

Building Connections, Excellence, and Sustainability in the Heart of Denver



www.aurariacampus.edu



Agenda

Auraria Overview

Financial Overview

Auraria Framework Plan

Ballfield Auraria

Auraria Cultural and Community Engagement



**History
Culture
Tradition
Growth**

Auraria History



Denver's oldest neighborhood.

- The Auraria neighborhood predates the city of Denver.
- In the 1970's there was **no** access to public higher education in Denver.
- The Auraria Higher Education Center (AHEC, now the Auraria Campus) opened in 1976 housing three institutions of higher education meant to be a pipeline from associates to post-graduate degrees.

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Auraria Campus: Who We Are

The largest college campus in the state of Colorado.

- Home to the Community College of Denver, Metropolitan State University of Denver, and the University of Colorado Denver:
 - 41,000 students
 - 5,000 faculty and staff
- All three institutions are designated Hispanic Serving Institutions (HSI); CU Denver is a designated Asian American Native American Pacific Islander Serving Institution (AANAPISI).
- Auraria Campus owns, manages, and operates the 150-acre campus.
- **Our campus, situated in the heart of downtown Denver, presents a valuable opportunity to build a collaborative and mutually supportive relationship.**



Auraria Campus Impact

- **\$2.7B generated in annual economic impact.**
- We support and sustain **19,273 Colorado jobs** annually.
- Auraria Campus' operations and tourist/visitor spending total **\$84.9M in state and local taxes.**
- Graduates from the Auraria Campus, on average, **earn 50% more than Colorado's average median salary.**
- Graduates make an additional **\$40k per year** after graduating.
- Auraria Campus graduates the largest amount of Colorado natives and subsequent **largest population of students that stay in local workforce.**



Auraria Governance

Statutory need for the Auraria Board of Directors

The Auraria Board was originally formed in 1974. The Board was formed to:

- Plan, construct, maintain, and manage the land and physical facilities of the Auraria Campus.
- Accommodate and house the three higher education institutions.
- Enter public-private partnerships to develop facilities and to drive complementary revenue towards the academic mission.
- Facilitate the collaborative work between the Auraria Campus, the Auraria Board of Directors, and the three higher education institutions.

Governance: Auraria Board of Directors



Governor Appointed

Three of the voting members are appointed by the Governor of Colorado.



Institution Executives

Three voting members are the chairs of the CU Regents, MSU Denver Board of Trustees, and the State Board for Community Colleges & Occupational Education. Designees are limited to Chancellor/Presidents.



School Regents/Board Appointed

Three voting members are appointed by the governing bodies of the three institutions from their membership.



Three Ex Officio Members

One from the student advisory committee, one from the faculty advisory committee to the Auraria Board, & one Board Secretary, AHEC CEO



Financial Overview



Auraria Campus

Three Primary Operating Funds

1. **General Fund:** Provides funding for the day-to-day operations of the campus, including:
 - Custodial services, grounds upkeep, environmental health & safety, project management, operations & maintenance, campus police, emergency management, classroom & scheduling services, performing arts, business services, and the executive office.
2. **Student Revenue Bond Fund:** Provides funding to support the daily operations of the Tivoli Student Union, all associated debt, and ongoing deferred maintenance.
3. **Parking Enterprise Fund:** Provides funding to support the daily operations of the parking enterprise, associated debt, ongoing deferred maintenance, and future capital needs.

