



# Civic Center Next 100

## Civic Center Park & Bannock Street Concept Design

**Public Workshop # 1**

February 11, 2021



**DENVER**  
THE MILE HIGH CITY



**LIVABLE**  
CITIOSTUDIO

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# Welcome & Introductions



# Civic Center Next 100

## Team



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Livable Cities Studio  
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*Western History Collection*



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# Today's Topics

1. Feedback Opportunities
2. Who's in the Room?
3. Vision and Principles
4. Q&A
5. Next Steps



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# Feedback Opportunities

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This Zoom webinar is being recorded and  
will be made available after the  
presentation

*Please note, participant camera and  
audio have automatically been disabled*

Audio Settings ^

Chat

Q&A

Leave



## How to interact with the presentation:

*Answer opened questions and share general feedback using the Chat interface*

- Only the Panelists and Host will be able to see your chats
- The Project Team may read back some responses and will collect the rest to inform the design vision.



Audio Settings ^



Chat



Q&A

Leave

## How to interact with the presentation:

*Ask the Project Team questions using the Q&A interface*

- Everyone will be able to see Q&A entries and responses
- Use the “upvote” feature if someone else asks a question that you would also like to see answered by the panelists today.
- **The Project Team will publish question responses to the project website next week.**



Audio Settings ^



Chat



Q&A

Leave

## How to interact with the presentation:

### *Participate in live polls*

- We'll share polls during the presentation that will automatically appear on your screen
- Response tallies will automatically be shared with everyone.

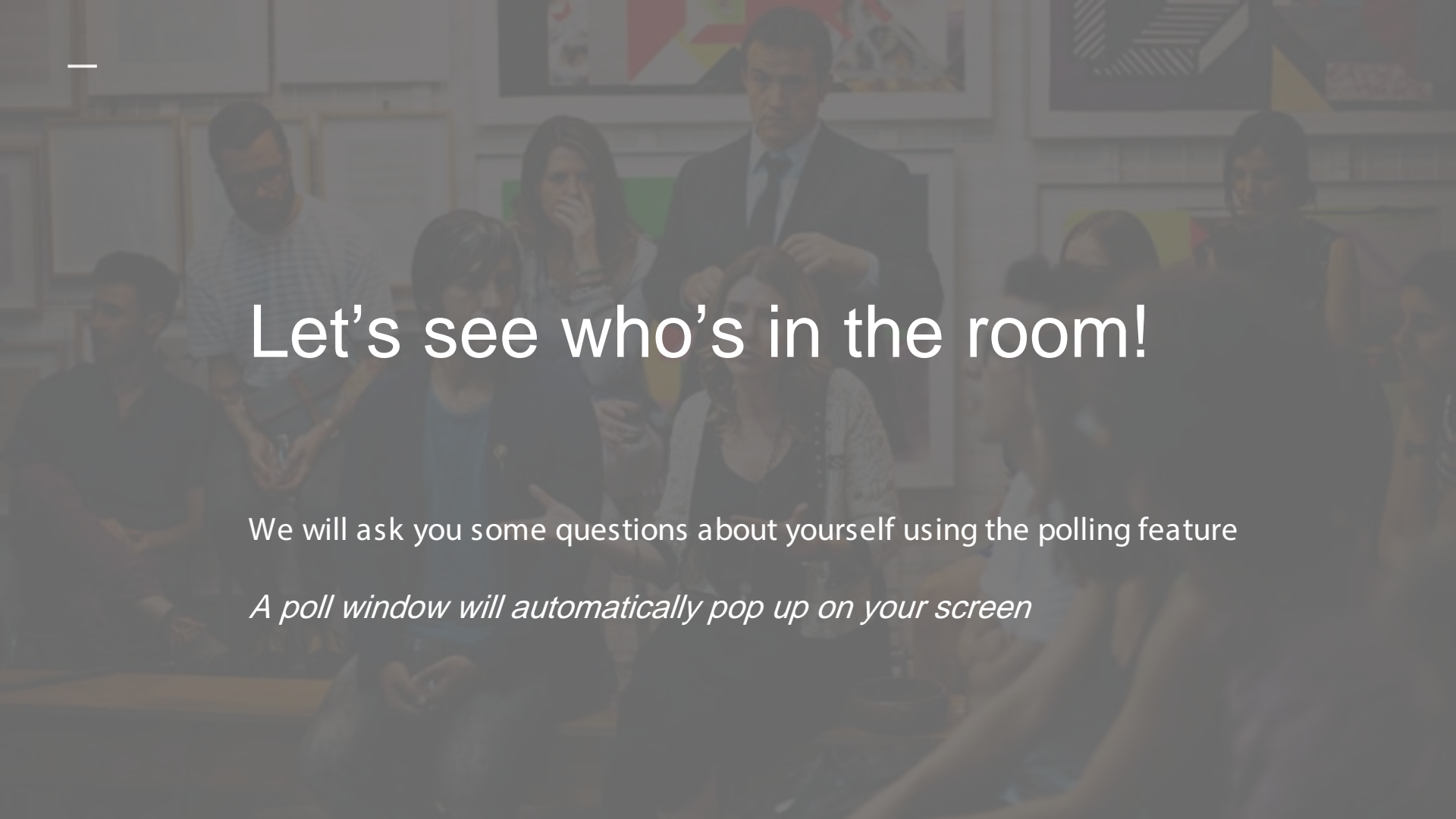
Audio Settings ^

Chat

Q&A

Leave

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A group of diverse people are gathered in a meeting room. A man in a dark suit and tie stands in the center, gesturing with his hands as if speaking. Other people are seated around him, some looking at their devices. The room has whiteboards and framed abstract art on the walls.

