

DENVER PARKS AND RECREATION

Land Use, Transportation, & Infrastructure Committee

Resolution 23-0644

May 23, 2023



DENVER
PARKS & RECREATION

GAME PLAN
for a Healthy City



AGENDA

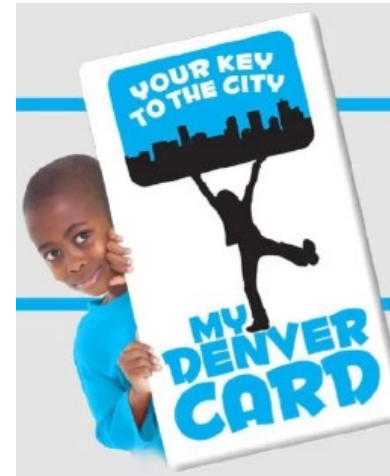
Denver Botanic Gardens

- Benefits of Partnership
- History / background
- Need for amended agreement to clarify:
 - responsibilities and best practices
 - department rules and regulations
 - city legal requirements
 - executive orders



ADVANCING DPR'S GAME PLAN FOR A HEALTHY CITY

- The Denver Botanic Gardens is an invaluable steward of Denver's world renowned Garden facilities and a vital DPR partner in scientific research, water conservation, environmental education, and cultural and natural history.
- Together, DPR and the Denver Botanic Gardens are strengthening Denver's community of environmental stewards:
 1. Growing and diversifying opportunities for Denver residents to connect to nature at the Denver Botanic Gardens and Chatfield Farms.
 2. Enhancing academic and community knowledge in natural sciences, horticulture, and environmental resiliency via research and field work.
- The Denver Botanic Gardens is a tier one organization of the Scientific & Cultural Facilities District.



HISTORY OF THE BOTANIC GARDENS



1951

The Colorado Forestry & Horticulture Association creates the Denver Botanic Gardens. First Cooperative Agreement entered with Denver.

1959

The Gardens move from City Park to Cheesman Park and accepts the donation of the Waring York Street Mansion headquarters.

1965

Historic South Platte River flood; US Army Corps condemns Hildebrand Ranch to create Chatfield Reservoir.

1973

The Denver Botanic Gardens opens Chatfield Farms.

1986

The Denver Botanic Gardens create the world's first Xeriscape Demonstration Garden.

THE DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS

1956 - 2023



- The agreement authorizes Denver Botanic Gardens to administer, maintain, plan, manage, and operate the Denver Botanic Gardens, including the parking facility, exhibits, and ancillary facilities on property owned or leased by City.
- Specifies requirements for the Gardens to manage city employees, make certain capital improvements, provide public access to educational and cultural facilities, programs, and activities, and maintain all exhibits.
- DRMC 2.4.4(F)(i): authorized DPR to enter agreements “for the development of park and recreational facilities, programs and activities and for the establishment and maintenance of the museums, zoological or other *gardens*, collections of natural history and observatories.”

THE DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS

2023 - 2073



- Clarifies partnership responsibilities regarding the process of reviewing and commenting or approving capital improvements.
- Increases the capital improvement threshold requiring DPR approval to \$250,000, subject to change with CPI.
- Adds new language outlining the approval of the cooperative agreement, amendments, and contracts by Bond and Special Counsel.
- 50-year term ensures continued investment in and stewardship of Denver Botanic Garden facilities and global ecology.
- Adds recently establish protected classes to the non-discrimination clause.



APPROVAL OF COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

Resolution 23-0644 Amends a cooperative agreement with Denver Botanic Gardens, Inc. by adding 50 years for a new end date of 12-31-2073 and updating terms to manage and operate the Denver Botanic Gardens and ancillary facilities on property owned or leased by the city.



Questions?

Thank you



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