



April 28, 2023

RE: La Raza Park Historic Designation

Dear Members of the Denver City Council, Planning Board, and Landmark Preservation Commission,

The Denver Latino Commission is submitting this letter to show our support of the historic designation of La Raza Park which is being led by the community and advanced by Councilwoman Amanda P. Sandoval.

The mission of the DLC is to respond to issues affecting the Latino Community and this designation will positively impact our community. We are in full agreement of this designation in order to preserve the historical significance and the overwhelming desire of the community.

La Raza Park has deep cultural ties in the Northside and was a vital part of the Chicano Movement in Denver. Following the name change from Columbus Park to La Raza Park in December 2020, there was a deep desire from the community to formally acknowledge the importance of La Raza Park during Denver's entire history. The recommendation to Landmark La Raza Park also came from Community Planning and Developments, first-ever Historic Context Study, Nuestra Historias: Mexican American/Chicano/ Latino Histories in Denver. La Raza Park is in the heart of the Sunnyside neighborhood. Within the park, you will find some very distinct features such as the Kiosko, the only one in Denver, the "El Viaje" or The Journey mural found on the Kiosko's ceiling painted by Denver artist David Ocelotl Garcia, the Plaza de la Raza, and "La Raza Unida" sculpture by the world-famous artist Emanuel Martinez. La Raza Park serves as home to many community activities such as Dia De Los Muertos, Xupantla (the Summer Solstice), La Raza Park Day, quinceaneras, and family picnics. The historic designation of La Raza Park will ensure the vast history of the park will be preserved and the culture and the historic significance will be part of Denver and the Northside community forever. As mentioned in the application, "La Raza Park has been the beating heart of generations of Denverites... The significance of the park transcends its physical characteristics and has truly come to represent the Northside and Denver's wider Latino/Chicano communities."

The Denver Latino Commission is representative of the diversity of the Latino community in Denver and works diligently to represent the voice of our community and it is that voice which we ask again you vote in favor of the historic designation of La Raza Park.

In Solidarity,

Denver Latino Commission Members

Noah Atencio

Rachel Garcia

David Olguin

Lissette Calviero

Adriana Gomez

Monica Padilla

Emily Cervantes

Karen Jaramillo

Raven Porteous

Marlene De La Rosa

Solicia Lopez

Tommy Ray Sena

Claudia Duran

Alexis Newton



SUNNYSIDE UNITED NEIGHBORS, INC | PO BOX 11181 | DENVER 80211

May 1, 2023

Re: La Raza Park Historic Designation

Dear Members of the Denver City Council, Planning Board, and Landmark Preservation Commission,

I am offering this letter to show my support of the historic designation of La Raza Park which is being led by community and advanced by Councilwoman Amanda P. Sandoval. La Raza Park has deep cultural ties in the Northside and was a vital part of the Chicano Movement in Denver. Following the name change from Columbus Park to La Raza Park in December 2020, there was a deep desire from the community to formally acknowledge the importance of La Raza Park during Denver's entire history. The recommendation to Landmark La Raza Park also came from Community Planning and Developments, first-ever Historic Context Study, *Nuestra Historias: Mexican American/Chicano/ Latino Histories in Denver*.

La Raza Park is in the heart of the Sunnyside neighborhood. Within the park, you will find some very distinct features such as the Kiosko, the only one in Denver, the "El Viaje" or The Journey mural found on the Kiosko's ceiling painted by Denver artist David Ocelotl Garcia, the Plaza de la Raza, and "La Raza Unida" sculpture by the world-famous artist Emanuel Martinez. La Raza Park serves as home to many community activities such as Dia De Los Muertos, Xupantla (the Summer Solstice), La Raza Park Day, quinceaneras, and family picnics.

The historic designation of La Raza Park will ensure the vast history of the park will be preserved and the culture and the historic significance will be part of Denver and the Northside community forever. As mentioned in the application, "La Raza Park has been the beating heart of generations of Denverites... The significance of the park transcends its physical characteristics and has truly come to represent the Northside and Denver's wider Latino/Chicano communities."

Thank you for your consideration and we ask again you vote in favor of the historic nomination of La Raza Park.