# Let's see who's in the room!

We will ask you some questions about yourself using the polling feature

*A poll window will automatically pop up on your screen*

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## Polling Question

# How often do you go to Civic Center? (pre-covid)

- Multiple times per week
- Once per week
- A couple times a month
- A few times a year
- I rarely go to Civic Center

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## Polling Question

# What typically brings you to Civic Center?

- I live near Civic Center
- I work near Civic Center
- I visit when I'm enjoying nearby cultural or civic destinations
- I visit for special events or festivals
- I have never been to Civic Center
- *Other (add to chat)*



# Civic Center Next 100 Vision

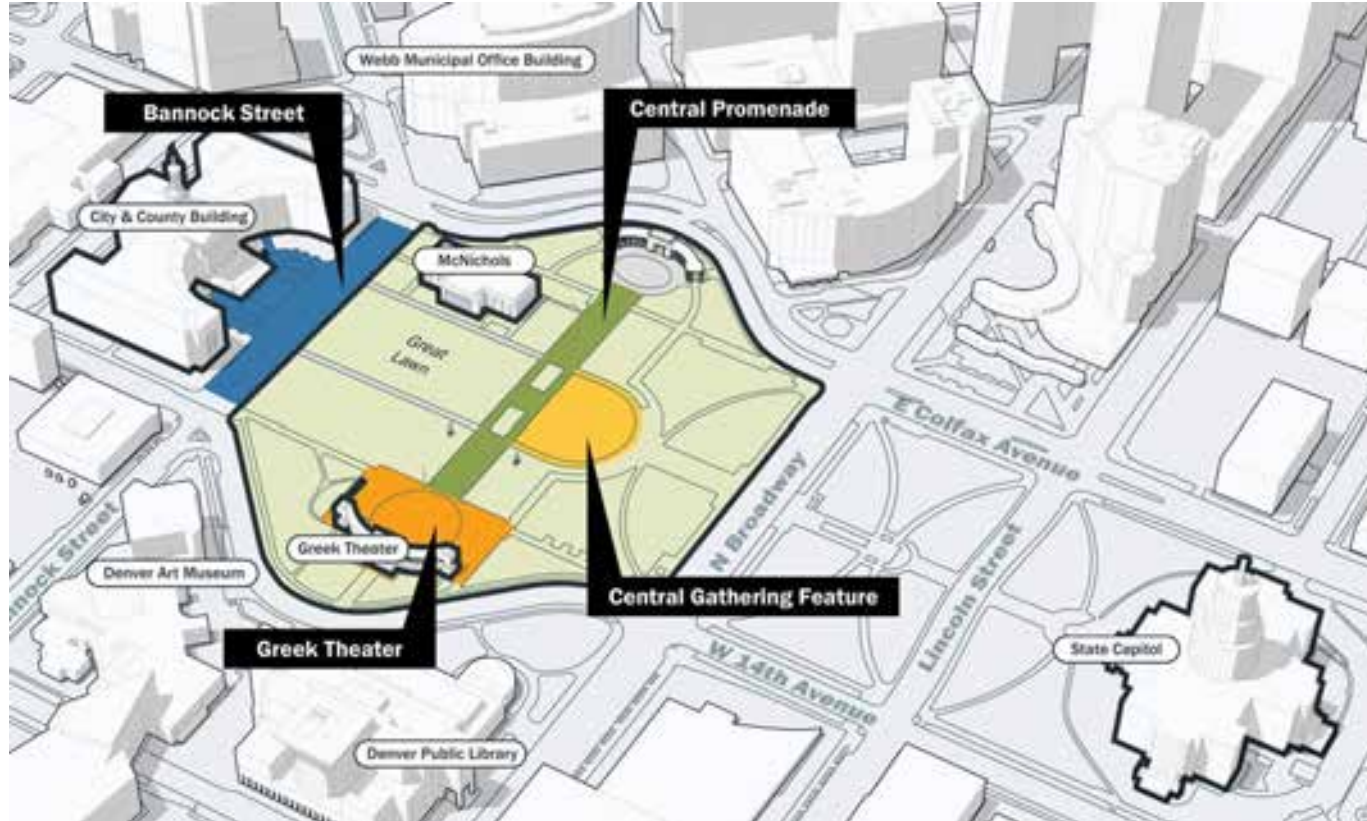
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# Civic Center Next 100 Vision

Improvements to Civic Center will catalyze new activity and animate the heart of Denver. The transformation of four key areas will fulfill past planning visions and elevate Denver's First National Historic Landmark for the next 100 years with new daily energy, worldclass performances and events.



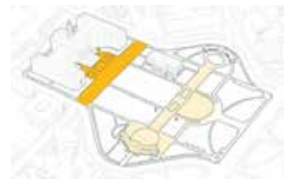
# Four Integrated Projects



The City of Denver in partnership with the Civic Center Conservancy is undertaking four projects to revitalize Civic Center.

# Bannock Street

Reimagine Street turned Civic Plaza



*Past*

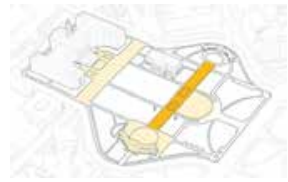


*Present*



# The Central Promenade

Destination Event, Market and Pedestrian Corridor, Anchored by the Greek Theater and Voorhies Memorial



*Past*

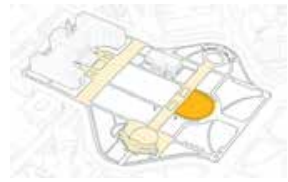


*Present*



# The Central Gathering Feature

The Heart of Civic Center Park



*Past*

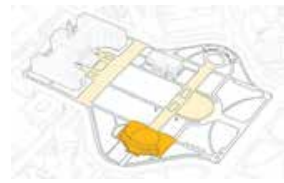


*Present*



# The Greek Theater

Premiere Outdoor Performance Venue



*Past*



*Present*



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# What Makes a Great Public Space?

