

**University Technical Assistance Program,
Annual Report 2021**

Funded by the Colorado Department of Local Affairs
Performed by the University of Colorado Denver

2021 was quite a year to be providing technical assistance to local governments across the state from Denver, but even though there were significant challenges the work continued apace and both the students and the communities involved realized the intended benefits of this program. While we were able to travel starting in the summer of 2021, we continued to face some travel limitations. Both our program and the local governments and communities we work with became more fluid in the use of communications technology, so we were able to maintain momentum. We have found that this is especially effective once we have been able to have one or two meetings in person. It is a testament to the work put in by student-employees and supervisors as well as to the optimism that people have in their places that the number of projects completed and started tracked only slightly below 2020.

As we look forward into the new year from the first couple months of 2022, it appears that we are picking up new projects at a quicker pace than in the past. We expect to have no travel restrictions going forward and look forward to engaging people in their places and in person. While we are eager to get back out into a face-to-face environment, we have also developed a high level comfort with a suite of on-line tools for both community engagement and project development that will allow us to be even more effective at achieving significant community participation as part of our work, in combination with in-person visits.

Another exciting development is that the College of Architecture and Planning renovated our area in the building in 2021 and we will soon be moving into a renovated space dedicated to research and creative activity. This newly renovated space will better facilitate in-person work and remote engagement with communities and local governments. We hope you will come by and visit us soon.

We finished thirteen projects in 2021 ranging from civic buildings to public landscapes to a solar farm study. We have five projects carrying from 2020 into 2022 and eleven new projects that got underway in 2021 for a total of sixteen projects carrying forward into the new year – and we have already started several more. There are currently twenty-six projects in our pending category in stages that range from waiting on finalized signed MOU's to just initial discussions and statements of possible interest. These range from our typical and much appreciated public building and public landscape scopes but includes a potential geothermal project.

Our average MOU value is just under \$6,000.00, of which local governments pay approximately sixty percent. The total estimate of implementation cost these projects is just over \$31 million – all of which would provide significant construction employment, much of it for people who live in the communities near the project site.

Thirty-six student employees worked nearly 14,000 hours in 2021. Not only does UTAP generate significant employment for students while they are working on their professional degrees and logging internship hours toward licensure, it also gives them a wide range of experiences working directly with stakeholders and communities which is difficult to match in an academic setting. UTAP provides an invaluable contribution to the education of those students who come to work with us. In addition, it exposes them to potential project types and project locations, as well as types of practice, that they may not otherwise consider – generating a large pool of future professionals who know both the value of design for communities and how rewarding it is to provide this service.

An overview of our annual expenditures, projects by status, and staff – as well as images from our 2021 completed projects – can be found in the pages that follow.

2021 University Technical Assistance Program, Projects by Status

Projects Completed in 2021		Environment & Renewables	Education & Workforce	Health	Economic Development
Town Hall Design	Cheyenne Wells		•		
Mesa County Library: New Clifton Branch	Mesa County		•		•
Community Center Adaptive Reuse	Dinosaur			•	
Fire Protection District New Station	Dove Creek		•	•	
River Park Renovations	New Castle			•	•
Fairgrounds Outdoor Classroom	Garfield County		•		
Fairground Renovation and Facility Expansion	Custer County			•	•
Streetscape and Traffic Calming Plan	Granby				•
Renovated Fairgrounds and Events Center	Las Animas Co.		•	•	•
Renovated Skatepark and Playground	Monument			•	
Energy Independence Solar Farm Design	Lyons	•			•
Akron Pond and Park Masterplan	Akron			•	•
Deer Trail Comprehensive Plan Amendment	Deer Trail		•		•

Projects Carrying from 2020 to 2022

Renovated City Hall and Police Station	Manitou Springs		•		
Main Street Streetscape and Facade Plan	Hotchkiss				•
Town Hall Renovation and New Town Square	San Luis		•		•
New Town Center/Town Hall	Silver Cliff		•		•

Projects Started in 2021

Audubon Park	Montrose	•			
Library Site Design	Norwood		•		
Parks, Trails, and Open Space Plan	Norwood	•		•	
Downtown Enhancements	Olathe				•
Downtown Revitalization Planning	Ignacio				•
Facilities Master Plan	Frederick		•		•
Fairgrounds Master Plan	Byers			•	•
FIRE/OEM/ Dispatch Center	Gilpin County			•	

Monument Wayfinding	Monument		•		•
Town Hall and Police Facility Design	Ault		•		
Community Center Remodel and Addition	Limon			•	•

