

Dear Loretto Heights Steering Committee

Maggie Price and I are co chairs of the Inter Neighborhood Cooperation Parks and Rec Committee. Our committee advocates for public green space/parks, equal access and transparency. For more detail you can read our 2011 Urban Park Platform, visit DenverINC.org Parks and Rec Committee

After reading on line the City's Loretta Heights presentation, time table and postcards from attendees from January community meeting we believe there is a consistent desire to have green space with trails along with many other amenities within the development. One important question is how much green space out of the 72 acres will be dedicated parkland. Southwest Denver needs more parks to meet the needs of the local neighborhoods.

Parks and trail are very important for physical and mental health of citizens and the City. What our committee has learned is that it is important to have enough contiguous green space for passive appreciation of nature and for active areas to through a Frisbee, football, and to play games which help to meet the needs of all users.

We wanted to share some of the information in the 2019 Denver Game Plan for Denver Parks. Currently there are 137 pocket parks and neighborhood parks, 45 community and special use parks, 43 linear parks and trails and 10 regional parks.

"Denver's urban parks and recreation include 224 parks totaling more than 5,000 acres as well as 27 recreation centers. Urban parkland ranges in size from large regional parks, like the iconic City Park at 300 acres to much smaller neighborhood and pocket parks which can be less than a quarter of an acre. The system includes linear parks and trails along the city's urban waterways, like the South Platte River, Cherry Creek and the High Line Canal. Park character varies tremendously, from historic landscapes like City Park, Mestizo Curtis Park and Washington Park to more modern and specialized landscapes like Babi Yar Park, which uses native prairie and cast concrete in a memorial to genocide in World War II. Urban parks and recreation centers provide a vast array of amenities and things to do - everything from passive walking and relaxing in a park setting to skateparks, dog parks, bike BMX courses, community gardens, swimming pools, playgrounds, music venues, water recreation and more is available to residents. Programming in recreation centers reaches all demographics, from fitness classes to arts and culture programming to active older adult activities." Game Plan page 27

In reading the attendees postcards for 2040 a majority mention parks with mature trees, views and a space to be with nature. In the planning for Loretto Heights development we believe it is important to come to a decision of what parks means to those who participate and give

feedback. We would encourage a meeting where the discussion is about of how much land (acreage) will be dedicated to parks and trails, what uses are envisioned of the parks, what plane views will be preserved while in the parks.

Our experience is if these questions are discussed and options are written out then those who participate in the year long process will feel they have been listen to by the committee. We are happy to talk with you if would like to discuss parks.

Sincerely,

Cindy J
Maggie P