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# Activation 18-hours a Day & All 4 Seasons



# Events of All Sizes Throughout the Year





# Inclusive of Everyone



# Comfort and Beauty



# Authentic and Uniquely Denver



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# Civic Center Next 100 Principles

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# Principles



Enliven Civic Center as a **place for people**. Make it active, engaging, welcoming and comfortable to everyone (children, residents, visitors, tourists, workers) every day.



Elevate Civic Center to form a prominent destination centered around distinct **cultural and community anchors**.



Celebrate the **historic significance** of the Civic Center landmark.

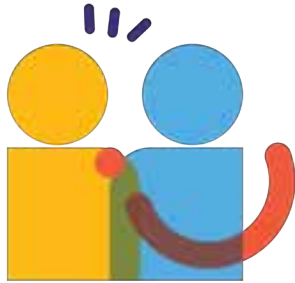


Incorporate **resilient design** to ensure Civic Center is a model for successful urban ecology, sustainability and long-term vitality for the next 100 years.



Unify Civic Center by implementing city-wide connectivity visions to link to surrounding cultural, recreational and civic spaces and **reinforcing physical and visual connections** to the surrounding district.





# Principle 1

Enliven Civic Center as a place for people. Create a place that is active, engaging, welcoming and comfortable to everyone, every day.

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# Civic Center Park Summary

223 TOTAL EVENTS IN 2019

EVENTS BY MONTH



# McNichols Building Summary

533 TOTAL EVENTS IN 2019

EVENTS BY MONTH



# 365-Day Use

Summer  
interactive water  
feature



Table games and rentals



Inclusive of all



Winter holiday  
displays and ice  
rink



Food & beverage



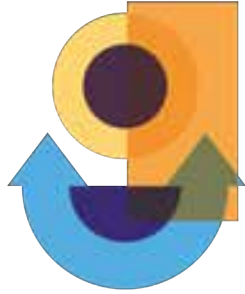
A place for play and delight



Seating options







## Principle 2

Elevate Civic Center to form a prominent destination centered around distinct cultural and community anchors.

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# Cultural Destinations Today



# Cultural & Community Anchors

**Sculpture that engages the viewer**



**Interactive art and water**



**Food & beverage**



**Premier outdoor performance venue**



**Monumental plaza with interactive water feature**

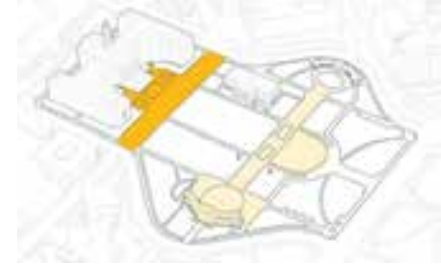


# Cultural Experiences



# Bannock Street Experience

## Reimagined Street turned Civic Plaza



### Bannock Street- Design Parameters

- Provide adequate space for large civic events and festival programming (*Outdoor Downtown, 2017*)
- Bikeway to remain as a key connection into and out of downtown (*Denver Moves: Downtown, 2021*)
- Public safety and limited vehicular access (*Bannock Phase 1, 2020*)

*“Many Downtowns have defined central public spaces that are synonymous with cultural and civic pride, demonstration and daily activity. These spaces.....are often must-see destinations for visitors, go to sites for public discourse and the stage for events large and small, elaborate or impromptu. These areas function less as typical parks and more as a vibrant extension of the urban fabric.”*  
*Outdoor Downtown*



*Dilworth Park, Philadelphia, PA*

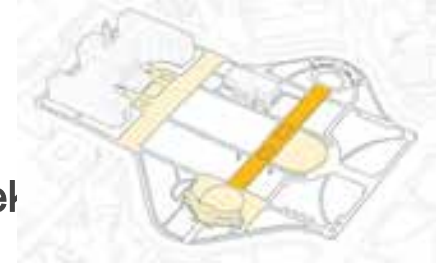


—  
Polling Question

What would you  
most like to  
experience in  
Bannock Street  
Plaza? *(select up to 3)*

# The Central Promenade Experience

Destination Event, Market and Pedestrian Corridor, Anchored by the Greektown Theater and Voorhies Memorial



## Central Promenade- Design Parameters

- Unify the Promenade & Central Gathering Feature
- Provide important space for hosting large-scale events; add supporting infrastructure
- Serve important pedestrian corridor along the north-south cultural axis through the park; update materials
- Rehabilitate paving to original condition



*2009 Civic Center Design Guidelines*

*2005 Civic Center Master Plan & 2009 Civic Center Design Guidelines*



—  
Polling Question

**What would you  
like to experience  
along the Central  
Promenade?**

*(select up to 3)*



# Central Gathering Feature Experience

## The Heart of Civic Center Park

### Central Gathering Feature Design Parameters

- Create new three-dimensional design element in the center of the park
- Preserve views to civic and cultural buildings
- Use complementary materials that respect (but do not replicate) the historic character
- Maintain view corridor between the City & County Building and the State Capitol
- Integrate the Promenade with the design
- Include gardens, lawns, rich paving and seating

*2009 Civic Center Design Guidelines & 2005 Civic Center Master Plan*



*Miroir d'eau (Water Mirror), Bordeaux*



*Cloudgate, Chicago*



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Chat Response

# Central Gathering Feature Experience

Based on the guidelines noted above, please share your idea for the Central Gathering Feature.

Feel free to use an example from another public space or city.