Pending Projects

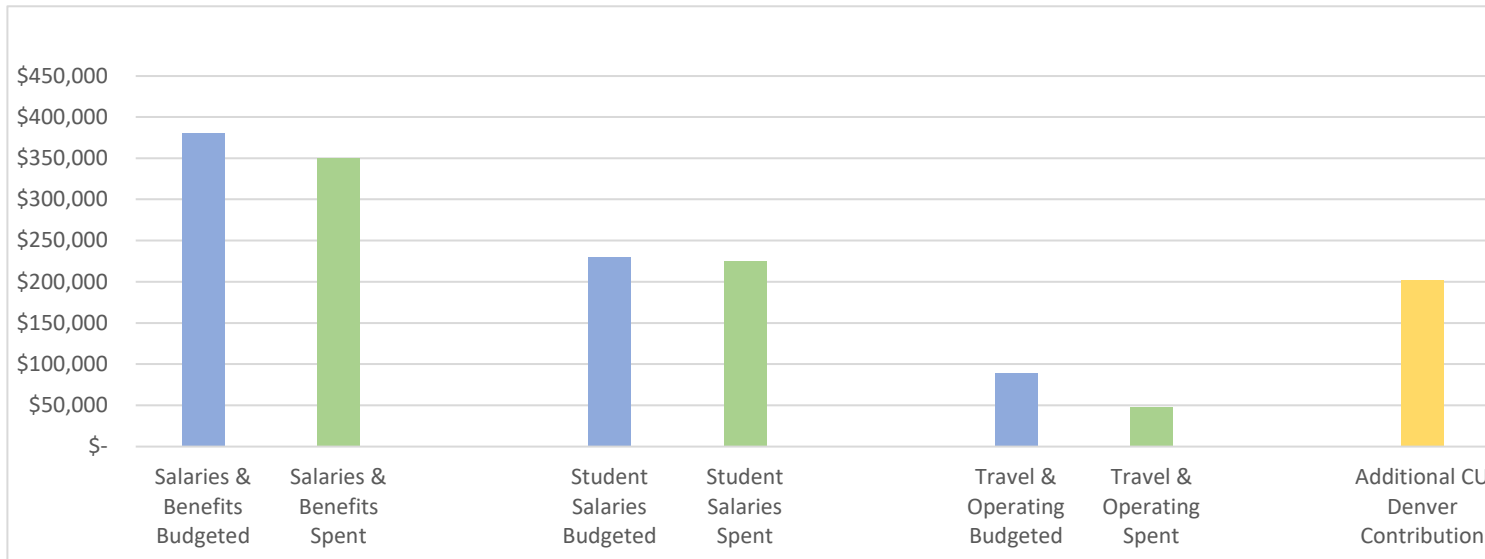
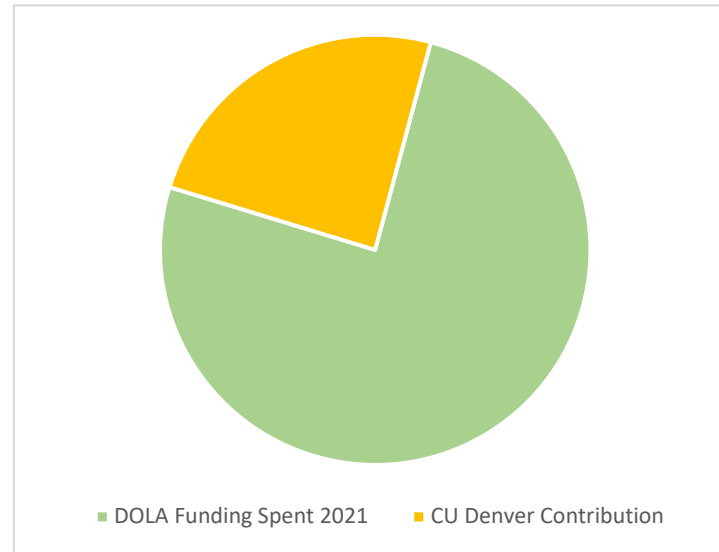
East Park Redevelopment	Craig
River Park and Open Space Use Study	De Beque
Community Center Strategic Use/Business Plan	Hayden
Former Race Track Open Space Redesign	Hayden
New Town Hall	Dove Creek
East Riverbend Park	Palisade
Town Park Renovation	Nucla
Housing Study and conceptual design	Springfield
Pool House and facility renovation	Springfield
Shore Arts Center (Charette / Public Meeting)	Lamar
Courthouse Re-Landscaping	Trinidad
Courthouse GeoThermal initiative	Trinidad
Highway Streetscape Charette	Monument
Historic Site Development	Bent County
Community Center and Garden	Crestone
Football field amenities	Branson
Sports Complex	Center
Streetscape Design Project	Hudson
Childcare Design	Hugo
Subdivision Design	Flagler
Fire Station Design	Sterling
Downtown Enhancements	Berthoud
Fairgrounds Master Plan	Jackson County
Park Master Plan and Court Study	Holyoke
Historic Downtown Plan	New Raymer
Trail feasibility	Sterling

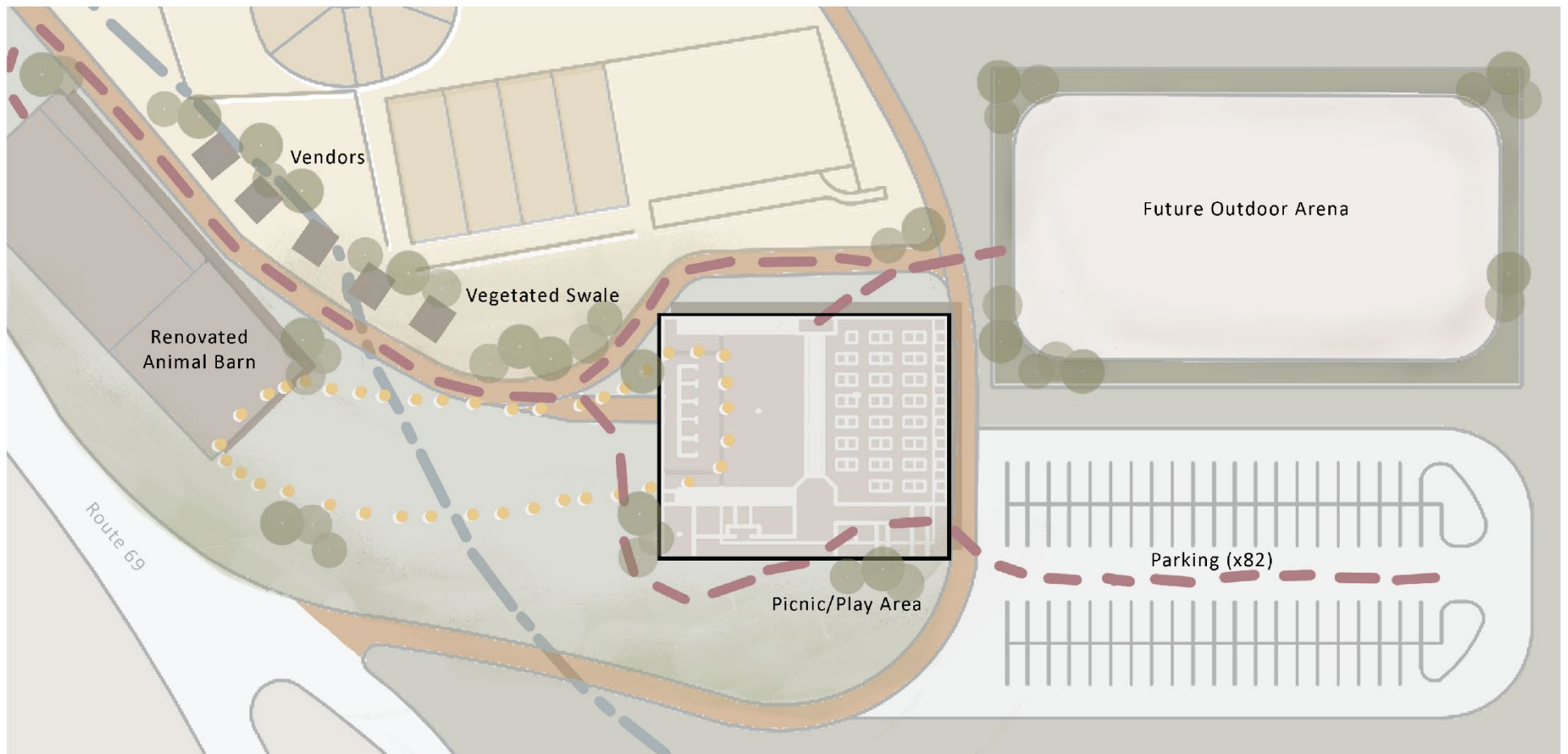
2021 University Technical Assistance Program, Expenditures

