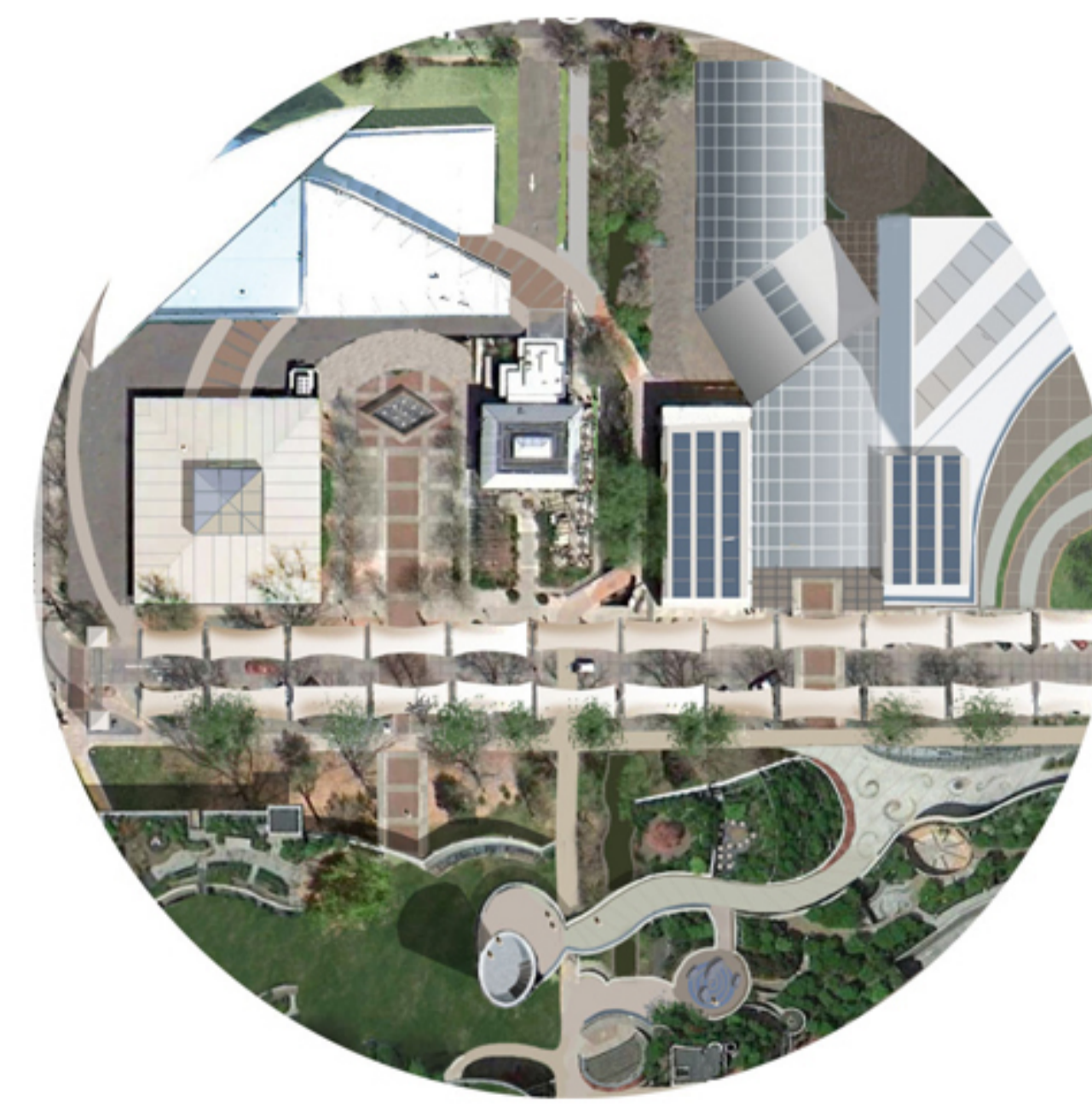
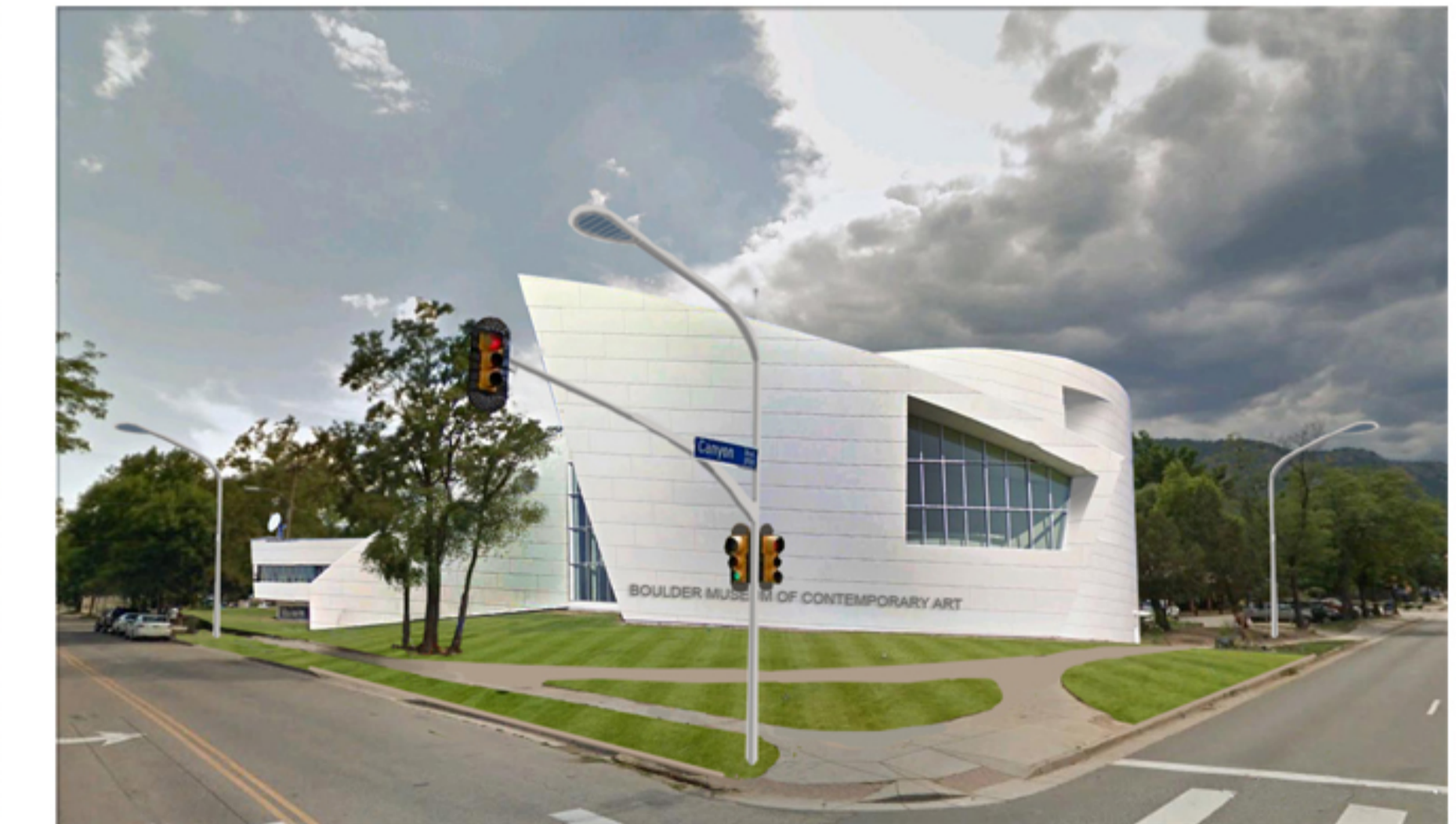