*Type your answer in the chat window.*

# The Greek Theater Experience

## Premiere Outdoor Performance Venue



### Greek Theater- Design Parameters

- Become a premier outdoor performance venue
- Rehabilitation / Modifications to enhance performance venue
- New or rehabilitated facilities to include (but not limited to): dressing rooms, restrooms, performer spaces, upgraded audiovisual technology



*Historic Hearst Theater, Berkeley, CA*

*2005 Civic Center Master Plan & 2009 Civic Center Design Guidelines*



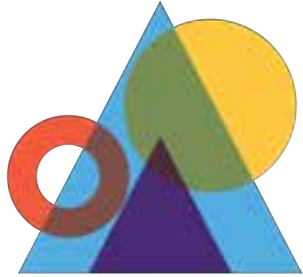
—  
Polling Question

What would you  
most like to  
experience in the  
Greek Theater?

*(select up to 3)*

—  
Chat Response

**What types of activities and experiences are most important to bringing new energy to Civic Center when events are not happening?**

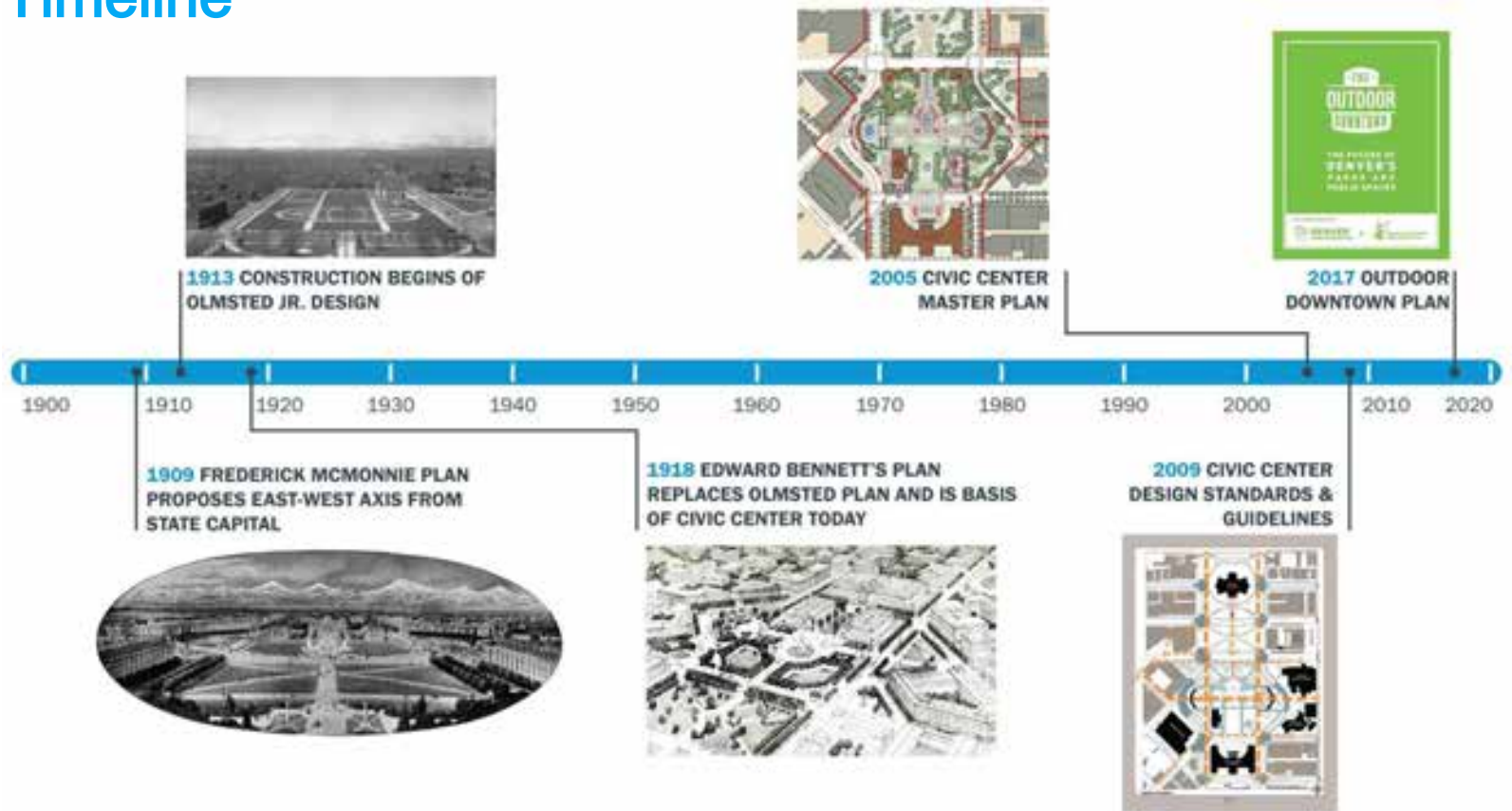


## Principle 3

Celebrate the historic significance of the Civic Center landmark.