2021 Program Funding			
Salaries & Benefits	\$	381,012	
Travel & Operating	\$	89,001	
Student Salaries	\$	229,987	
Total	\$	700,000	

2021 Program Funding Spent			
Salaries & Benefits	\$	350,876	
Travel & Operating	\$	48,207	
Student Salaries	\$	225,268	
Total	\$	624,351	

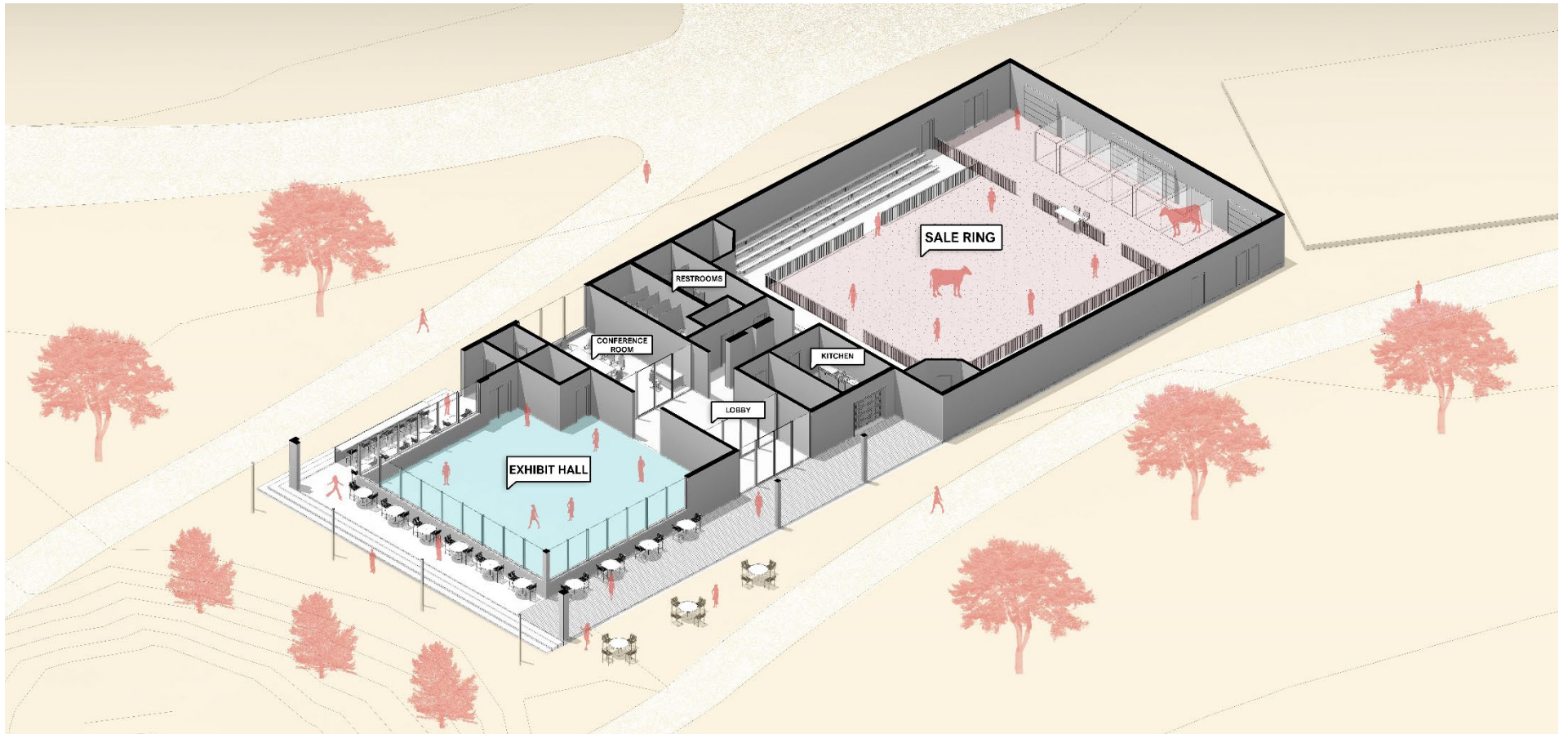
2021 Estimated CU Denver		
Contribution to UTAP	\$	201,968





Custer County Fairgrounds

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Custer County Fairgrounds

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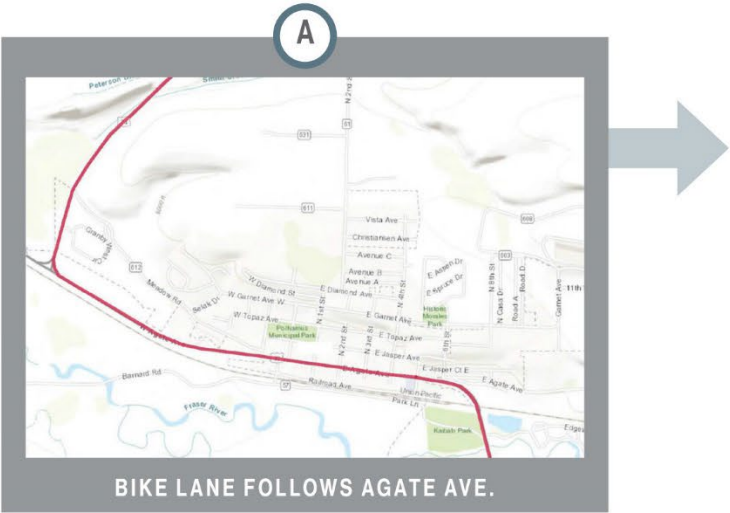
CONCEPT 2 DESIGN



CONCEPT 2 - AGATE AVE AND 3RD STREET

Birds-eye view of Agate and 3rd Street intersection, looking west: Placing a two-way, dedicated bikeway on the south side of the street creates an enhanced feeling of traffic separation for cyclists and drivers. Intersecting cross streets, driveways, and parking areas pose potential safety risks, however, as drivers turning onto Agate will need to look both ways for approaching cyclists in both direction. Here, the use of raised traffic medians, lane painting, signage and clear site lines can work together to mitigate accident risk.

