# La Alma Lincoln Park Historic Cultural District

Land Use, Transportation, and Infrastructure

Kara Hahn, Principal City Planner July 13, 2021



#### **Denver Historic Districts and Landmark Structures** Map Area Downtown Detail 17th Axe COLFAX AVE Andrew Marine Map Symbology Landmark Structures 1. Larimor Square 28 Lower Officer's Row 20 Sharmar Gunt 6. Divid Contes 36 Ciretor Editors f. Smiths Ditor 8. Margains Subdivise to W 28th Avenue - Sturen 11 Oir Hobbards Brames 12. Snell Subdivision 15. Patter Highlands 40. Welton Street 42. Balloark 43. Driving Park 14. Laftyeta Street 17. Clay Park Pavillion 18. Country Class 19. Quality Hill 40 Curis Park T S Feel Sevent from 49 Outs But S 22. Wiman 25. basi Parki face 24. Fibrarica F. Marcin Rouce. Disease Pere 28. Cually Park, "R" 82. Out a Park "H" 26 Curdo Paris W So Parkard's Hill. 29. City Benustus Parkwa

# 1967 Landmark Preservation Ordinance

- 352 Individual Landmarks
- 56 Historic Districts
  - ~ Total 6,800 landmark buildings
  - ~ 160,000 buildings within the city
- District composition
  - Primarily residential districts
  - Five commercial or downtown districts
  - One Historic Cultural District



~4% of the city, or 1 in 25 structures, are designated







# La Alma Lincoln Park Historic Cultural District

#### Location

- Council District # 3
- 14<sup>th</sup> Ave, Kalamath, 10<sup>th</sup> Ave, and Mariposa/Osage

#### Zoning

- U-TU-B, U-RH-3A, OS-A
- U-MX-2X, PUD338

#### **Applicants**

 Fatima Hirji, Allyson Crabtree, Mary Gould, Cathy Peitro, and Felix Herzog





# Community Research

- Residents
  - Preliminary research and outreach
- Historic Denver's Action Fund
  - Historic Context
- Oral histories and interviews
  - Current and former residents





#### Lo invitamos a participar en una conversación con el vecindario

#### el 1 de noviembre, de 6 a 8:30 p. m.

Los miembros de la comunidad de La Alma Lincoln Park lo invitan a participar en una conversación sobre lo que este vecindario significa para todas las personas que viven aquí: jóvenes, ancianos, residentes a largo plazo y recién llegados. La conversación abarcará los siguientes temas:

- \* ¿Qué significa ser del área oeste?
- \* ¿Que cambios está experimentando el vecindario?
- \* ¿Qué relación existe entre la cultura que se vive y los edificios?
- \* Los mitos y realidades de la historia del vecindario
- \* ¿Cômo quiere que sea su vecindario en el futuro?

Lugar: Food Bridge Marketplace, 998 Navajo St. Denver, CO 80204

(Proveeremos refrigerios ligeros y cuidado infantil)

Facilitador: Bill de la Cruz

Proveeremos servicio de interpretación a



#### aure of this neighborhood

Join us for a neighborhood conversation and a look into the fidure of the neighborhood n April 24th at Inner City Parish, 6:30pm - 8:00pm

Join the La Alma Lincoln Park Neighborhood Association as we host Historic Denver and the City of Denver's Landmark Preservation Commission to continue our conversation about the history of La Alma Lincoln Park and how it will impact the future of the neighborhood.

This is a follow up to our 1/30/19 conversation at Su Teatro, when neighbors got together to share what they wanted to see preserved and honored in the neighborhood. This time we'll hear from City staff about methods available to preserve neighborhood history and insure that the future of the neighborhood is respectful of its past. We'll hear specifics about how a historic/cultural district can preserve is ense of place, tell the stories of those who came before, and retain the neighborhood's cultural character. Come with your questions on how a proposed historic/cultural district would affect you.