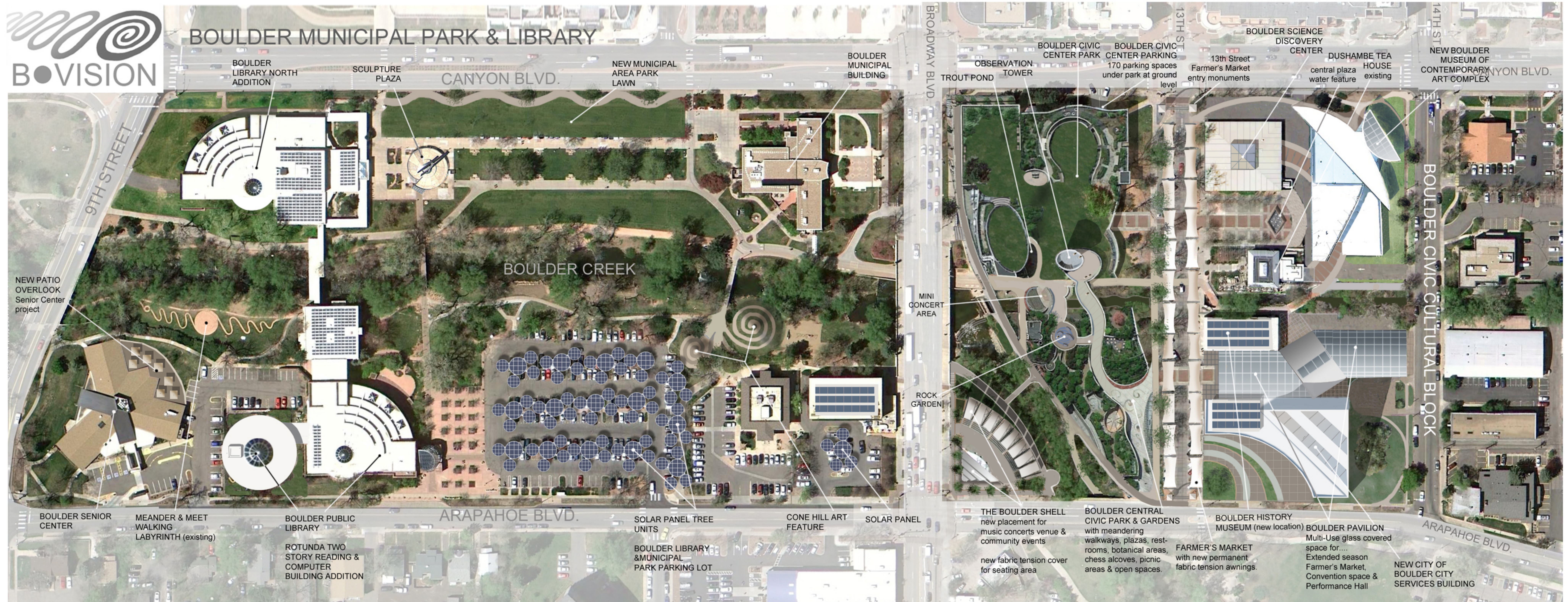