STREETSCAPE CONCEPTS

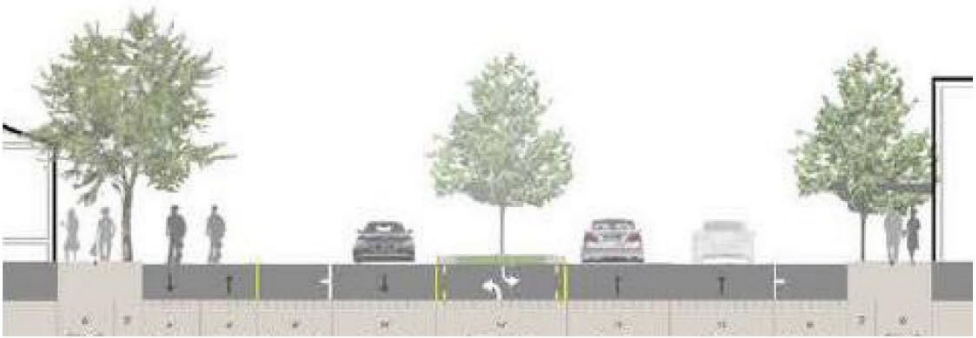


CONCEPT 2

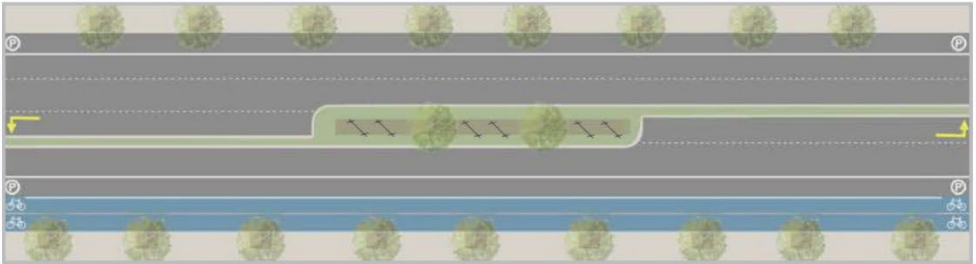
Concept 2 for Agate Ave proposes the addition of a two-way bike lane on the south side of the street, placed between the sidewalk and parking lane. As with Concept 1, sidewalks remain the same width, one eastbound traffic lane is removed, and the 13' central turn lane is converted into a raised, vegetated median. Cross streets, driveways, and parking areas off the south side Agate raise challenges for this bikeway approach. Strategies to alert drivers to two-way cycling traffic include maintaining clear sight lines, and using



Concept vignette showing split bike lane and other new street elements.



2 - SECTION VIEW

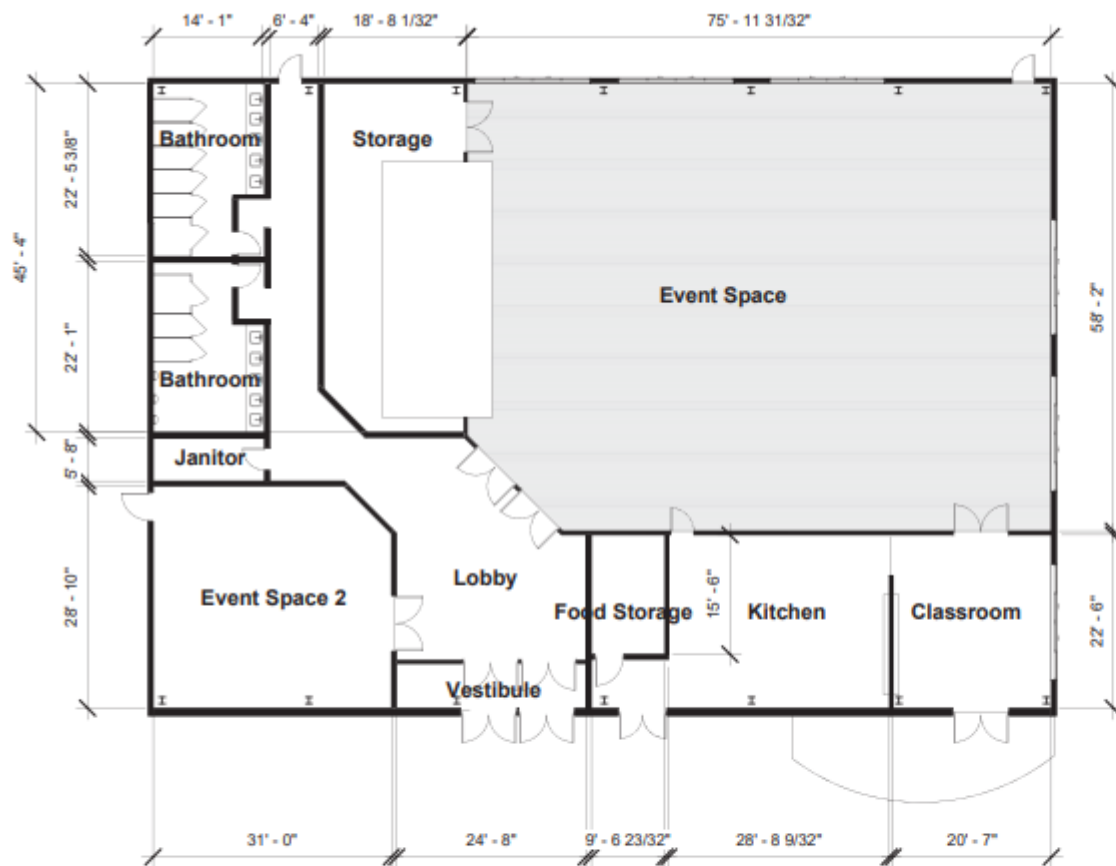


2 - PLAN VIEW



Las Animas County Fairgrounds Events Pavilion

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1 Level 1
1/16" = 1'-0"



Room Schedule		
Name	Area	Appr. Size
Storage	818 SF	18' 8" x 45' 4"
Event Space	4351 SF	75' 11" x 58' 2"
Classroom	469 SF	20' 7" x 22' 6"
Kitchen	715 SF	28' 8" x 22' 6"
Food Storage	148 SF	9' 6" x 15' 6"
Janitor	82 SF	5' 8" x 14' 1"
Bathroom	287 SF	22' 1" x 14' 1"
Bathroom	294 SF	22' 6" x 14' 1"
Vestibule	146 SF	24' 8" x 5' 9"
Lobby	1080 SF	24' 8" x 29'
Event Space 2	887 SF	31' x 28' 10"