Sincerely,  
Trupti Suthar on behalf of Sunnyside United Neighbors, Inc

April 15, 2023

Re: Support for La Raza Park's Historic Designation

Dear Members of the Denver City Council, Planning Board, and Landmark Preservation Commission-

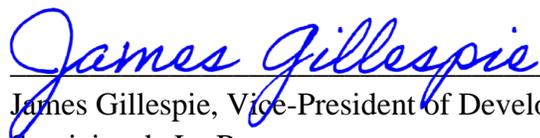
I am offering this letter to show my support of the historic designation of La Raza Park which is being led by community and advanced by Councilwoman Amanda P. Sandoval. La Raza Park has deep cultural ties in the Northside and was a vital part of the Chicano Movement in Denver. Following the name change from Columbus Park to La Raza Park in December 2020, there was a deep desire from the community to formally acknowledge the importance of La Raza Park during Denver's entire history.

La Raza Park is a symbol of culture and community. With rapid gentrification continuing to disenfranchise our Latino/Chicano/Mexican American families and separate them from their homes, and their children from their friends and schools, **it is critical that we protect those symbols which promote unity, culture, and heritage. La Raza Park is Denver's Statue of Liberty. It is a symbol of hope, freedom, and protection of our inalienable rights.** It also recognizes that the land for which it sits is ancestral, and that we currently are occupying the ancestral homeland of indigenous people; their land, prior to the bloody genocide of European colonization.

We must honor the history and the stories of neighbors that usually don't show up to City Council meetings because of a deep (and rightful in many ways) distrust of government systems. This is one rare chance for government to get it right.

Thank you for your consideration and we ask again you vote in favor of the historic nomination of La Raza Park.

Sincerely,



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James Gillespie, Vice-President of Development  
Servicios de La Raza  
3131 W. 14th Avenue  
Denver, CO 80204

**From:** [Alejandra Castañeda](#)  
**To:** [Landmark - Community Planning and Development](#); [Planningboard - CPD](#); [dence - City Council](#); [District 1 Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] I support La Raza Park's Historic Designation  
**Date:** Wednesday, April 19, 2023 7:58:48 AM

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Dear Members of the Denver City Council, Planning Board, and Landmark Preservation Commission,

I am sending this letter to show my support for the historic designation of La Raza Park, which is being led by community and advanced by Councilwoman Amanda P. Sandoval, who represents my district. La Raza Park has deep cultural ties in the Northside and was [a vital part of the Chicano Movement in Denver](#). Following the name change [from Columbus Park to La Raza Park](#) in December 2020, there was a deep desire from the surrounding Hispanic community to acknowledge the importance of this community space during Denver's history. The recommendation to landmark La Raza Park also came from our department of Community Planning & Development's first-of-its-kind Historic Context Study, [Nuestra Historias: Mexican American/Chicano/ Latino Histories in Denver](#),

La Raza Park is in the heart of the Sunnyside neighborhood in District 1. Within the park, you will find some very distinct features such as the Kiosko, the only one in Denver, the "El Viaje" or The Journey mural found on the Kiosko's ceiling painted by Denver artist David Ocelotl Garcia, the Plaza de la Raza, and the "La Raza Unida" sculpture by the world-famous artist Emanuel Martinez. La Raza Park is home to many community activities such as Día De Los Muertos, Xupantla (the Summer Solstice), La Raza Park Day, quinceañera festivities, and family picnics.

The historic designation of La Raza Park will ensure the preservation of its vast history—its historic significance will be part of Denver and the Northside community for years to come. As mentioned in the application, "La Raza Park has been the beating heart of generations of Denverites... The significance of the park transcends its physical characteristics and has truly come to represent the Northside and Denver's wider Latino/Chicano communities."

Thank you for your consideration. I ask again for your vote in favor of the historic nomination of La Raza Park.