Boulder Vision: Civic Center and Park Complex

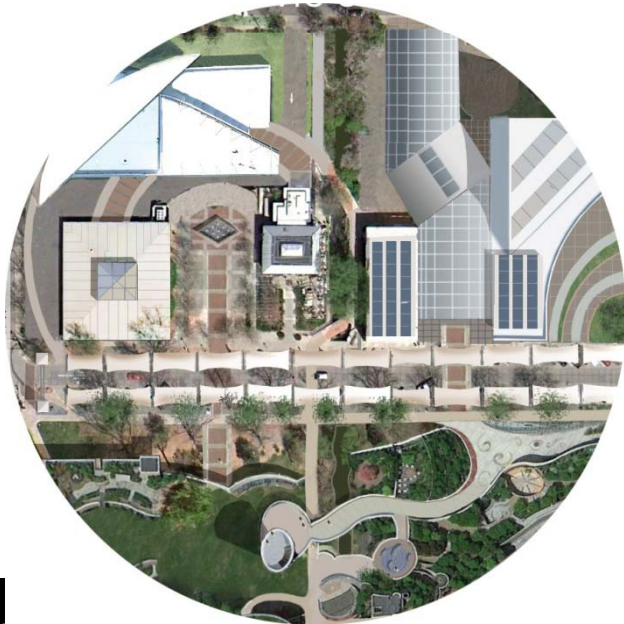
BOULDER VISION CIVIC CENTER & PARK COMPLEX





1

Boulder Vision Civic Center & Park Complex



The Boulder Vision Civic & Park Complex is a gateway into the future uses and growth of the municipal Civic Center of Boulder as being a major central hub of the city reflecting the values of the community. Being a primary gathering place it will include cultural center facilities, expanded park features, sustainable energy values and public safety within the flood zone areas. The area proposal creates a Central Cultural Block with:

- An expanded and covered farmer's market area,
- A redesigned and repurposed Atrium Pyramid building into a Science Discovery Center
- A new icon modernist building for the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art at the current corner parking lot at 14th & Canyon.
- The moving of the Boulder History Museum to the vacated Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art former home in the historic foundry building on 13th Street.
- A large covered glass vault Boulder Pavilion adjacent to the Boulder Historic Museum would be a multi-use space for a covered Boulder Farmer's Market for extended season as well as a special events space,
- A new Municipal Services Building at the south west corner of the Cultural Block.