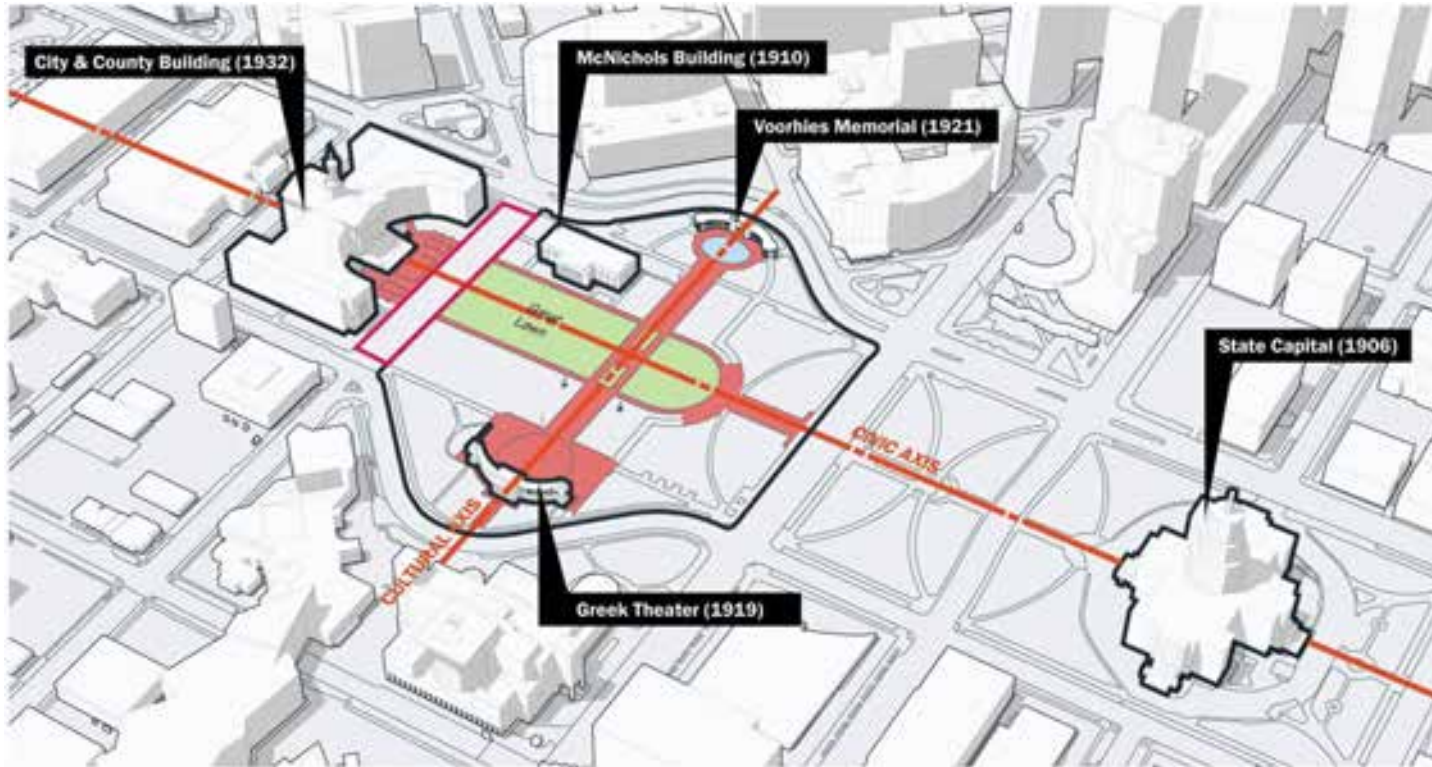
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# Timeline