Sincerely,

Alejandra X. Castañeda

[she/her/ella]

3134 W. 40th Ave – Denver, CO 80211

**From:** [Amy Razzaque](#)  
**To:** [Landmark - Community Planning and Development](#); [Planningboard - CPD](#); [dence - City Council](#); [District 1 Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] La Raza Park Historic Designation  
**Date:** Monday, April 17, 2023 10:46:22 AM

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April 17, 2023

Re: La Raza Park Historic Designation

Dear Members of the Denver City Council, Planning Board, and Landmark Preservation Commission,

I send you this letter today to convey my support of the historic designation of La Raza Park. This effort is being advanced by Councilwoman Amanda P. Sandoval, it is being led by and for our community. La Raza Park has deep cultural ties in the Northside and was a vital part of the Chicano Movement in Denver. Following the name change from Columbus Park to La Raza Park in December 2020, there was a deep desire from the community to formally acknowledge the importance of La Raza Park throughout Denver's history. The recommendation to Landmark La Raza Park also came from Community Planning and Development's, first-ever Historic Context Study, *Nuestra Historias: Mexican American/Chicano/ Latino Histories in Denver*.

La Raza Park is in the heart of the Sunnyside neighborhood. Within the park, you will find some very distinct features such as the Kiosko, the only one in Denver, the "El Viaje" or The Journey mural found on the Kiosko's ceiling painted by Denver artist David Ocelotl Garcia, the Plaza de la Raza, and "La Raza Unida" sculpture by the world-famous artist Emanuel Martinez. La Raza Park serves as home to many community activities such as Dia De Los Muertos, Xupantla (the Summer Solstice), La Raza Park Day, quinceaneras, and family picnics.

The historic designation of La Raza Park will ensure the robust history of the park will be preserved so the culture and the historic significance will be part of Denver and the Northside community forever. As mentioned in the application, "La Raza Park has been the beating heart of generations of Denverites... The significance of the park transcends its physical characteristics and has truly come to represent the Northside and Denver's wider Latino/Chicano communities."

Thank you for your consideration and I ask that you vote in favor of the historic nomination of La Raza Park.

Sincerely,

*Dr. Rana (Amy) Razzaque*

**From:** [Lauri Keener](#)  
**To:** [Landmark - Community Planning and Development](#); [Planningboard - CPD](#); [dence - City Council](#); [District 1 Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] La Raza Park  
**Date:** Saturday, April 15, 2023 8:05:01 AM

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April 15, 2023

Re: La Raza Park Historic Designation

Dear Members of the Denver City Council, Planning Board, and Landmark Preservation Commission,

I am offering this letter to show my support of the historic designation of La Raza Park which is being led by community and advanced by Councilwoman Amanda P. Sandoval. La Raza Park has deep cultural ties in the Northside and was a vital part of the Chicano Movement in Denver. Following the name change from Columbus Park to La Raza Park in December 2020, there was a deep desire from the community to formally acknowledge the importance of La Raza Park during Denver's entire history. The recommendation to Landmark La Raza Park also came from Community Planning and Developments, first-ever Historic Context Study, *Nuestra Historias: Mexican American/Chicano/ Latino Histories in Denver*.

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The historic designation of La Raza Park will ensure the vast history of the park will be preserved and the culture and the historic significance will be part of Denver and the Northside community forever. As mentioned in the application, "La Raza Park has been the beating heart of generations of Denverites... The significance of the park transcends its physical characteristics and has truly come to represent the Northside and Denver's wider Latino/Chicano communities."

Thank you for your consideration and we ask again you vote in favor of the historic nomination of La Raza Park.

Sincerely,  
Lauri Keener

**From:** [Allen Cowgill](#)  
**To:** [Landmark - Community Planning and Development](#); [Planningboard - CPD](#); [dence - City Council](#); [District 1 Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Please support La Raza Park Historic Designation  
**Date:** Monday, April 17, 2023 12:09:14 PM

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April 17, 2023

Re: La Raza Park Historic Designation

Dear Members of the Denver City Council, Planning Board, and Landmark Preservation Commission,

As a North Denver resident for 17 years, I am offering this letter to show my support of the historic designation of La Raza Park. So much of North Denver's history has been erased by the movement of community members that have been displaced from the community along with the destruction of many of their homes, business, and community gathering places. It is so important that we preserve the history of North Denver, and La Raza Park is a place that personifies the history of the neighborhood.

This is being led by the community and advanced by Councilwoman Amanda P. Sandoval. La Raza Park has deep cultural ties in the Northside and was a vital part of the Chicano Movement in Denver. Following the name change from Columbus Park to La Raza Park in December 2020, there was a deep desire from the community to formally acknowledge the importance of La Raza Park during Denver's entire history. The recommendation to Landmark La Raza Park also came from Community Planning and Developments, first-ever Historic Context Study, *Nuestra Historias: Mexican American/Chicano/ Latino Histories in Denver*.

