

PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. 19-1005 Celebrating 100 Years of Civic Center

WHEREAS, Denver's Civic Center campus is the most intact City Beautiful design in the nation, reflecting the city's early attention to city planning and the value of open spaces as well as our unique western heritage; and

WHEREAS, Denver Mayor Robert Speer outlined a vision for a city in a park, anchored by a Civic Center, of elegant design based on the principals of the City Beautiful movement intended to uplift the souls of Denver residents and pronounce Denver's place as a great city; and

WHEREAS, the Civic Center design was shaped by a succession of nationally renowned designers, including Charles Mulford Robinson, Frederick MacMonnies, Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr., and finally Edward H. Bennett, who synthesized the disparate elements into a unified whole; and

WHEREAS, the Colorado State Capitol, an exceptional example of Renaissance Revival, dominates the east end of Civic Center and provides an open vista toward the Front Range of the Rocky Mountains and the Denver City & County Building, a monumental public building in the Georgian Revival style; and

WHEREAS, between these two great buildings lie the public grounds of the Capitol, Lincoln Park, Civic Center park, and the forecourt of the City & County Building, embellished with a variety of landscape features that contribute to an attractive and inspiring park setting that includes groves and borders of trees, expanses of lawn and formal flowerbeds, pedestrian walkways and paved plazas, elaborate balustrades, fountains, and a reflecting pool; and

WHEREAS, two colonnaded structures -- the Voorhies Monumental Gateway and the Greek Theater and Colonnade -- continue to draw the public from the expanding business district nearby and offer a venue for public entertainment and civic engagement as they did when first constructed; and

WHEREAS, significant public and private efforts remain dedicated to the restoration and enhancement of Civic Center with partnerships among the Denver Department of Parks & Recreation, Denver Arts & Venues, the Civic Center Conservancy, state agencies and others in the community; and

WHEREAS, The Civic Center Conservancy is a nonprofit organization dedicated to restoring, enhancing and activating Civic Center Park, and through community events and creative urban place-making, the Conservancy infuses the heart of Denver with energy and iconic experiences while advocating on safety, design and funding issues; and

WHEREAS, on September 14th, 2019 the Civic Center Conservancy hosted the Centennial Celebration of the Park and recognized the fact that after 100 years Civic Center remains the most iconic space in the State of Colorado for community celebration and civic discourse.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. That the Council of the City and County of Denver joins The Civic Center Conservancy in celebrating 100 Years of Civic Center Park.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to The Civic Center Conservancy.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL September 23, 2019

PRESIDENT