Central Park could be redesigned into a multi level raised park complex incorporating ground level park public parking area serving the 13th -14th Street Cultural Block facilities and events. The raised green roof park and gardens are designed to create a channeled deep creek system for flood diversion around the Cultural Block area. Within the newly designed park will be multi-level corridors, meandering walks, plazas, a central monument observation tower, widened lawn areas, tiered gardens, rock gardens, fountain water features, integrated raised walk ways, bridges and alcoves. Other features could include a series of pocket oval arenas for gatherings, music performances, stump speaking and contemplative quiet zones away from the traffic noise. The total effect of the new park would be to create a raised oasis green space and garden as an iconic park within the downtown area.

We propose a new location for the Central Park Band Shell. The Broadway/Arapahoe corner of the Central Park block has been historically unsuitable for business purposes and can be purchased to be added to the park perimeter. The Band Shell could be relocated to this triangle with pedestrian access bridges to the Boulder Creek Trail. Improved lighting and arena fabric tension structure awning systems would restore this outdoor arena into a functional and vibrant concert and events center.



Location: _____

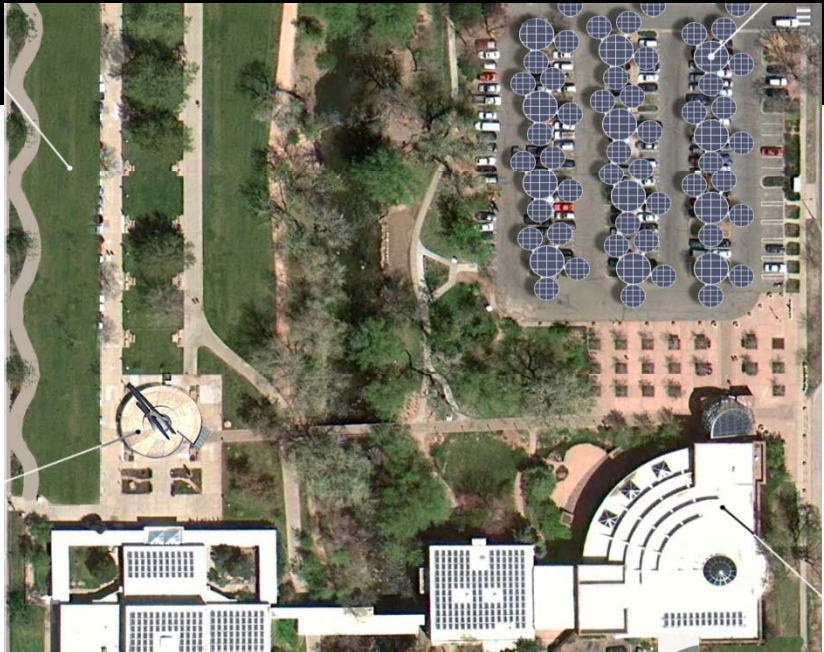
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2

Boulder Vision Civic Center & Park Complex Approach



Our approach to the civic area redesign comes from a deep love of Boulder. As residents and local artists we look at this design challenge from our artistic visions to make Boulder a more vital community. We see the importance of the cultural status of a unique urban environment and speak with pride of this city as being a leader in the realms of education with the state flagship University of Colorado campus, the national science centers of the NOAA, NIST & NCAR, an acclaimed and historically groundbreaking pedestrian Boulder Downtown Mall, and numerous nationally recognized arts, performance and cultural venues. The one missing entity has been a central cultural heart embodying the principles of these city treasures.

In approaching this challenge, we've started from the premise of creating unique spaces that are tuned into an organic quality and the experiential in replicating natural forms. Landscape paths follow a meander instead of straight. The body of city design follows the function of the human experience within the city. A heart of a town or city should reflect the community in a direct way giving a place of spirit, vitality, commerce, sustainable living, and culture.