# Building on History

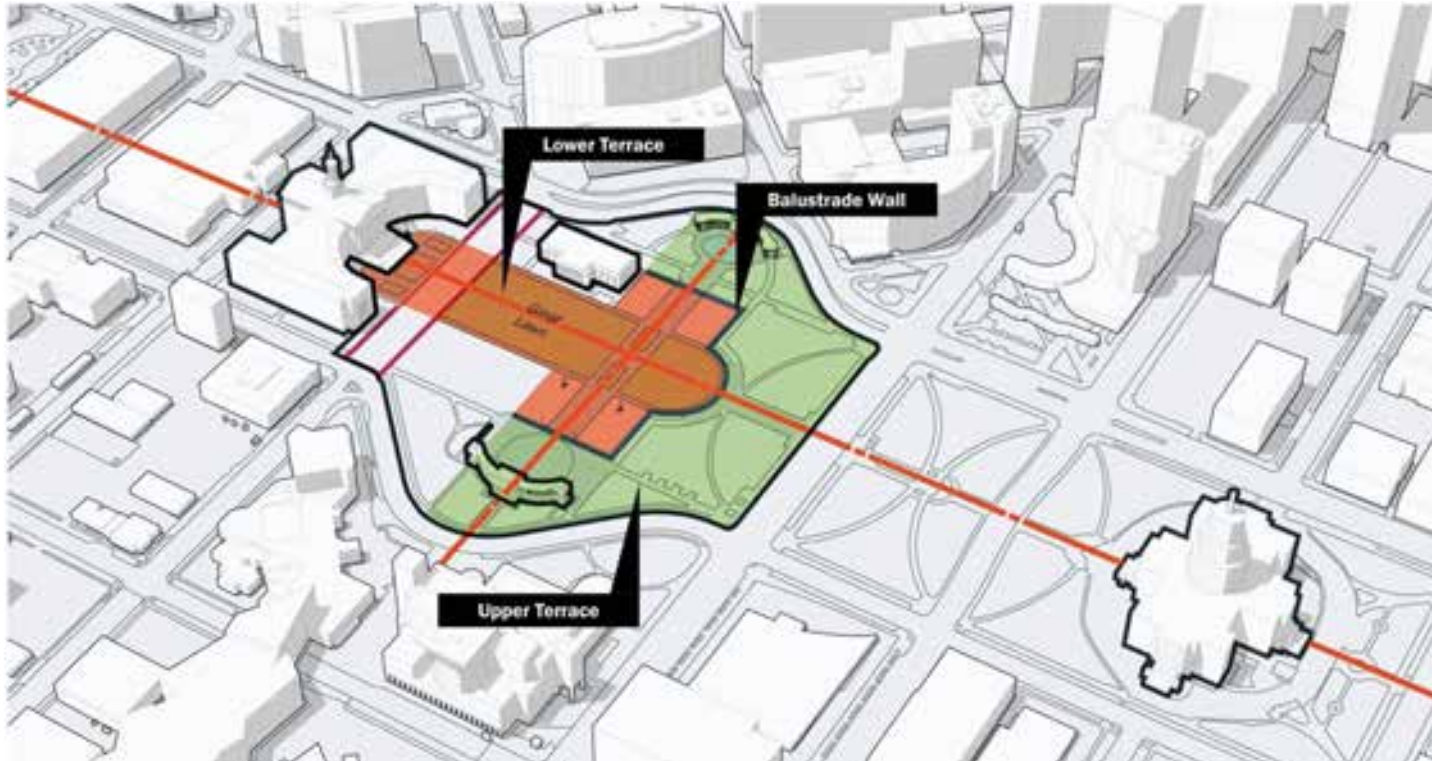
## Axial Relationship





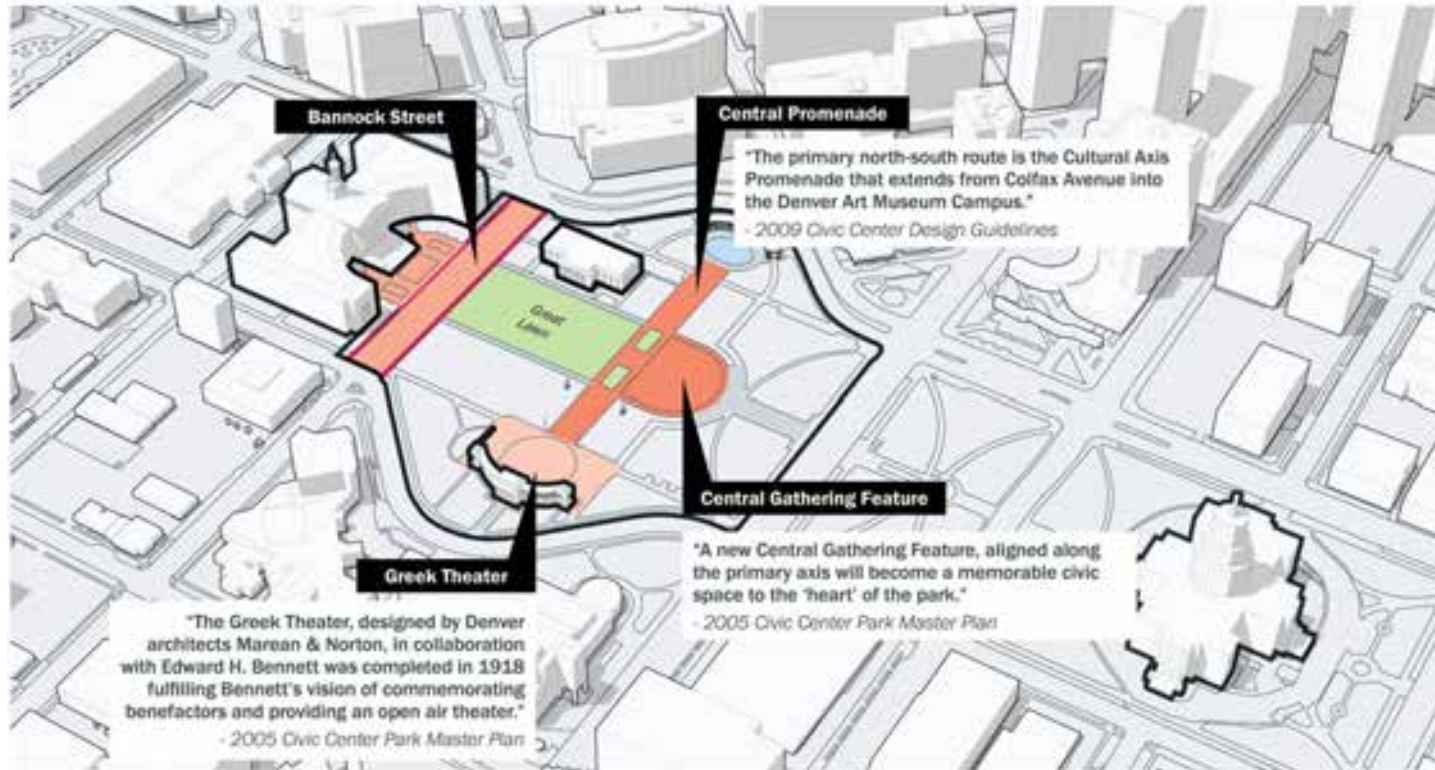
# Building on History

## Terraces



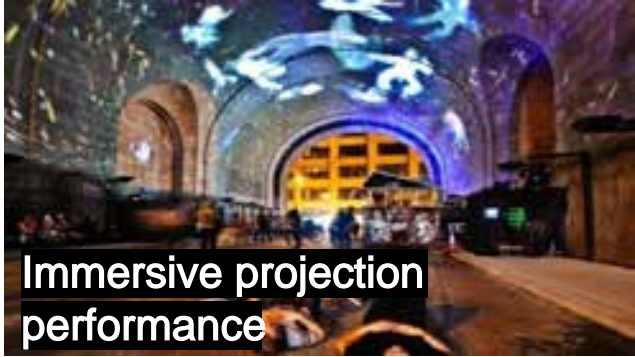
# 2005 Master Plan

## Four Integrated Projects



# Enhancing History with New Activation

Contemporary elements that celebrate traditional forms



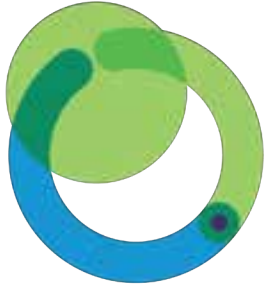
# Respecting and Learning about History

Engaging with history in diverse ways



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Polling Question

How would you  
like to  
experience  
history within the  
park? *(select up to 2)*