April 24th, 2019 6:30pm - 8:00pm Inner City Parish 1212 Mariposa Street, Denver, CO 80204



# QUETIENE DE SUS RICASCON. Y NACIONALES, CONOZA CON VECINOS MIENTRAS D. UN HELADO PARA FINALIZARE. Y TOME ORGULLO EN ESTE VECIN ÚNICO. SÁBADO 23 DE SEPTIEMBRE 2:00 — 4:00 PM RECORRIDO HISTÓRICO A PIE A:00 — 5:00 PM EVENTO SOCIAL DE HELADO BRIDGE PROJECT NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE 1245 MARIPOSA STREET

# **Community Outreach**

- Neighborhood Engagement
  - Listening sessions
  - Community meetings
  - Walking tours
  - Ice cream social
  - Flyers



**PROPUESTO DISTRITO** CULTURAL HISTÓRICO DE LA ALMA LINCOLN PARK



# **Designation Process**

Pre-app Meeting with Landmark Staff Community and Neighborhood Outreach

Research and Prepare Application

Submit Application City hosted Community Meetings and Office Hours Landmark Preservation Commission Review

Denver Planning Board Review City Council Review and Vote











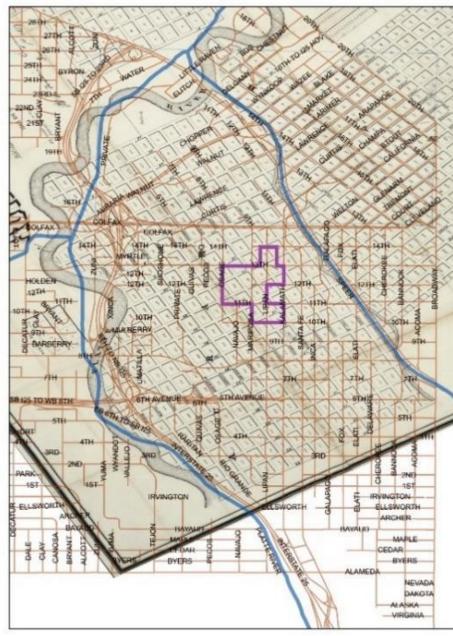
#### The structure or district must meet the following criteria \*:

- 1. The structure maintains its integrity
- 2. The structure is more than 30 years old, or is of exceptional importance
- 3. The structure meets at least three of ten criteria
- 4. The LPC considers the structure's historic context

\*Per Landmark Preservation Ordinance (Chapter 30, DRMC)

## **Landmark Designation Criteria**

- A. It has a direct association with a significant historic event or with the historical development of the city, state, or nation;
- B. It has direct and substantial association with a recognized person or group of persons who had influence on society;
- C. It embodies the distinctive visible characteristics of an architectural style or type;
- D. It is a significant example of the work of a recognized architect or master builder;
- E. It contains elements of design, engineering, materials, craftsmanship, or artistic merit which represent a significant innovation or technical achievement;
- F. It represents an established and familiar feature of the neighborhood, community or contemporary city, due to its prominent location or physical characteristics;
- G. It promotes understanding and appreciation of the urban environment by means of distinctive physical characteristics or rarity;
- H. It represents an era of culture or heritage that allows an understanding of how the site was used by past generations;
- I. It is a physical attribute of a neighborhood, community, or the city that is a source of pride or cultural understanding;
- J. It is associated with social movements, institutions, or patterns of growth or change that contributed significantly to the culture of the neighborhood, community, city, state, or nation.



# A. Direct association with the historical development of the city

- One of Denver's earliest residential neighborhoods
- Primarily working-class and immigrant communities
  - Built around key industries
    - Railroad, flour mill, and other manufacturing
- A. C. Hunt homesteaded and platted
  - Park and surrounding land

#### C. Embodies the distinctive visible characteristics of an architectural style or type;

- Vernacular
  - Italianate, Victorian, Front Gable, Terrace,
     Foursquare, and Bungalow styles and types
  - Modest, yet identifiable architectural styles or types
- Vernacular structures not architect designed, constructed by craftsman and builders
  - Common and readily available materials
- Common building forms of given place and time











#### C. Embodies the distinctive visible characteristics of an architectural style or type;

- One-story simplified versions of the architectural styles found in the surrounding areas
  - Shift in popularity among architectural styles from late 19<sup>th</sup> to early 20<sup>th</sup> centuries
- Date buildings based on architectural style