Location: _____

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3

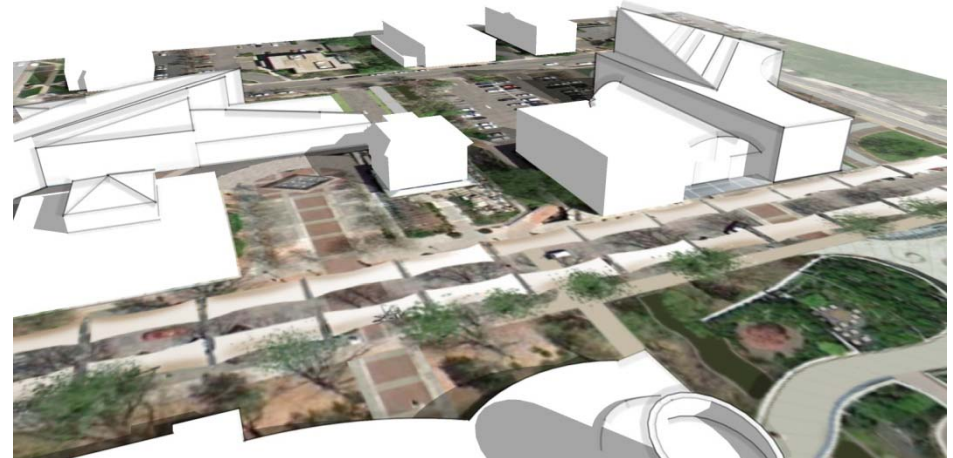
Boulder Vision Civic Center & Park Complex Why Choose Our Design?



WHAT ABOUT YOUR PROPOSAL IS INNOVATIVE OR INSPIRATIONAL?

To predict is to inspire. As artists we know the value of visualizing. We make not only our dreams come into reality but also create alternative visions for the future. We push boundaries, looking into the value of our city's identity and spirit while visualizing the evolution of our town's future possibilities. The links of idea to the power of the dream is vital to the way we work in both our concepts and our lives. As we dream so the world will be.

Our concepts are quick sketches of how the Civic Center Area could be. It could also be designed in a hundred other ways. Our vision is to unify and expand the community spaces, the cultural aspects and expand on the historic character of the municipal, city park and cultural blocks. The ideas presented here may seem like a radical approach to a change in the heart of the city. Past history has taught the value of dreaming big. If this city had no dreamers and artful designers we would not have the Downtown Mall, the University of Colorado, a treasured architectural and scientific complex like the I.M. Pei building that is the NCAR national headquarters, the Naropa Institute, the 29th Street shopping complex and the Chautauqua auditorium and park just to name a few of our treasured and progressive city treasures.



Submission No: _____





4

The Civic Heart of Boulder Boulder Vision Civic Center & Park Complex



The opportunity is not often given to become futurists. Cities are often grown by happenstance rather than inspired design. Walking trails evolve into dirt roads, then to paved central avenues, houses and businesses move in to fill the spaces between the avenues. The dynamics of city growth often overpower the need for conscious design and intent to a well thought out city fabric. Boulder fortunately has a central municipal area with great potential for being a vital cultural and community space to attract new attention to this place of incredible natural beauty. The concentration of the business heart of the city is in the Downtown and University Hill area. A cultural block will bring more attention to the central Canyon Avenue corridor as well as create a bridge between these two business districts.



Submission No: _____





5

Boulder Vision Civic Center & Park Complex

Life and Property Safety



The Municipal and Central Parks provide an oasis for this prime center and heart to our city. The Boulder Creek offers areas of quiet contemplation, recreation, and a perfect wind down walk after a long day's work for many who live and work in the downtown area. It is also a prime area for first time visitors to the city.

Those of us who have lived here for any length of time knows that there are real hazards as well as incredible beauty. Much of this civic heart area is in a flood plain, we have strong winds that barrel down the Boulder Canyon.

These conditions will always occur but mitigations to the present design and layout within the civic area should be addressed in this master plan.

- A heightened ground plain within the north and southern sections of Central park will create a buffer zone to the 13th – 14th Street Cultural Block.
- New plantings within the civic heart area and natural rock bank reinforcements and pedestrian walkway walls.
- Secure sight lines throughout the district
- Emergency call boxes located throughout the parks and municipal districts.



Submission No: _____



6

Boulder Vision Civic Center & Park Complex SUSTAINABILITY



The long term master plan project needs to address the sustainable resources of the city and community base in a way that uses energy, revenues and the physical space of the civic area to the best of our resources. Simple and cost efficient means can produce long lasting effects for the future.

We've included various ideas and features in our plan that will address this.