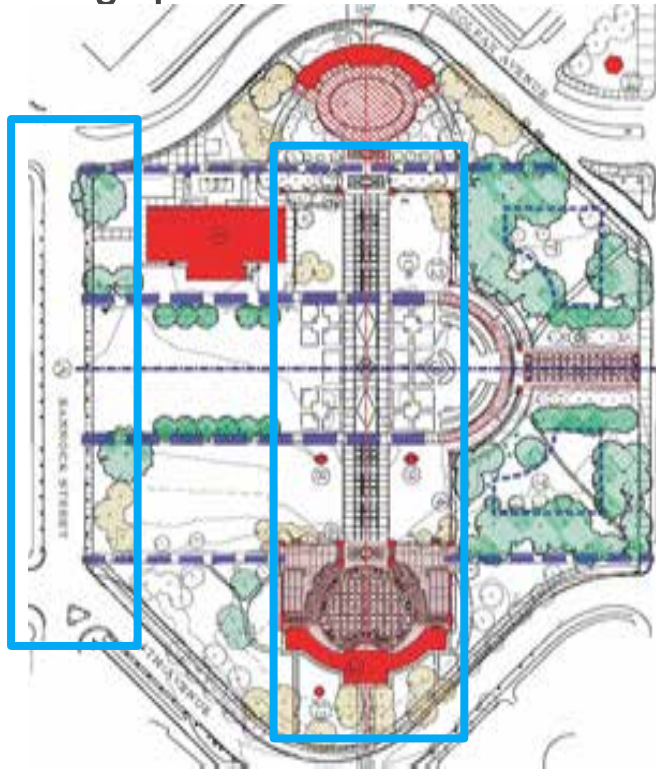
## Principle 4

Incorporate resilient design to ensure Civic Center is a model for successful urban ecology, sustainability and long-term vitality for the next 100 years.

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# Urban Tree Canopy

Building upon the Outdoor Downtown recommendations



- Ornsted Features & Spaces
- Contributing Vegetation (prior to 1932)
- Contributing Vegetation (1932-1979)
- Contributing Vegetation Pattern
- Contributing Features

# Urban Ecology

Cultivate biodiversity





# Green Infrastructure & Renewable Energy

Integrated stormwater quality treatment, alternate energy sources



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Polling Question

What resiliency  
strategies seem most  
important to Civic  
Center? *(select your top 2)*



## Principle 5

Unify Civic Center by implementing city-wide connectivity visions to link to surrounding cultural, recreational and civic spaces and reinforcing physical and visual connections to the surrounding district.

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# Connections

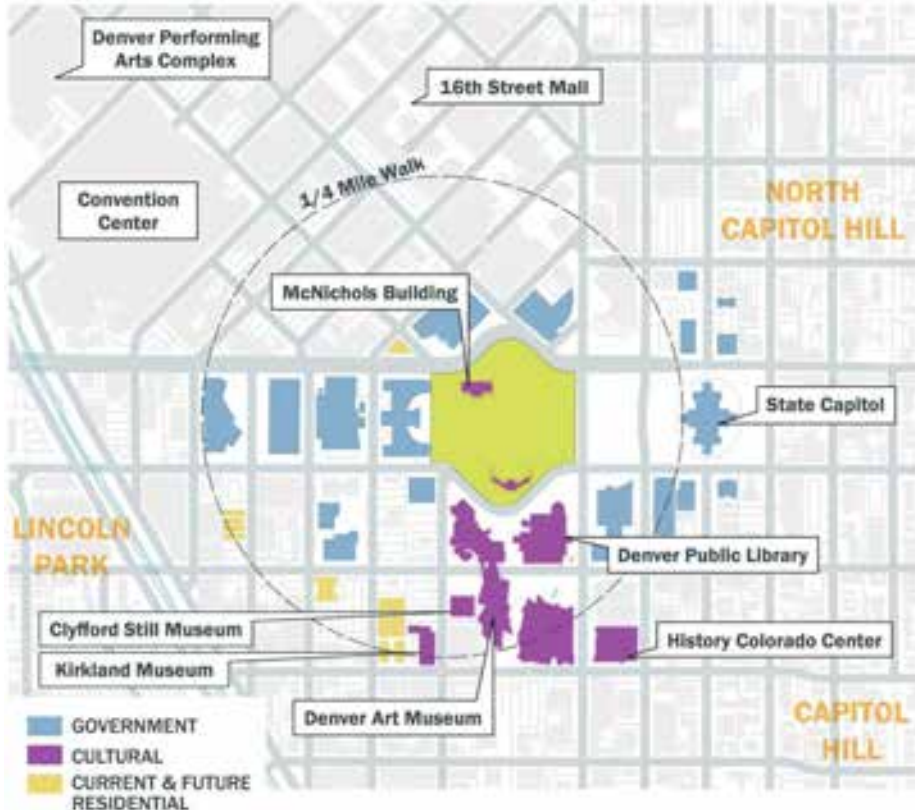


**TRANSIT IS ADJACENT, NOT INTEGRATED**

**BANNOCK IS A CRITICAL BIKE GATEWAY**

- MAJOR BUS ROUTES
- METRORIDE
- COLFAX BRT
- PROTECTED BIKE LANE
- BIKE LANE
- TRAIL
- TRAIL CONNECTION
- BROADWAY PROTECTED BIKE LANE (PROPOSED)
- PROPOSED METRORIDE EXTENSION
- 5280 LOOP
- PEDESTRIAN CONNECTION

# Nearby Cultural Destinations



# Linking the Civic Center District

## Pedestrian connections



- PRIMARY PARK GATEWAY (EXISTING)
- PRIMARY PARK GATEWAY (PROPOSED)
- SECONDARY PARK GATEWAY
- ➡ POPULAR WALKING ROUTES
- ➡ SECONDARY WALKING ROUTES
- 5280 LOOP
- CIVIC CENTER PROJECT AREA
- PARK AND GREEN SPACES
- PLAZA SPACES