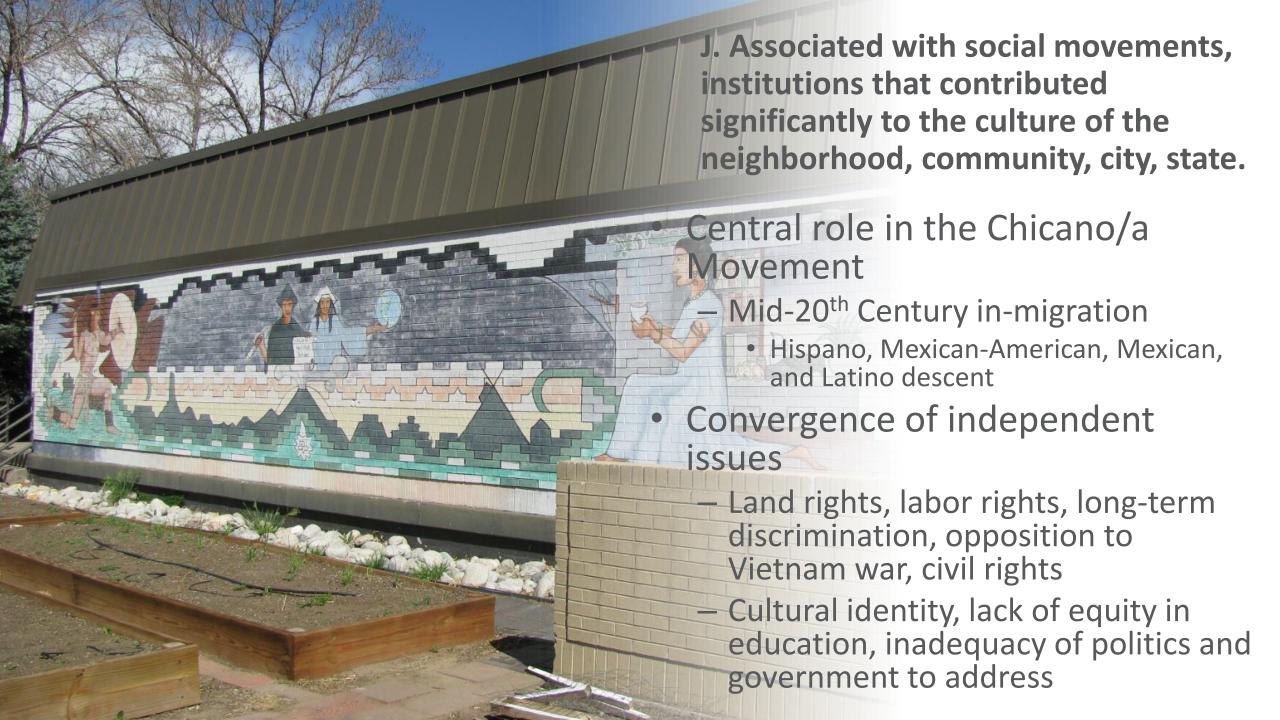




H. Represents an era of culture or heritage that allows an understanding of how the site was used by past generations

- Architecture, layers of history, and cultural significance
  - Alterations within the period of significance
  - Reflect the community that altered them
- In-migration of Latino/Chicano residents
  - District began to reflect character, heritage, and culture of the community





J. Associated with social movements, institutions, or patterns of growth or change that contributed significantly to the culture of the neighborhood, community, city, state, or nation.

#### Park and surrounding area

- Incubator for Denver's Chicano Movement
  - Forefront of national movement
- Residents of district participated in movement
- Leaders resided in district
  - Organizers and politicians
- Organizations within the district









#### **Historic Context**

- Reflects the layered nature of the neighborhood's history
  - Extends from the early construction of permanent structures in 1870s
  - Through 1960s and 1970s Chicano Movement
- Conveys
  - Early historical development of the neighborhood
  - Vernacular houses that clearly depicted popular architectural styles overtime
  - Adaptations made to the structures through the twentieth century as the Chicano Movement developed
  - Community that became the heart of Denver's Chicano Movement.
- Historic context is strongly associated with the criteria and are well documented