Auraria Campus: Revenue Sources



GENERAL FUND



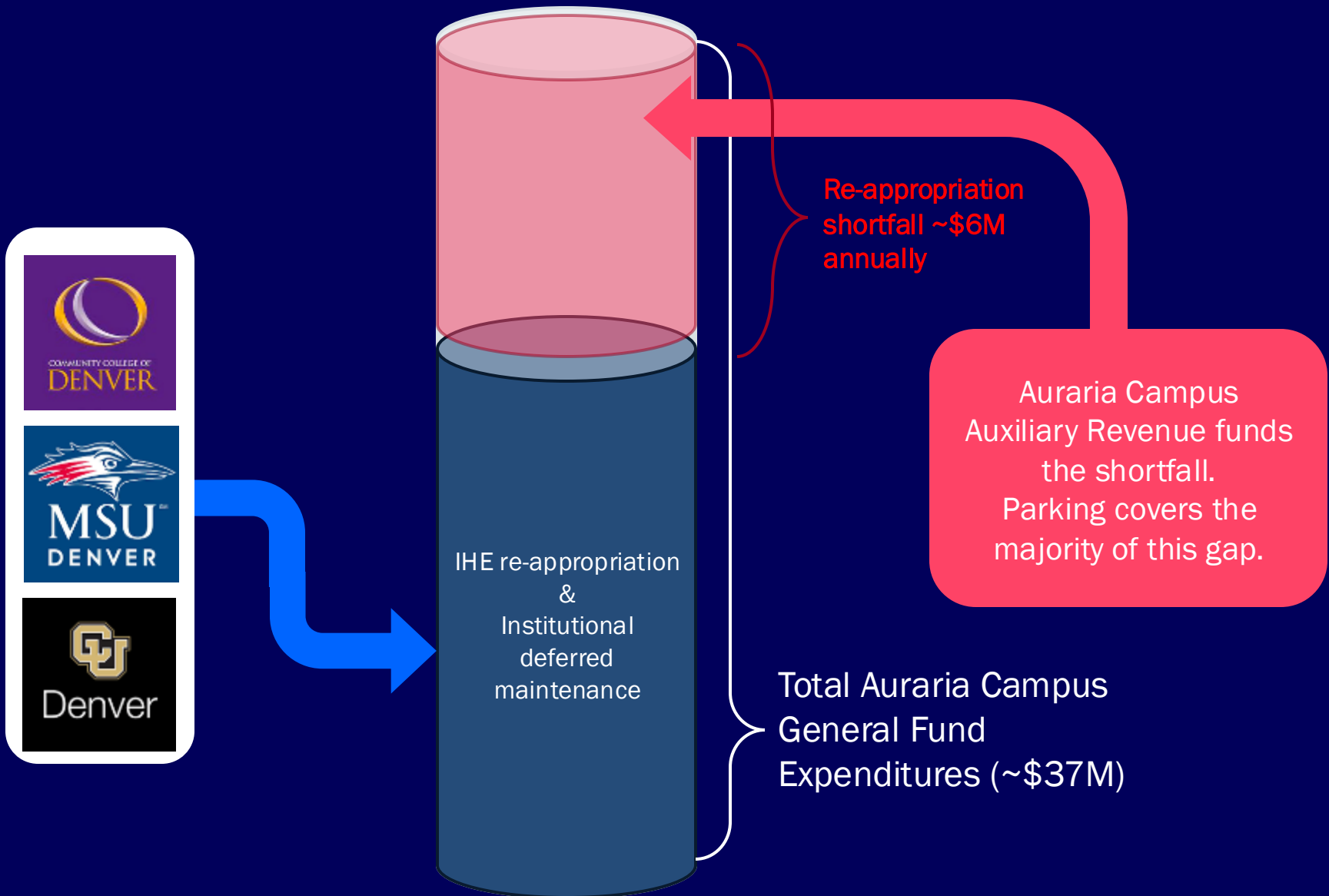
The IHEs re-appropriate State funds to the Auraria Campus based on the funding model of student headcount and building footprint.

- Re-appropriation increase is negotiated annually, and based on General Fund core cost increases

AUXILIARY FUND

- Parking
- Student Fees
- Other:
 - Tivoli Operations
 - Early Learning Center
 - Events
 - Food Vendors

Auraria Campus: Revenue Overview





Auraria Framework Plan

Vision & Guiding Principles

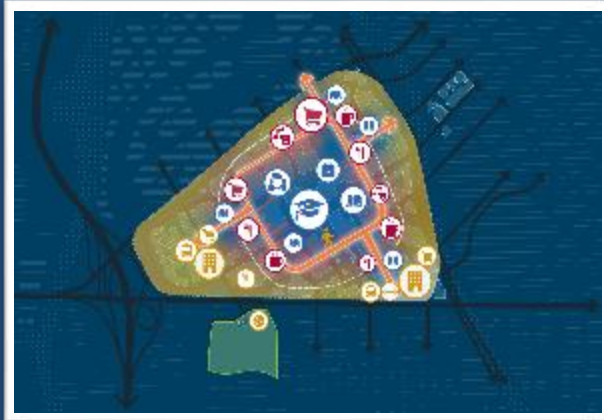


Create a thriving and active campus to support student success and institutional identities to enrich our collective experiences, strengthen campus cohesion, and achieve financial sustainability.