# Linking the Civic Center District

## Views to Bannock Street



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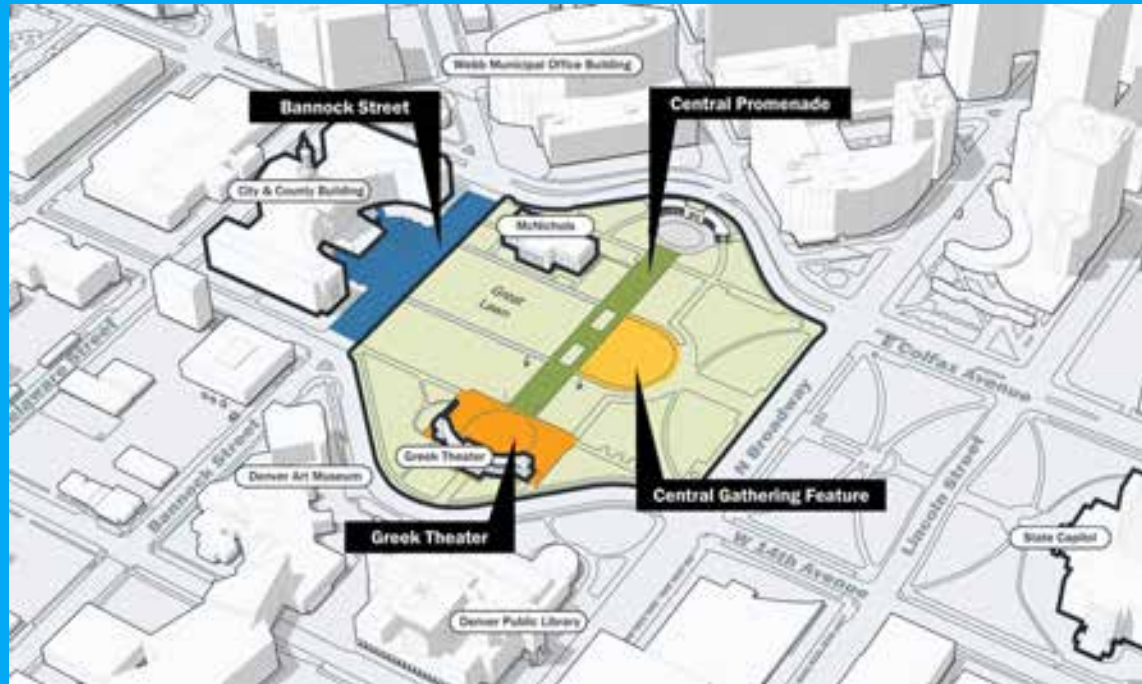
## Polling Question

**How can we reduce the perceived distance between the park and neighboring destinations and improve the experience when connecting to the park?**

*(select up to 2)*



# Q & A

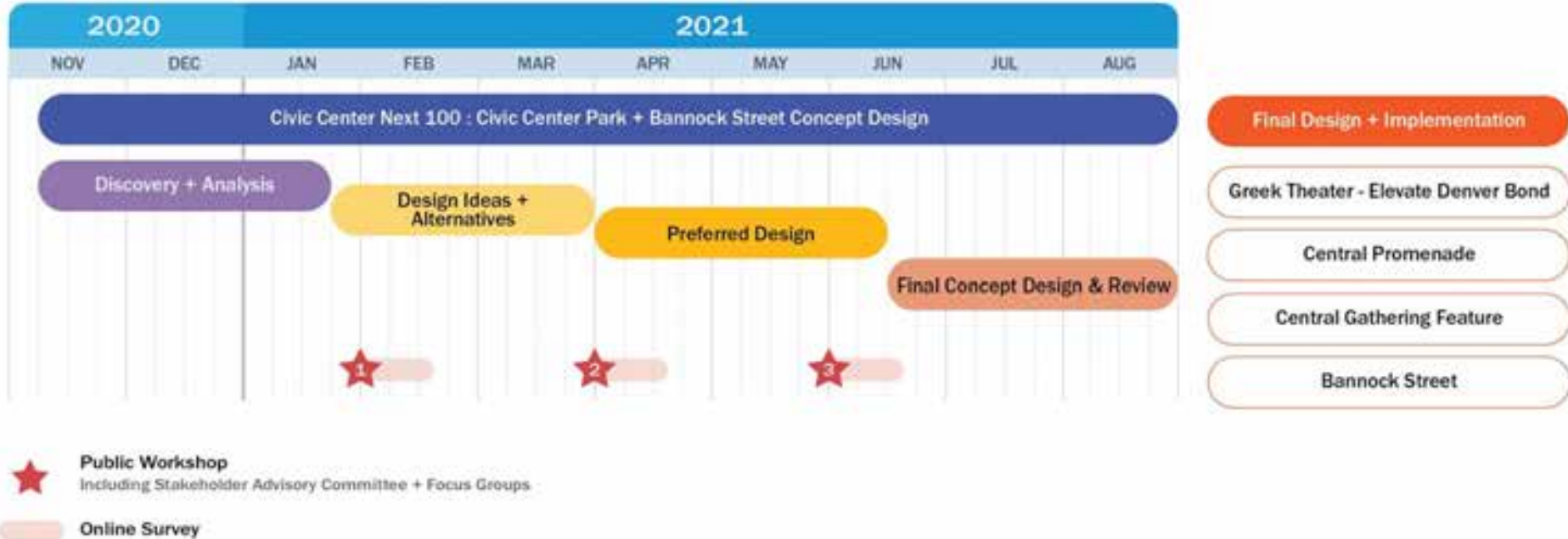


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# Next Steps

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# Civic Center + Bannock Concept Design Schedule



# Next Steps

**CONTACT US**

[Jenna.Harris@denvergov.org](mailto:Jenna.Harris@denvergov.org)

**SHARE YOUR THOUGHTS**

[www.surveymonkey.com/r/CivicCenter100](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/CivicCenter100)

**WATCH FOR UPDATES**

[www.denvergov.org/theoutdoordowntown](http://www.denvergov.org/theoutdoordowntown)

**ATTEND WORKSHOP #2**

Spring 2021