Las Animas County Fairgrounds Events Pavilion

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Las Animas County Fairgrounds Courtyard Plan

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Las Animas County Fairgrounds Community Park

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KEY

PARKING

1. 9 Spaces @ 60 Degrees (7 with ADA space)

FAMILY AREA

2. Picnic Shelter
3. Play Village
4. Scooter/Tricycle Track
5. Mini Pump Track
6. Play Climber
7. Restroom (Stand Alone or Enclosed Portable)

SNAKE RUN

8. Path to Drop-Off/Beacon (at Grade)
- 9-10. Detention Zones

SKATE ELEMENTS

11. Pergola / Grind Ledge
12. Banks with Steps, Rails
13. Viewing Area
14. Steps and Ramps with Rails,
15. Steps with Grind Boxes
16. Ramp to Snake Run
17. Pyramid
18. Drop-Off Zone
19. Park Sign



Town of Monument Skatepark

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Town of Monument Skatepark

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Town of Lyons

Solar Farm Feasibility Project



Presentation Brought to you by:
The University of Colorado at Denver Student Team

May 7th, 2021

Town of Lyons Solar Farm

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Southwest Dog Park

0 Bradford Street, Lyons, Colorado

Pros

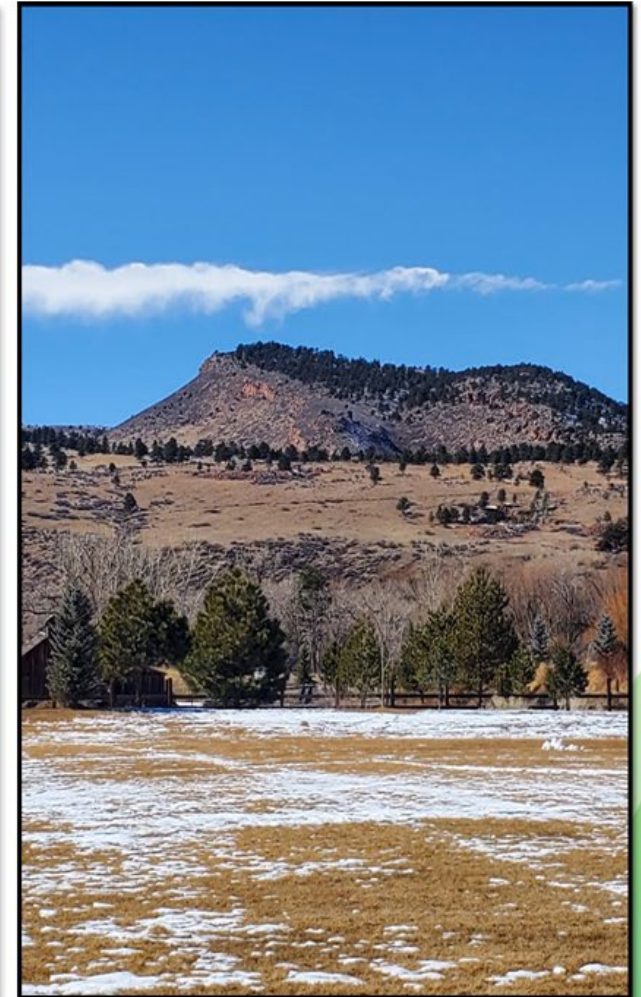
- Outside of the flood region
- Room for future expansion
- Away from residential area
- Does not require rezoning
- Excellent solar access

Cons

- Uses existing dog park land
- Longest distance to run
Underground power distribution



Source: Google Maps; aerial view



Actual Photo

Town of Lyons Solar Farm

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Cheyenne Wells Town Hall

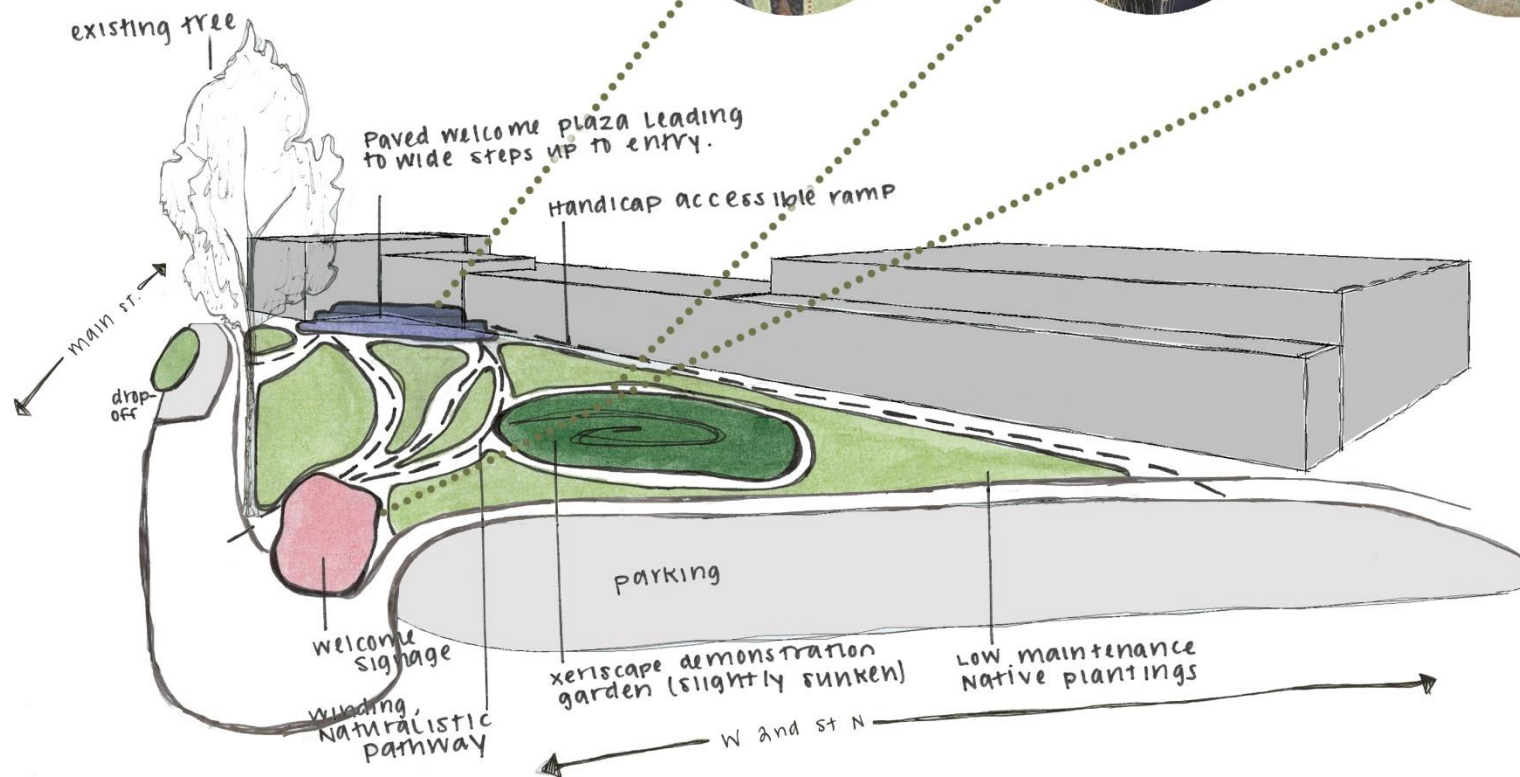
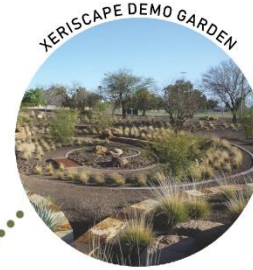
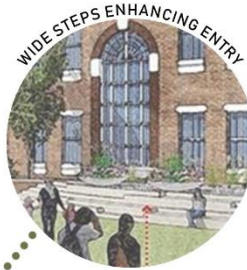
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LANDSCAPE CONCEPT A