Guiding Principles:

- Integrate the Auraria Campus as a complete community to support the educational objectives of the academic institutions.
- Leverage the existing and future campus opportunities to achieve a new sustainable funding model.
- Enhance and expand connections to downtown Denver, surrounding communities, and new neighborhood development projects.
- Design and define a cohesive campus with a distinctive character that compliments the individual institutional identities.
- Reflect the community and promote diversity, equity, and inclusion throughout the Framework Plan process, recommendations, and implementation.
- Honor and celebrate the history of the campus to align with the Strategic Plan.

Big Ideas



THE LEARNING LOOP



URBAN INTEGRATION



VERTICALLY EVOLVING CAMPUS



HONORING HISTORY



LIVING AND ACTIVE CAMPUS



COLLABORATIVE PROCESS



Ballfield Auraria



Project Overview

Two-acre vacant parcel to include two buildings

East Tower: Retail and Student Intake

- First-floor dining and retail
- Will include student housing, retail, classroom-to-career hub
- The design phase started fall of 2024 and the construction phase is anticipated to begin this summer
- Anticipated completion September 2027

West Tower:—Auraria Campus Early Learning Center (relocation and expansion) & Workforce Housing

- 330 units of workforce housing
- Expansion of up to 30% for the Auraria Campus Early Learning Center
- The design phase started fall of 2024
- Anticipated completion October 2027



Auraria Cultural and Community Engagement





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"For the first time I see myself reflected on this campus and know that I belong."



Cultural Engagement Highlights



Conferences: We collaborated with partners like the Latino Community Foundation, Asian Girls Ignite and the Colorado Latino Leadership, Advocacy & Research Organization to host 7 events at Auraria.

Papagayo: In September 2023, we hosted the Sentir Venezuelano 5K and Festival, a beautiful day-long celebration that welcomed 7,000 attendees and featured a variety of unique vendors on campus. This event provided an opportunity for Latino communities and children to connect with Auraria and feel a sense of belonging here.



Cultural Engagement



Auraria Campus flies the Sovereign Nation flags to mark Native American Heritage Month



In a historic moment, the Auraria Campus, in conjunction with CU Denver, hung five flags from the Sovereign Nations that called Auraria home. The five flags are from the Northern Arapaho, Northern Cheyenne, Cheyenne and Arapaho, Southern Ute, and Ute Mountain Ute Tribe(s).

The flags have never been flown together on what is now Auraria Campus. The Sovereign Nations and their presence on the campus are vital, and having visual representation on campus is of the utmost importance. Native/Indigenous students have shared how proud they are to see their tribal flag flying high in the atrium.

Community Engagement



Historic Community Committee

On June 26, 2024, ABOD approved a resolution to establish the Historic Community Committee regarding the creation, planning, use, and oversight of the Auraria Historic Corridor. This committee is empowered to create planning and use guidelines for the Auraria Historic Corridor as well as guidance on art, statues, monuments, plaques, signage, messaging, and wayfinding related to the history of the Auraria Campus for review and approval by the Board of Directors.

*Virginia Castro, Frances Torres, Sheila Perez-Kindel,
Sherri Arguello, Councilwoman Jamie Torres, Tina Garcia,
James Mejia, Nolbert Chavez, David Gilberto Olguín*



The committee has been meeting every two weeks for two-hour sessions since October 10, 2024.

Successfully selected committee leadership and roles

Has met five times since establishment

The committee is working collaboratively to navigate the renewed relationship and establish processes for communication and working toward resolutions



Displaced But Not Erased Mural Unveiling

November 27, 2024



Peace Garden



"Old Westside" painted ca. 1871

In the 1920s, this area, known as **OLD WESTSIDE**, was a neighborhood of 800+ people, and 70% of families also worked, were local, and had their own businesses and community.

The Peace and Healing Garden will preserve displaced residents & provide an outdoor refuge by being a foundation of High Prairie planting to celebrate indigenous culture, associated with plants cherished by Displaced Americans.