The historic designation of La Raza Park will ensure the vast history of the park will be preserved and the culture and the historic significance will be part of Denver and the Northside community forever. As mentioned in the application, "La Raza Park has been the beating heart of generations of Denverites... The significance of the park transcends its physical characteristics and has truly come to represent the Northside and Denver's wider Latino/Chicano communities." It has been a place for community to gather, protest, celebrate, and so much more.

Thank you for your consideration and we ask again you vote in favor of the historic nomination of La Raza Park.

Sincerely,

Allen

Allen Cowgill  
2152 Newton St.  
Denver, CO 80211 303.518.6810

April 15, 2023

Re: La Raza Park Historic Designation

Dear Members of the Denver City Council, Planning Board, and Landmark Preservation Commission,

I am offering this letter to show my support of the historic designation of La Raza Park which is being led by community and advanced by Councilwoman Amanda P. Sandoval. La Raza Park has deep cultural ties in the Northside and was a vital part of the Chicano Movement in Denver. Following the name change from Columbus Park to La Raza Park in December 2020, there was a deep desire from the community to formally acknowledge the importance of La Raza Park during Denver's entire history. The recommendation to Landmark La Raza Park also came from Community Planning and Developments, first-ever Historic Context Study, *Nuestra Historias: Mexican American/Chicano/ Latino Histories in Denver*.

La Raza Park is in the heart of the Sunnyside neighborhood. Within the park, you will find some very distinct features such as the Kiosko, the only one in Denver, the "El Viaje" or The Journey mural found on the Kiosko's ceiling painted by Denver artist David Ocelotl Garcia, the Plaza de la Raza, and "La Raza Unida" sculpture by the world-famous artist Emanuel Martinez. La Raza Park serves as home to many community activities such as Dia De Los Muertos, Xupantla (the Summer Solstice), La Raza Park Day, quinceaneras, and family picnics.

The historic designation of La Raza Park will ensure the vast history of the park will be preserved and the culture and the historic significance will be part of Denver and the Northside community forever. As mentioned in the application, "La Raza Park has been the beating heart of generations of Denverites... The significance of the park transcends its physical characteristics and has truly come to represent the Northside and Denver's wider Latino/Chicano communities."

Thank you for your consideration and we ask again you vote in favor of the historic nomination of La Raza Park.

Sincerely,

**Rose Pejman**  
**1241 N Pennsylvania St**  
**Denver, CO 80203**

April 18, 2023

Re: La Raza Park Historic Designation

Dear Members of the Denver City Council, Planning Board, and Landmark Preservation Commission,

I am offering this letter to show my support of the historic designation of La Raza Park which is being led by community and advanced by Councilwoman Amanda P. Sandoval. La Raza Park has deep cultural ties in the Northside and was a vital part of the Chicano Movement in Denver. Following the name change from Columbus Park to La Raza Park in December 2020, there was a deep desire from the community to formally acknowledge the importance of La Raza Park during Denver's entire history. The recommendation to Landmark La Raza Park also came from Community Planning and Developments, first-ever Historic Context Study, *Nuestra Historias: Mexican American/Chicano/ Latino Histories in Denver*.

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The historic designation of La Raza Park will ensure the vast history of the park will be preserved and the culture and the historic significance will be part of Denver and the Northside community forever. As mentioned in the application, "La Raza Park has been the beating heart of generations of Denverites... The significance of the park transcends its physical characteristics and has truly come to represent the Northside and Denver's wider Latino/Chicano communities."

Thank you for your consideration and we ask again you vote in favor of the historic nomination of La Raza Park.