- Solar panels within the city structure can not only add to the city's power grid but can be an example to the community, state and country of our commitment to sustainability and clean and renewable energy.
- White roof areas within all of the civic center buildings and infrastructure creates a lowered demand for air conditioning in larger structures during the ever hotter summers.
- Landscaping and green architecture also helps lower energy levels and creates a living urban addition to the parklands and buildings..
- Shade structures and managed plantings have a measurable effect of overall temperatures within a city structure. We have included new planting areas on all blocks for lawns, low water grasses and xeriscape landscape features.



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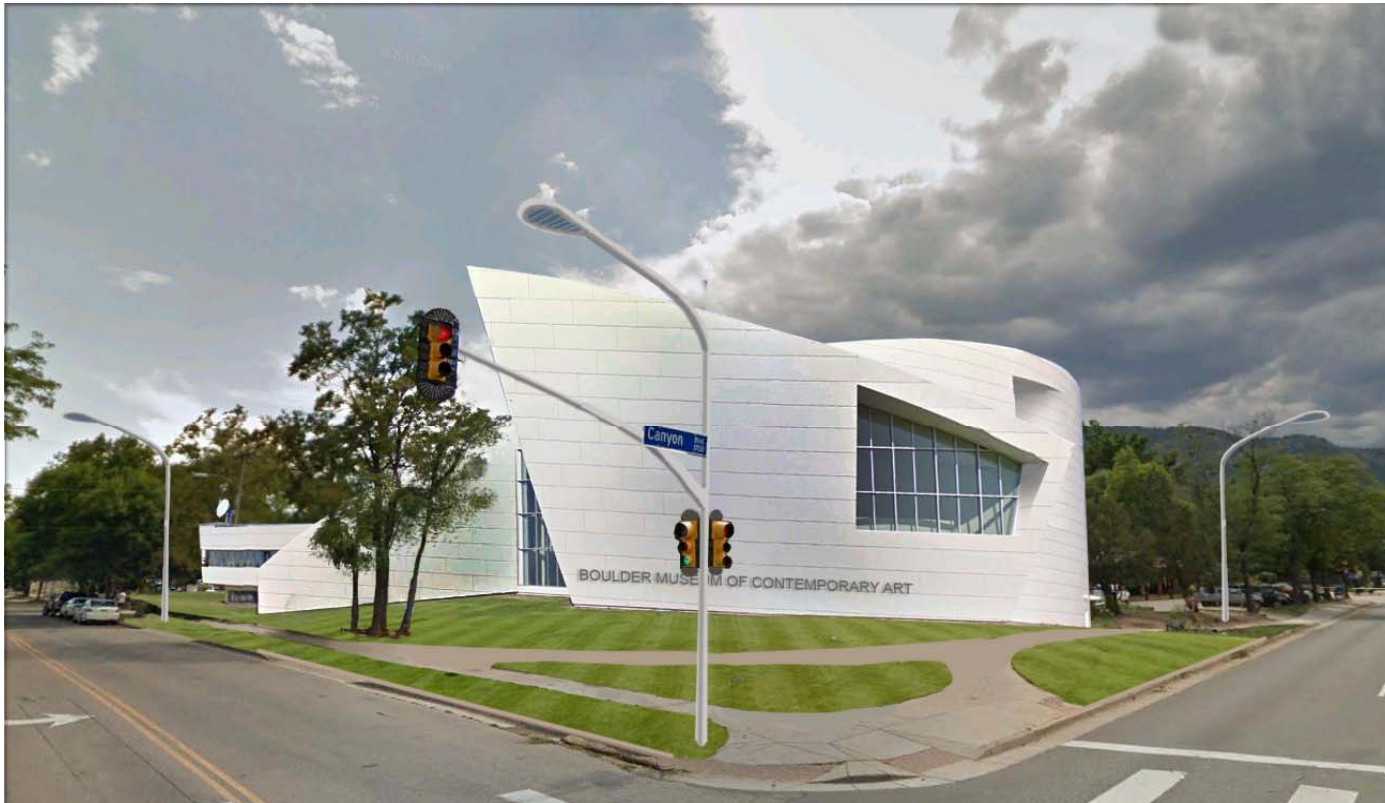