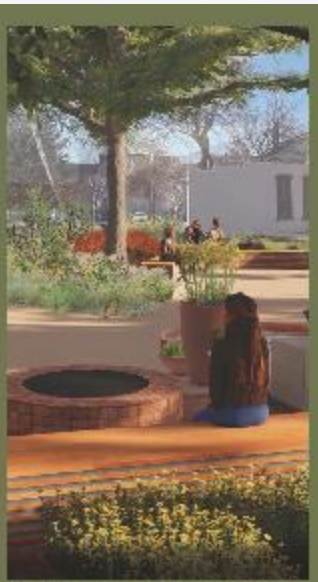
- DONOR MEMORIAL OPPORTUNITIES**
1. Memorial Stone Wall
 2. Ring Fountain Bench
 3. Commemorative Sign
 4. Stone & Bronze Statue
 5. Stone Pillar
 6. Stone Fountain
 7. Stone or Metal Sculpture
 8. Pathway Stone
 9. Stone or Metal Bench
 10. Stone or Metal Planter
 11. Stone or Metal Light
 12. Stone or Metal Sign
 13. Stone or Metal Wall
 14. Stone or Metal Fountain
 15. Stone or Metal Bench
 16. Stone or Metal Sign
 17. Stone or Metal Wall
 18. Stone or Metal Fountain
 19. Stone or Metal Bench
 20. Stone or Metal Sign

Together, we can create a place for rest, reflection, & meditation in the heart of Auraria Campus.

www.auraria.edu/peace-healing-garden



The design for the Peace & Healing Garden is the result of an ongoing collaboration between the Auraria Historical Advisory Council, Displaced Americans and their loved ones, and staff from Auraria's Higher Education Center, Community College of Denver, Metropolitan State University of Denver, and University of Colorado Denver. Designed by Zeki Doker Studio.



PEACE & HEALING GARDEN FOR AURARIA CAMPUS

The land possesses a rich history of **CONNECTION & GROWTH.**

More than one culture have flourished upon this site, and this site has served a variety of purposes to a wide range of people. It has been a place of connection, growth, and change for many generations to come.

The Peace and Healing Garden will begin to realize an undeveloped potential that this place has to us, many who occupied it before.



Displaced families, from south on 9th Street Public housing project, 1960s & 70s.

In the late 1960s, Denver's Urban Renewal Authority **DISPLACED THE COMMUNITY**

moving people from Auraria Campus. A sign at the site, "Urban Renewal Authority," is the only remaining reminder of the neighborhood's history.

The Peace and Healing Garden will honor those who lived and passed through these spaces across the generations.



"The Garden, 84 years into the development, will be designed to provide a space for physical, mental, and emotional healing for only for the displaced and their descendants but also serves as the campus heart."

A PLACE FOR REST, REFLECTION & MEDITATION."

— Virginia Castro, Auraria Historical Advisory Council President



St. Columba's being demolished, 1960s & 70s.

The proposed 7000 sq ft Peace and Healing Garden is a beautiful space for tranquility and reflection. A looped pathway and surrounding areas of open air enclosed spaces will be created to encourage planting of succulents, grasses, seedlings, and evergreen trees.



St. Cajetan's





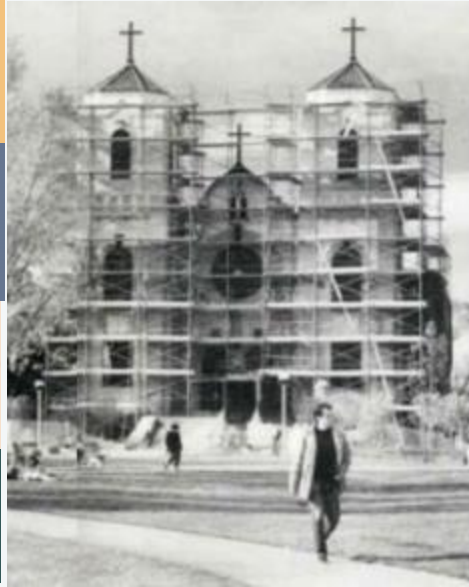
St. Cajetan's

The Spanish Colonial style church was the first Hispanic parish in Denver and served the area's Spanish-speaking Catholic community

- May 1922: Congregation established
- Groundbreaking took place in October 1924
- The church was consecrated on March 1, 1926
- The building was completed on March 21, 1926



St. Cajetan's



Over the last 10 years, Auraria Campus has secured funding through grants and matching contributions from Auraria Campus for over \$1 million of historic preservation and rehabilitation work.

The St Cajetan's Rehabilitation project is a 4 phase project, each phase funded in part by separate grants from the Colorado Historical Society and in part by AHEC.

Phase 1: Rehabilitate exterior windows including stained glass

Phase 2: Building new ADA ramp and rehabilitate interior windows

Phase 3: Tile roof replacement and cross repairs

Phase 4: Stucco rehabilitation and paint, expected completion Feb/March 2025

THANK YOU