This concept incorporates a naturalistic style in order to create a welcoming and grand entry.

Key components of this concept include:

- Winding pathway approach
- Wide steps to enhance entryway and provide potential seating
- Xeriscape demo garden in spiral form, slightly sunken into the earth
- Natural, stone signage to indicate arrival



Cheyenne Wells Town Hall

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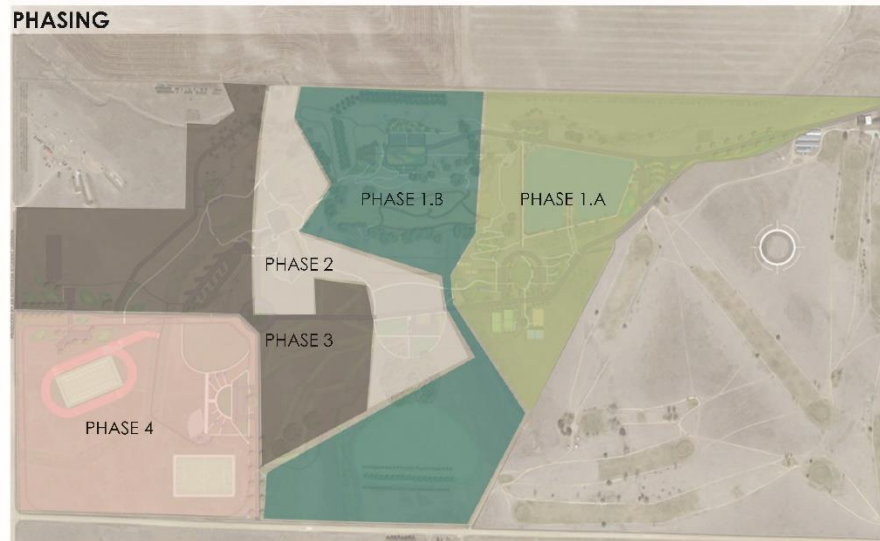


Akron Pond & Park Master Plan

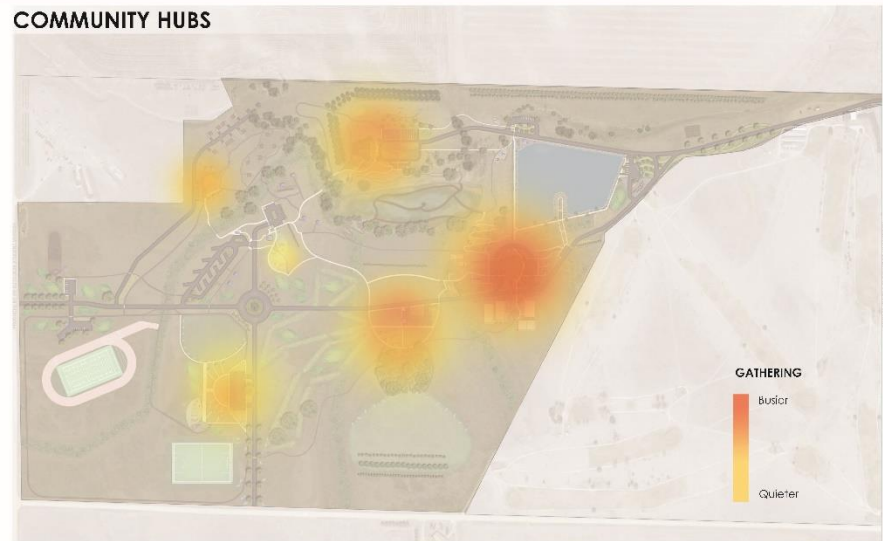
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AKRON POND & PARK MASTERPLAN

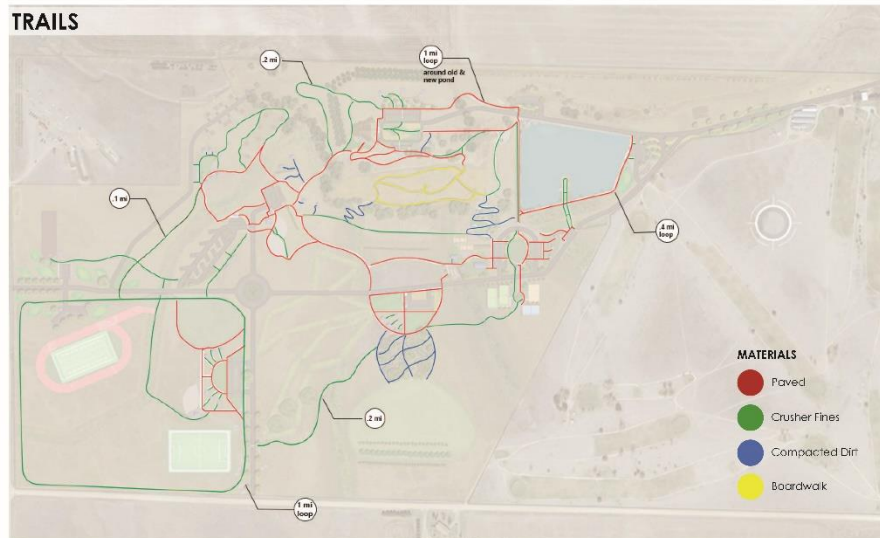
PHASING



COMMUNITY HUBS



TRAILS



CIRCULATION



Akron Pond & Park Master Plan

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Akron Pond & Park Master Plan