Sincerely,

**Milinda Sandoval**

April 15th, 2023

Re: La Raza Park Historic Designation

Dear Members of the Denver City Council, Planning Board, and Landmark Preservation Commission,

I am offering this letter to show my support of the historic designation of La Raza Park which is being led by community and advanced by Councilwoman Amanda P. Sandoval. La Raza Park has deep cultural ties in the Northside and was a vital part of the Chicano Movement in Denver. Following the name change from Columbus Park to La Raza Park in December 2020, there was a deep desire from the community to formally acknowledge the importance of La Raza Park during Denver's entire history. The recommendation to Landmark La Raza Park also came from Community Planning and Developments, first-ever Historic Context Study, *Nuestra Historias: Mexican American/Chicano/ Latino Histories in Denver*.

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Thank you for your consideration and we ask again you vote in favor of the historic nomination of La Raza Park.

Sincerely,

**Meghan MacNeil**  
**4355 Umatilla Street, Denver, CO, 80211**

April 21, 2023

Re: La Raza Park Historic Designation

Dear Members of the Denver City Council, Planning Board, and Landmark Preservation Commission,

I am offering this letter to show my support of the historic designation of La Raza Park which is being led by community and advanced by Councilwoman Amanda P. Sandoval. La Raza Park has deep cultural ties in the Northside and was a vital part of the Chicano Movement in Denver. Following the name change from Columbus Park to La Raza Park in December 2020, there was a deep desire from the community to formally acknowledge the importance of La Raza Park during Denver's entire history. The recommendation to Landmark La Raza Park also came from Community Planning and Developments, first-ever Historic Context Study, *Nuestra Historias: Mexican American/Chicano/ Latino Histories in Denver*.

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Thank you for your consideration and we ask again you vote in favor of the historic nomination of La Raza Park.

Sincerely,

**Katie Barajas**

April 22, 2023

Re: La Raza Park Historic Designation

Dear Members of the Denver City Council, Planning Board, and Landmark Preservation Commission,

I am offering this letter to show my support of the historic designation of La Raza Park which is being led by community and advanced by Councilwoman Amanda P. Sandoval. La Raza Park has deep cultural ties in the Northside and was a vital part of the Chicano Movement in Denver. I was excited to support the renaming of the park to La Raza Park to better reflect its history and significance to the people of Denver. Following the name change from Columbus Park to La Raza Park in December 2020, there was a deep desire from the community to formally acknowledge the importance of La Raza Park during Denver's entire history. The recommendation to Landmark La Raza Park also came from Community Planning and Developments, first-ever Historic Context Study, *Nuestra Historias: Mexican American/Chicano/Latino Histories in Denver*.

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Thank you for your consideration and we ask again you vote in favor of the historic nomination of La Raza Park.

Sincerely,



Gina Johnson  
355 N. Downing St., Denver  
ginajohnsonucm@gmail.com

April 21, 2023

Re: La Raza Park Historic Designation

Dear Members of the Denver City Council, Planning Board, and Landmark Preservation Commission,

I am offering this letter to show my support of the historic designation of La Raza Park which is being led by community and advanced by Councilwoman Amanda P. Sandoval. La Raza Park has deep cultural ties in the Northside and was a vital part of the Chicano Movement in Denver. Following the name change from Columbus Park to La Raza Park in December 2020, there was a deep desire from the community to formally acknowledge the importance of La Raza Park during Denver's entire history. The recommendation to Landmark La Raza Park also came from Community Planning and Developments, first-ever Historic Context Study, *Nuestra Historias: Mexican American/Chicano/ Latino Histories in Denver*.

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The historic designation of La Raza Park will ensure the vast history of the park will be preserved and the culture and the historic significance will be part of Denver and the Northside community forever. As mentioned in the application, "La Raza Park has been the beating heart of generations of Denverites... The significance of the park transcends its physical characteristics and has truly come to represent the Northside and Denver's wider Latino/Chicano communities."

Thank you for your consideration and we ask again you vote in favor of the historic nomination of La Raza Park.

Sincerely,

**Katie Barajas**

April 27, 2023

Re: La Raza Park Historic Designation

Dear Members of the Denver City Council, Planning Board, and Landmark Preservation Commission,

My name is Florence Navarro, a lifetime resident of North Denver and serve as a Mayoral Appointee to the Denver Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. This is truly a unique opportunity to preserve a piece of my neighborhood forever and I am whole heartedly offering this letter to show my support of the historic designation of La Raza Park. This effort is being led by community and advanced by Councilwoman Amanda P. Sandoval. La Raza Park has deep cultural ties in the Northside and was a vital part of the Chicano Movement in Denver. Following the name change from Columbus Park to La Raza Park in December 2020, there was a deep desire from the community to formally acknowledge the importance of La Raza Park during Denver's entire history. The recommendation to Landmark La Raza Park also came from Community Planning and Developments, first-ever Historic Context Study, *Nuestra Historias: Mexican American/Chicano/Latino Histories in Denver*.