# **Planning Board Review**

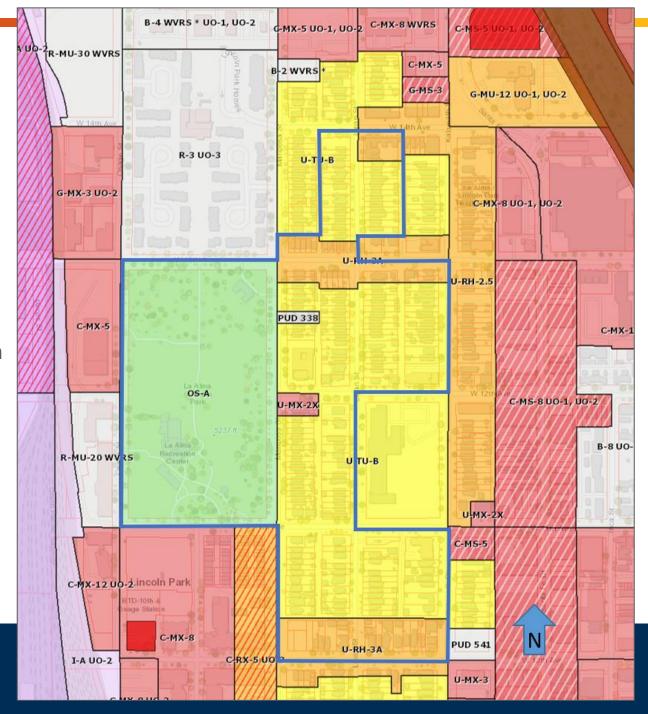
- Per Chapter 30-4(6), DRMC:
  - Ordinance provides opportunity for Planning Board to make a recommendation to City Council regarding designation of districts
  - Planning Board may review a proposed district designation with respect to:
    - a) Its relationship to the Denver Comprehensive Plan
    - b) The effect of the designation upon the surrounding neighborhood
    - c) Such other planning considerations as may be relevant to the proposed designation



## **Zoning Context**

- U-TU-B
  - Two units on a minimum zone lot of 4,500 sq ft
  - Urban houses allowed on certain smaller Lots
  - Building forms: urban house, detached ADU, duplex, and tandem house
- U-RH-3A
  - Multi-unit up to two-and-a-half story rowhouse building form
  - Apartments are allowed up to three stories, on certain corner lots
  - Building forms: urban house, detached ADU, duplex, and tandem house
- OS-A Open Space Public Parks District
  - Intended to protect and preserve public parks
  - Managed by Department of Parks and Recreation for park purposes
- U-MX-2X, PUD338





# **Existing Land Use Context**

- Single-Family
- Multi-Unit
  - Rowhomes
  - Apartments
- Two-Unit
- Recreation Facility
- Office Building
- Vacant





# Relationship to Comprehensive Plan 2040

#### **Vision Element: Strong and Authentic Neighborhoods**

- Goal 1: Create a city of complete neighborhoods
  - Strategy D: Encourage quality infill development that is consistent with the surrounding neighborhood and offers opportunities for increased amenities.
- Goal 2: Enhance Denver's neighborhoods through high-quality urban design
  - Strategy B: Establish a scalable, predictable and adaptable approach to improve design quality across the city.
  - Strategy C: Create people-oriented places that embrace community character with thoughtful transitions, aspirational design and an engaging public realm.
- Goal 3: Preserve the authenticity of Denver's neighborhoods and celebrate our history, architecture and culture
  - Strategy B: Continue the city's commitment to existing historic districts and landmarks and increase public awareness of the benefits of historic preservation through education and outreach.
  - Strategy C: Ensure city policies and regulations support historic preservation and eliminate barriers in city processes to help all neighborhoods preserve what matters most.
  - Strategy E: Support the stewardship and reuse of existing buildings, including city properties.



#### **Blueprint Denver**

#### Future places

- Public park and open space
  - Represent vital quality-of-life infrastructure
  - Planned to remain park
- Low Residential:
  - Predominantly one-and two-unit, though many areas are mostly one-unit, includes ADUs
  - In some contexts, some higher-intensity residential uses may be mixed throughout
- Community Corridor:
  - Typically, balance of residential and employment; or residential and dining/shopping; or employment and dining/shopping use
  - Typically, mid-to-large scale, but depends on context and neighborhood character











#### **Blueprint Denver**

#### Urban neighborhood context

- Small multi-unit residential and mixed-use areas that are typically embedded in 1-unit and 2-unit residential areas
- Buildings are lower in scale and closer to the street, typically with alley access



# Relationship to Blueprint Denver

- Customized Design Guidelines
  - Drafted through a year-long process with community members
  - Create guidelines that better reflect the neighborhood's significant historic, architectural, and cultural heritage
  - Based on the character of the proposed district
    - Greater flexibility on materials, cladding, porches, and fencing



## Equity and Affordability

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Ensure neighborhoods have equal access to design quality tools.

GOALS: 6, 7, 8

- A. Explore improvements to make design tools more accessible. This may include additional staff resources to support neighborhoods and improved process guides to more clearly articulate requirements.
- B. Explore the feasibility of programs to provide resources for design tools in underserved neighborhoods.