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Akron Pond & Park Master Plan

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Zoom Meeting You are viewing Claire Byers' screen View Options

Speaker View

Architecture and Design

Does Deer Trail have any design guidelines?

Does Deer Trail value historic preservation?



Participants:

- DJAm+uC5QzsyTD...
- Jennifer Kovarik
- Claire Byers
- Allie Slaten
- KC McFerson
- Tara
- Isra Fakhruddin
- Clay Brown
- Jonathan Cable

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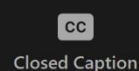
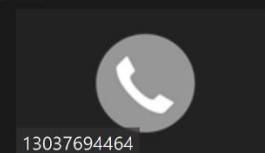
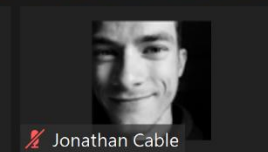
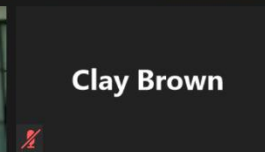
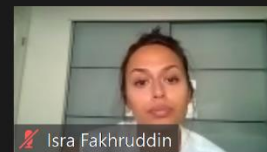
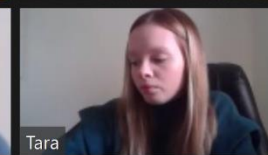
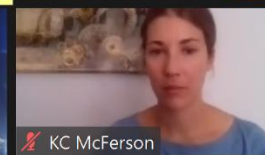
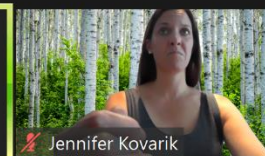
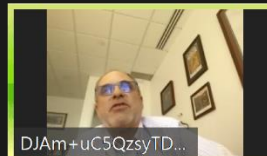
Deer Trail Comprehensive Plan Amendment

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Draft Existing Land Use Map

What is your vision for land use?

DEER TRAIL, COLORADO
EXISTING LAND USE



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Deer Trail Comprehensive Plan Amendment

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Community's Top-Ranked Priorities

TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENTS



- Paved roads
- Sidewalks
- Crosswalks

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OPTIONS



- Revitalization of Main Street (1st street) commercial corridor
- Business improvement district
- I-70 commercial gateway into the town

BUSINESSES YOU WOULD LIKE IN DEER TRAIL



- Grocery store
- Retail farmers' market
- Hospitality
- Home-based businesses

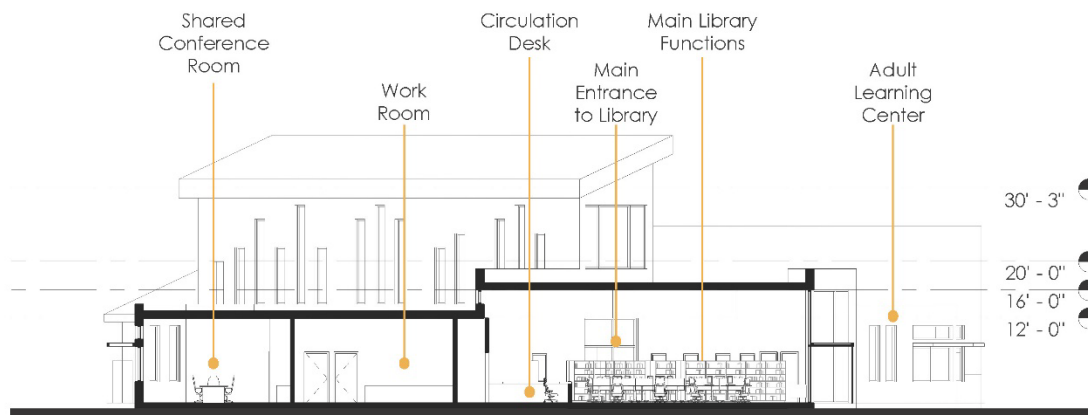
PARK AMENITIES



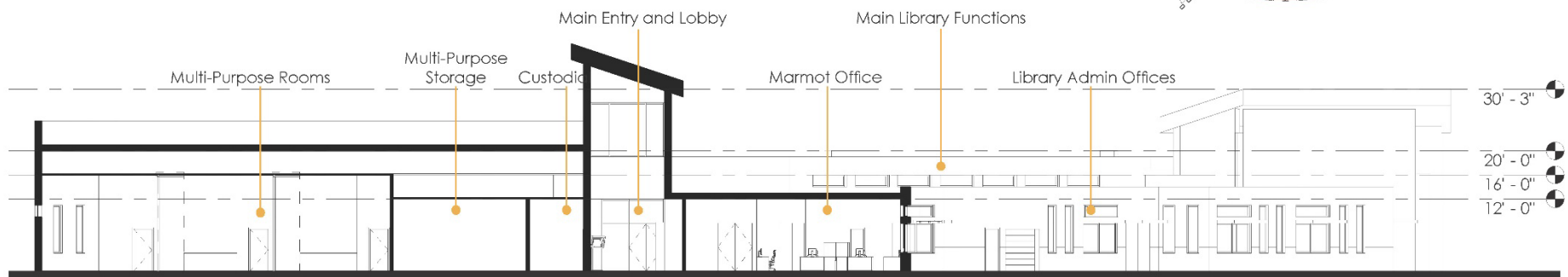
- Natural open space with trails
- Playgrounds
- Community Gardens
- Picnic Pavilions

Deer Trail Comprehensive Plan Amendment

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Section A Sections 1/16" = 1'-0"



Section B Sections 1/16" = 1'-0"

Mesa Co. Libraries: New Clifton Branch

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Mesa Co. Libraries: New Clifton Branch

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New Castle Memorial River Park

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New Castle Memorial River Park

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Garfield Co. Fairgrounds Outdoor Classroom

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Garfield Co. Fairgrounds Outdoor Classroom

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FLOOR PLAN

Key:

- Community
- Admin
- Multipurpose
- Daycare
- Utility
- Circulation



Scale: 1/16" = 1'-0"



FRONT ENTRANCE RENDER



KEY ELEMENTS



STAMPED CONCRETE

To break up the monolithic brick the new exterior walls are shown in a stamped concrete that add texture and fun to the exterior with the dinosaur fossil footprints.