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The historic designation of La Raza Park will ensure the vast history of the park will be preserved and the culture and the historic significance will be part of Denver and the Northside community forever. As mentioned in the application, "La Raza Park has been the beating heart of generations of Denverites. The significance of the park transcends its physical characteristics and has truly come to represent the Northside and Denver's wider Latino/Chicano communities."

Thank you for your consideration and we ask again you vote in favor of the historic nomination of La Raza Park.

Sincerely,



Florence R. Navarro  
Denver Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Mayoral Appointee  
2728 West 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Denver

April 28, 2023

Re: La Raza Park Historic Designation

Dear Members of the Denver City Council, Planning Board, and Landmark Preservation Commission,

My name is Jill Mullen, and I serve as the District 1 Appointee to the Denver Parks and Recreation Advisory Board. I am offering this letter to show my support of the historic designation of La Raza Park which is being led by community and advanced by Councilwoman Amanda P. Sandoval. La Raza Park has deep cultural ties in the Northside and was a vital part of the Chicano Movement in Denver. Following the name change from Columbus Park to La Raza Park in December 2020, there was a deep desire from the community to formally acknowledge the importance of La Raza Park during Denver's entire history. The recommendation to Landmark La Raza Park also came from Community Planning and Developments, first-ever Historic Context Study, *Nuestra Historias: Mexican American/Chicano/Latino Histories in Denver*.

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The historic designation of La Raza Park will ensure the vast history of the park will be preserved and the culture and the historic significance will be part of Denver and the Northside community forever. As mentioned in the application, "La Raza Park has been the beating heart of generations of Denverites... The significance of the park transcends its physical characteristics and has truly come to represent the Northside and Denver's wider Latino/Chicano communities."

Thank you for your consideration and we ask again you vote in favor of the historic nomination of La Raza Park.

Sincerely,

**/s/ Jill Mullen**  
**4561 Zuni st., Denver, CO 80211**

**From:** [Callie Ludwig](#)  
**To:** [Landmark - Community Planning and Development](#); [Planningboard - CPD](#); [dence - City Council](#); [District 1 Comments](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] La Raza Park  
**Date:** Sunday, April 30, 2023 1:59:10 PM

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April 30, 2023

Re: La Raza Park Historic Designation

Dear Members of the Denver City Council, Planning Board, and Landmark Preservation Commission,

I am offering this letter to show my support of the historic designation of La Raza Park which is being led by community and advanced by Councilwoman Amanda P. Sandoval. La Raza Park has deep cultural ties in the Northside and was a vital part of the Chicano Movement in Denver. Following the name change from Columbus Park to La Raza Park in December 2020, there was a deep desire from the community to formally acknowledge the importance of La Raza Park during Denver's entire history. The recommendation to Landmark La Raza Park also came from Community Planning and Developments, first-ever Historic Context Study, *Nuestra Historias: Mexican American/Chicano/ Latino Histories in Denver*.

La Raza Park is in the heart of the Sunnyside neighborhood. Within the park, you will find some very distinct features such as the Kiosko, the only one in Denver, the "El Viaje" or The Journey mural found on the Kiosko's ceiling painted by Denver artist David Ocelotl Garcia, the Plaza de la Raza, and "La Raza Unida" sculpture by the world-famous artist Emanuel Martinez. La Raza Park serves as home to many community activities such as Dia De Los Muertos, Xupantla (the Summer Solstice), La Raza Park Day, quinceaneras, and family picnics.

The historic designation of La Raza Park will ensure the vast history of the park will be preserved and the culture and the historic significance will be part of Denver and the Northside community forever. As mentioned in the application, "La Raza Park has been the beating heart of generations of Denverites... The significance of the park transcends its physical characteristics and has truly come to represent the Northside and Denver's wider Latino/Chicano communities."