# Relationship to Blueprint Denver

#### Strategy 2A

- Ensure residential neighborhoods retain their unique character as infill development occurs
- Continue the city's commitment to existing historic districts and use historic designation to preserve the character of a district

# Effect on Surrounding Neighborhood

 La Alma Lincoln Park Historic Cultural District designation would help preserve the character defining features of the district

Little impact on the surrounding neighborhood

 Intent of the designation is to recognize this unique district, the buildings that define it, and their contribution to the historic fabric of the city





## Public Comments Received by CPD (as of 10:30am July 8th)

- 8 comments from organizations & RNOs
  - Letters of support submitted by:
    - La Alma Lincoln Park Registered Neighborhood Association
    - La Alma Neighborhood Association (2 letters)
    - Casa Mayan, Auraria Heritage
    - Chicana/o Murals of Colorado Project
    - Su Teatro Cultural and Performing Arts Center
    - Denver Inner City Parish
    - Auraria Higher Education Center
    - Museo de las Americas

- 14 public comments submitted from individuals
  - 12 individuals in support (2 emails from one person)
  - 2 individual in opposition



## Public Comments Received by CPD (as of 10:30am July 8th)

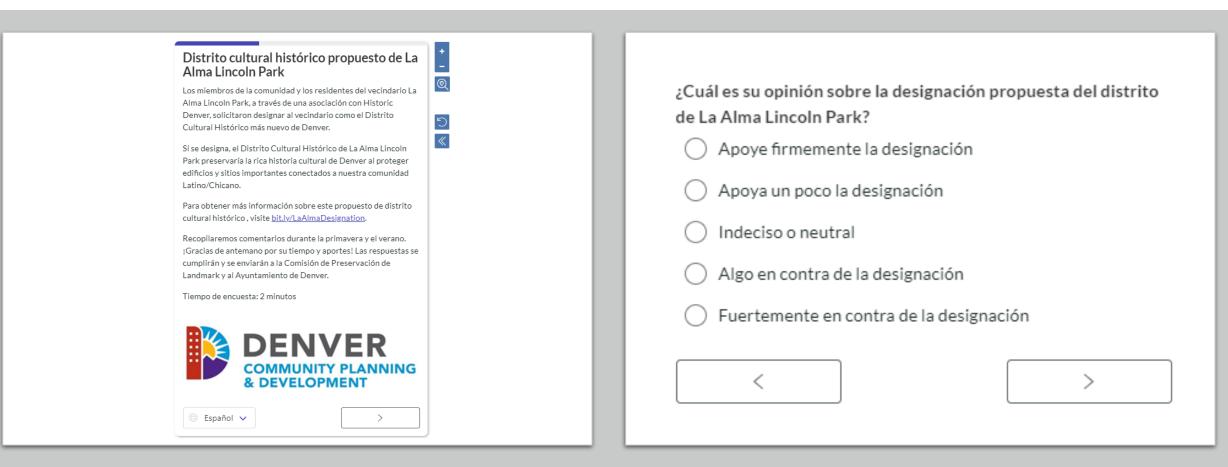
- LPC Public Hearing
   12 members of community
   spoke
  - 8 individuals in support
  - 1 individual neutral/undecided
  - 3 individuals in opposition

- Denver Planning Board
   7 members of community
   spoke
  - 7 individuals in support
  - 0 individual neutral/undecided
  - 0 individuals in opposition



# Public Comments Received by CPD (as of 10:30am July 8<sup>th)</sup>

- CPD hosted on-line survey received 45 responses
  - 27 -Strongly Support
  - 4 Neutral/Undecided
  - 4 Somewhat Against
  - 10 Strongly Against



## LPC Review - Unanimous Recommendation of Approval

- Over 30 years of age
- Application meets at least three criteria
  - A. It has a direct association with a significant historic event or with the historical development of the city, state, or nation;
  - C. It embodies the distinctive visible characteristics of an architectural style or type;
  - H.It represents an era of culture or heritage that allows an understanding of how the site was used by past generations;
  - J. It is associated with social movements, institutions, or patterns of growth or change that contributed significantly to the culture of the neighborhood, community, city, state, or nation.
- Retains Integrity
- LPC considers the historic context

## Planning Board Review - Unanimous Recommendation of Approval

- Consistent with applicable plans:
  - Denver Comprehensive Plan 2040
  - Blueprint Denver (2019)
  - La Alma/Lincoln Park Neighborhood Plan
- Will have little effect on the surrounding neighborhood