure at athletic field complexes near City boundaries.

CP **R1.2** Pursue development of the Potomac Park open space that complements Dove Valley Regional Park.

CP PT **R1.3** Support partner districts in the transition of multi-field facilities from natural to artificial turf to reduce water demands and provide additional access.

CP PT **R1.4** Support partner districts in the lighting of multi-field facilities that are not adjacent to residential development to provide extended hours of use.

CP PT **R2** Provide additional court and field facilities to close the equity gap in recreation facilities across the City.

CP PT **R2.1** Identify locations east and west of I-25 for the development of multi-functional courts facilities to include pickleball courts, handball courts, lacrosse and tennis bounce-back walls, etc., with a priority focus in District 4.

CP PT **R2.2** Identify location(s) for a multi-court (basketball) complex to encourage organized competitions and pickup games, potentially in conjunction with a regional athletic field complex.

CP PT **R2.3** Pursue opportunities for additional athletic fields in existing and future parks east of S. Jordan Rd.

ORGANIZE ACTIVITIES AND INFORM CITIZENS

HR PT **R3** Pursue partnerships and funding opportunities to develop expanded indoor and outdoor community programs offering educational, social and cultural programs and activities for all generations.

HR PT **R4** Work with school and recreation districts to provide resources to Centennial residents and organized youth sports organizations for the reservation of athletic fields.

HR PT **R4.1** Working with school and recreation districts, create and maintain an online schedule to track availability of athletic fields for organized practices and competition.

TRAILS AND RECREATION PLAN

OPEN SPACE

PROVIDE AND PRESERVE HABITAT

PR **O1** Review and update land development regulations to establish clear expectations for the dedication and preservation of open space along drainage corridors and wildlife habitat areas.

CP **O1.1** Aligned with this Plan's Natural Resource Assessment, identify at-risk properties along drainageways for acquisition and dedication as protected open space and natural habitat.

PT **O1.2** Work with SEMSWA, UDFCD and other MS4 permit holders to provide enhancements and public access to drainageways and develop maintenance agreements to limit disruption of native landscapes.

CP PT **O1.3** Incorporate native planting and wildlife habitat areas into underutilized park areas.

PT **O2** Working with regional partners, create and publish materials that identify preserved open space — including drainageways and floodways — and provide information about preserved habitats within the region.

CONSERVE HISTORIC CHARACTER AND LANDSCAPES

PR **O3** Protect and enhance iconic views along trails and open space corridors to landmarks including but not limited to the Rocky Mountains, Cherry Creek State Park, native and agricultural open spaces, parks, civic buildings, etc.

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Centennial Center Park