Thank you for your consideration and we ask again you vote in favor of the historic nomination of La Raza Park.

Sincerely,

May 1, 2023

Re: La Raza Park Historic Designation

Dear Members of the Denver City Council, Planning Board, and Landmark Preservation Commission,

My name is Meredith Levy and I serve as District 5's Appointee to the Denver Parks and Recreation Advisory Board.

I am offering this letter to show my support of the historic designation of La Raza Park which is being led by the community and advanced by Councilwoman Amanda P. Sandoval. La Raza Park has deep cultural ties in the Northside and was a vital part of the Chicano Movement in Denver.

Following the name change from Columbus Park to La Raza Park in December 2020, there was a deep desire from the community to formally acknowledge the importance of La Raza Park during Denver's entire history. The recommendation to Landmark La Raza Park also came from Community Planning and Developments, first-ever Historic Context Study, Nuestra Historias: Mexican American/Chicano/Latino Histories in Denver.

La Raza Park is in the heart of the Sunnyside neighborhood. Within the park, you will find some very distinct features such as the Kiosko, the only one in Denver, the "El Viaje" or The Journey mural found on the Kiosko's ceiling painted by Denver artist David Ocelotl Garcia. The Plaza de la Raza, and "La Raza Unida" sculpture by the world-famous artist Emanuel Martinez, La Raza Park serves as home to many community activities such as Dia De Los Muertos, Xupantla (the Summer Solstice), La Raza Park Day, quinceaneras, and family picnics.

The historic designation of La Raza Park will ensure the vast history of the park will be preserved and the culture and the historic significance will be part of Denver and the Northside community forever. As mentioned in the application, "La Raza Park has been the beating heart of generations of Denverites. The significance of the park transcends its physical characteristics and has truly come to represent the Northside and Denver's wider Latino/Chicano communities."

Thank you for your consideration and we ask again you vote in favor of the historic nomination of La Raza Park.

Sincerely,  
Meredith Levy  
Denver Parks and Recreation Advisory Board

May 1, 2023

Re: La Raza Park Historic Designation

Dear Members of the Denver City Council, Planning Board, and Landmark Preservation Commission,

I am offering this letter to show my individual support of the historic designation of La Raza Park, an effort led by the community and advanced by Councilwoman Amanda P. Sandoval. As a vital part of the Chicano Movement in Denver, La Raza Park has deep cultural ties for the Northside community. Following the name change from Columbus Park to La Raza Park in December 2020, there was a strong desire from the community to formally acknowledge the importance of La Raza Park in the history of Denver. The recommendation to Landmark La Raza Park also came from Community Planning and Development's first-ever Historic Context Study, *Nuestra Historias: Mexican American/Chicano/Latino Histories in Denver*.

La Raza Park is the heart of the Sunnyside neighborhood. Full of unique cultural features, the park includes a Kiosko – the only one in Denver, the “El Viaje” or “The Journey” mural found on the Kiosko’s ceiling painted by Denver artist David Ocelotl Garcia, as well as the Plaza de la Raza and “La Raza Unida” sculpture by the world-famous artist Emanuel Martinez. Host to community activities throughout the year, La Raza Park plays a central role for community events including Dia De Los Muertos, Xupantla (the Summer Solstice), La Raza Park Day, and smaller family events such as quinceaneras and family picnics.

The historic designation of La Raza Park will ensure the preservation of the vibrant and extensive history of the park, and the cultural and the historic significance that it has and continues to play in Denver and the Northside community for generations to come. As mentioned in the application, “La Raza Park has been the beating heart of generations of Denverites. The significance of the park transcends its physical characteristics and has truly come to represent the Northside and Denver’s wider Latino/Chicano communities.”

Thank you for your consideration and I ask again for your vote in favor of the historic designation of La Raza Park.

Sincerely,



**Chandi Aldena-Somerville**

**Chair, Denver Parks & Recreation Advisory Board**

**Representing Councilwoman Robin Kniech, At Large**

**From:** [Myranda Valdez](#)  
**To:** [Landmark - Community Planning and Development](#)  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] La Raza Public Comment  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 2, 2023 2:00:02 PM

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My name is Myranda Valdez, 720-229-6871, in Westminster, CO and I support the historic designation of La Raza Park.