7 Boulder Vision Civic & Park Complex

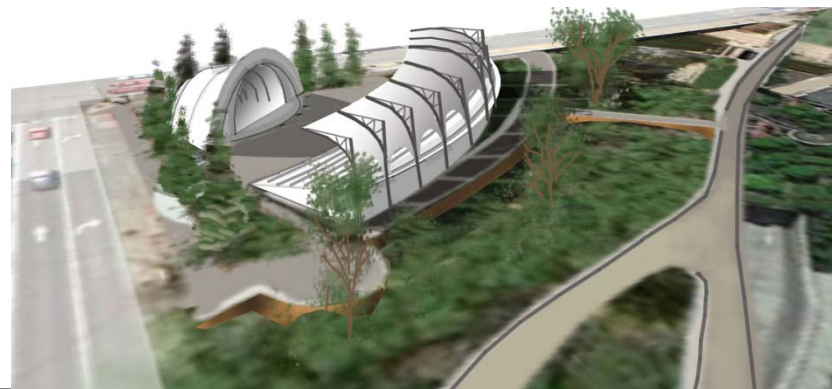


New Community Activity and Arts



The opportunity to refine and redefine the priorities of the Boulder Civic Area needs to address the creation of a cultural hub. This area is already established through the 13th and 14th street block.

- We propose the creation of a new building for the city treasure art museum. The new home will be at the corner of 14th and Canyon as an iconic building placed at this prime entry point to the Civic Center heart.
- The Boulder History Museum can then join the Cultural Block in the old historic foundry building now occupied by the Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art.
- A new Boulder Discovery Science Center will be created in the Pyramid Building featuring interactive displays of current and historic exhibits showing the diversity of the scientific community and important science centers here in Boulder. This creates an educational and entertaining venue connecting to the Contemporary Art Museum complex.
- The newly relocated Boulder Band Shell can be moved to the triangle space at the south western corner of the Central Civic Park Complex and feature an expanded concert schedule, covered seating, stage lighting and sound abatement features.



Submission No: _____





OUTDOOR CULTURE & NATURE



The Boulder Vision Park Complex is an important resource and joy to all who live or visit Boulder. The prime importance of this natural treasure is it's natural beauty. The creek must remain as it is with areas of contemplative spaces, quiet zones, flowing transitions of walking areas, creek flow, plantings and vistas.

Being long time residents ourselves, the Boulder Creek has been a place for inspiration , retreat offering spring and fall spectacular color, a cool zone from the summer heat and a breathtaking winter wonderland.

- In the overall plan there will be both built nature spaces in the Central Civic Park as well as retaining the natural spaces along the Boulder Creek municipal corridor.
- There will be opportunities within the design for viewing platforms overlooking the creek and tree lined avenues, a central observation tower with views of the city parks, downtown area as well as the magnificent FlatIron rock formations that border and frame our city.
- Rock gardens and landscape art features will be dotted throughout the Central Civic Park and Municipal Park areas attracting places for play, picnics and gatherings.
- Improved and integrated lighting throughout the Civic Center park districts will increase safety and create a public space within the city for star gazing, night strolling, busker's music, and concerts under the stars.



Submission No: _____



10 Boulder Vision Civic Center & Park Complex ENHANCED ACCESS & CONNECTIONS



A long term master plan means that the design of the city center needs to take in the possible long term technological innovations in sustainable energy production, transit systems, and parking needs. We live in an ever changing world. We design to our current needs but try to anticipate and imagine a city of our children's future. The traffic patterns and congestion is an ever present problem. Bus routes are continually refined and added, streets and main artery access avenues keep getting widened and connected to neighboring communities. People continue to flow into our city at an increasing rate. We have no choice but to build a sustainable traffic conscious infrastructure.

A Boulder City Transit village and metro area light rail system is already in the works. Boulder has a deep history of innovating a public inner city rail electric trolley in the early 1900's. The replacement mode was the automobile and led to the paving over of the rail lines up Pearl Street and Broadway. With the current innovations in single rail inner city systems throughout the world it is time for a long term vision for public transportation.

We also have a nationally recognized extensive bike and pedestrian lane system and transit grid developed by forward thinking community members and city planners. This has given our city a bike and pedestrian friendly urban hub system that rivals any in the country. We can build on this infrastructure creating avenues, bridges and traffic arteries that flow easily and quickly through our ever expanding city structure with room for vehicles, light rail systems, bike routes and pedestrians.

With raised rail systems transiting down the main arteries of Boulder along main artery median strips as well as increased bike transit lanes the vision can evolve into a continuing model for the state and nation.

The Civic Center Area is a vital hub of this whole vision and will be at the central heart of the transit system. As the city body moves so goes the heart, the mind, arms, legs and feet of the community that is this city.



Submission No: _____