COVERED DROP OFF

The pergola protects the front entry from inclement weather, clearly identifies the main entry into the building, and provides opportunity for overhead lighting for better visibility.



SIGNAGE

An large aged bronze sign bearing the community center's name is easy to see and compliments the natural landscape colors.



NATURAL LIGHT

Additional windows and glazed entry to the lobby create inviting spaces flooded with natural light.

Town Community Center Renovation | Dinosaur, CO | Front Entrance Render



Town of
Dinosaur



UTA
UNIVERSITY
TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE



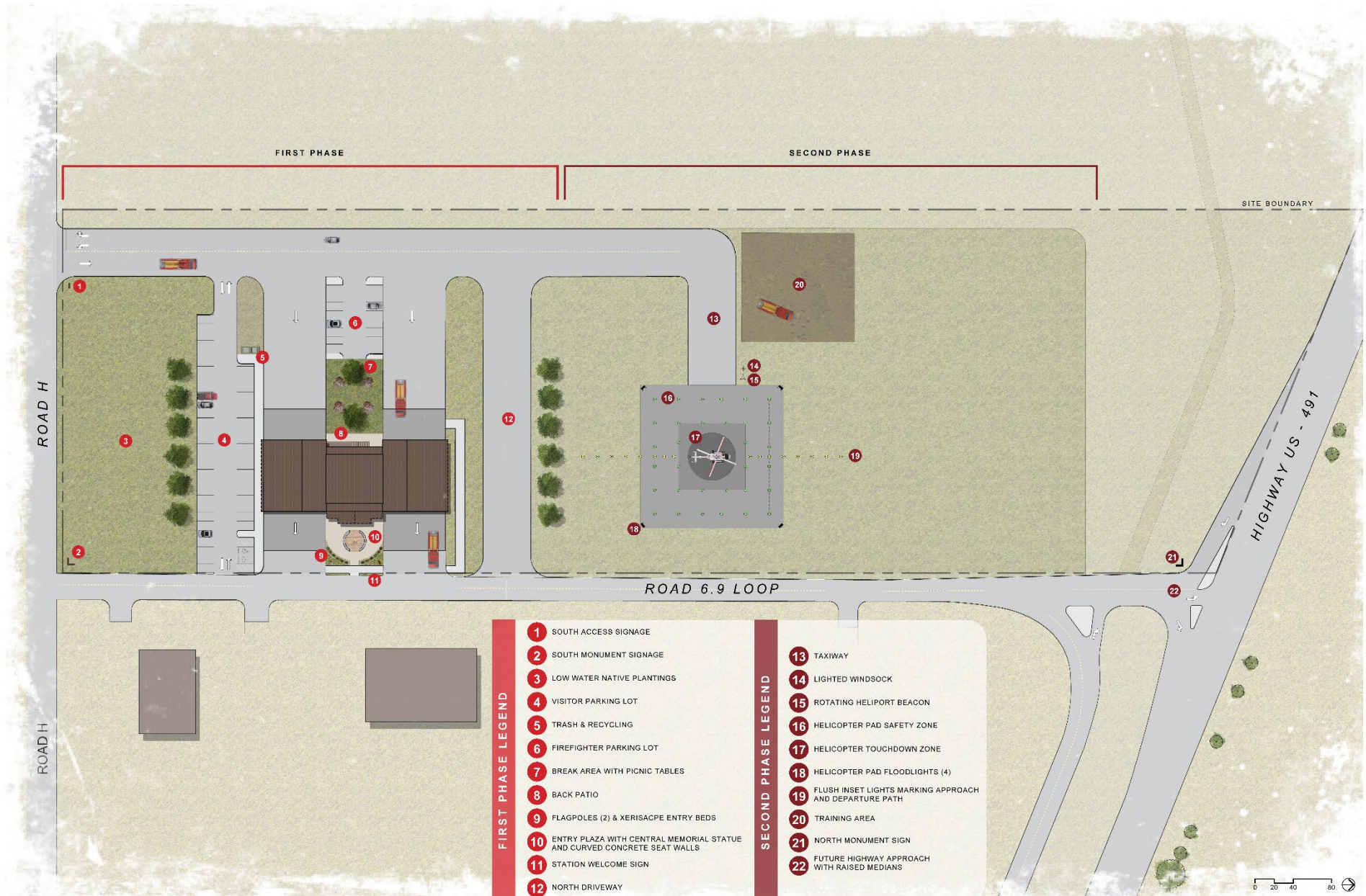
Colorado Center
for Community Development
COLLEGE OF AG, EDUC, AND PLANNING
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER



COLORADO
Department of Local Affairs

Dinosaur Community Center Design Park

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Dove Creek Fire District New Station Design

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Dove Creek Fire District New Station Design

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2021 University Technical Assistance Program, People

Student Workers:

Fernanda Arangua Vallejos	Kortney Harris	Lydia Prather
Morgan Bonnem	Taylor Heffelfinger	Stephanie Rodgers
Claire Byers	Miriam Hernandez Arroyo	Sarah Salazar
Jonathan Cable	Paige Johnson	Alexandra Schima
Fiorella Cuiffardi Yupanqui	Jeffrey Jones	Karen Schultz
Sarah Drew	Fang Qi Germaine Low	Tara Sorels
Isra Fakhruddin	Andrea Kraft	Aletha Spang
Charlotte Francisco	Brittany LeBlanc	Ivy Steele
Alena Gagnon	Ethan Miller	Finley Sutton
Chelsea Gieryic	Graham Oden	Justin Trammell
Sarah Goldblatt	Mallory Orr	Hannah van der Vorst
Alex Hardesty	Sylvia Pasquariello	Jordyn Waters

Field Supervisors:

Jennifer Kovarik
Jeff Wood
Chris Endreson

Project Director:

Jody Beck