

Cultivate, Educate, Celebrate

Boulder Civic Area Design Competition January 2013

Cultural Core

- Public Library Building (w/ addition) and Municipal Building become museums.
- Retain Promenade and the Grand Lawn.
- Anchor these areas with outdoor sculpture gardens that supplement the existing sculpture garden west of 9th.
- Retain surface parking in this area-50 Spaces.
- Retain Sister City Plaza.
- Build Performing Arts Center (38,800 sf footprint), retain landmark music shell as icon.
- New overlook bridge near Broadway across Boulder Creek.
- Improve edge of Farmer's Ditch.

Vision Project

Transit Center

Transit Center Expansion Area

Public Parking

St. Julien Hotel

City Hall

Performing Arts Center

Tea House

Museum

BMOCA

Promenade

The Grand Lawn

Civic Center Green

Museum

Outdoor Sculpture Garden Central

Outdoor Sculpture Garden East

Overlook Bridge

Parking

Residential Wrap

Retail Wrap

The Children's Experience

Year-Round Farmer's Market/Creative Class Incubator Office Space

Farmer's Market Promenade

Urban Agriculture

Expansion/Community Space

Parking

Library

New Senior Center

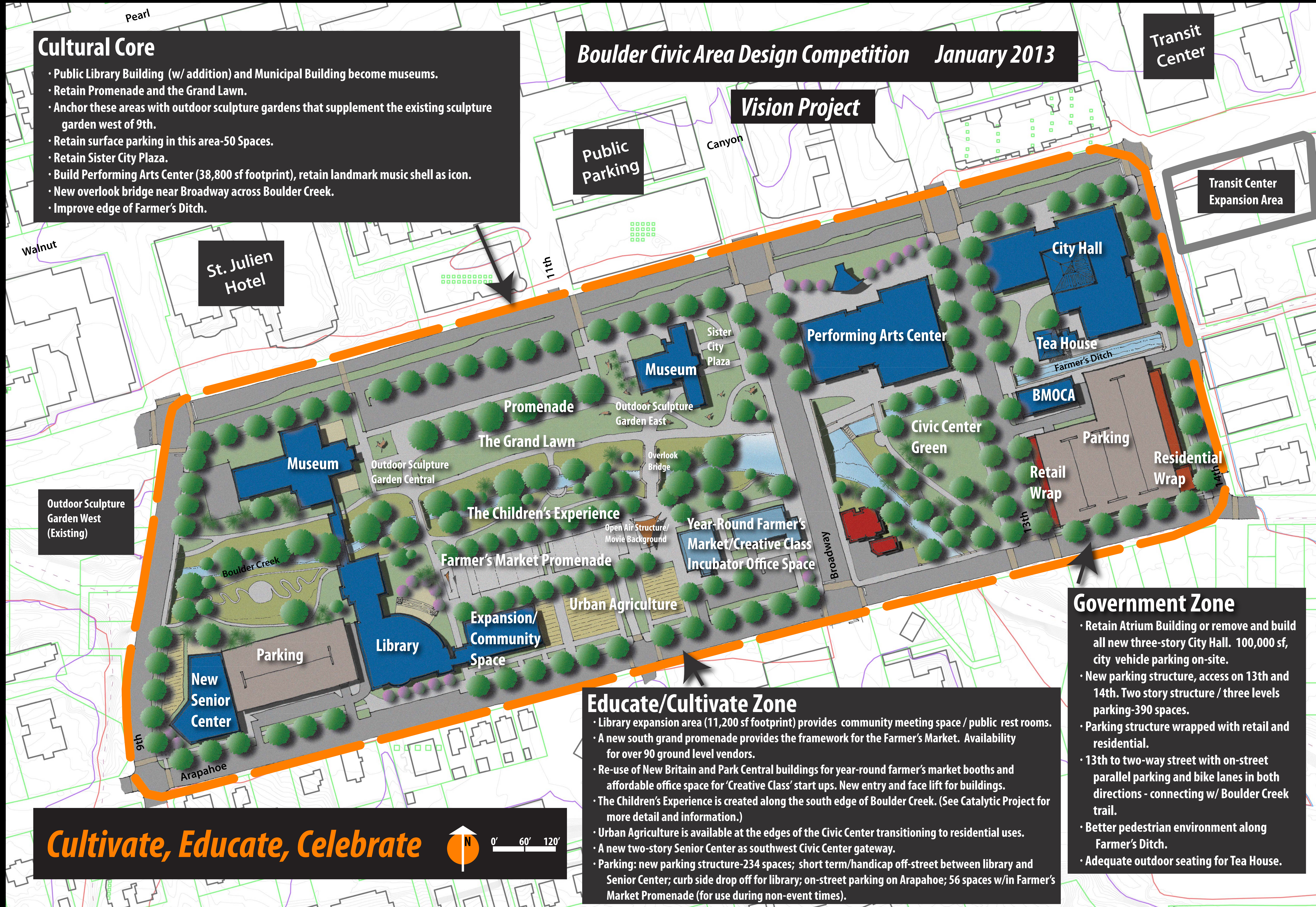
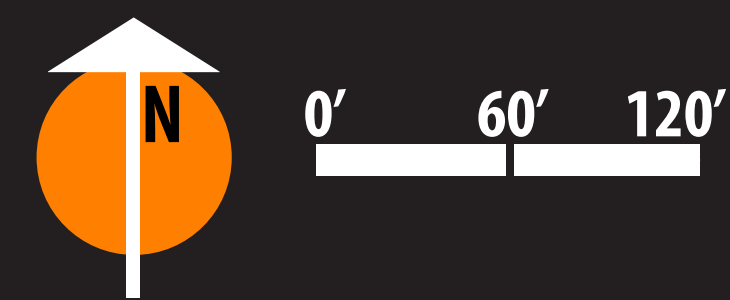
Government Zone

- Retain Atrium Building or remove and build all new three-story City Hall. 100,000 sf, city vehicle parking on-site.
- New parking structure, access on 13th and 14th. Two story structure / three levels parking-390 spaces.
- Parking structure wrapped with retail and residential.
- 13th to two-way street with on-street parallel parking and bike lanes in both directions - connecting w/ Boulder Creek trail.
- Better pedestrian environment along Farmer's Ditch.
- Adequate outdoor seating for Tea House.

Educate/Cultivate Zone

- Library expansion area (11,200 sf footprint) provides community meeting space / public rest rooms.
- A new south grand promenade provides the framework for the Farmer's Market. Availability for over 90 ground level vendors.
- Re-use of New Britain and Park Central buildings for year-round farmer's market booths and affordable office space for 'Creative Class' start ups. New entry and face lift for buildings.
- The Children's Experience is created along the south edge of Boulder Creek. (See Catalytic Project for more detail and information.)
- Urban Agriculture is available at the edges of the Civic Center transitioning to residential uses.
- A new two-story Senior Center as southwest Civic Center gateway.
- Parking: new parking structure-234 spaces; short term/handicap off-street between library and Senior Center; curb side drop off for library; on-street parking on Arapahoe; 56 spaces w/in Farmer's Market Promenade (for use during non-event times).

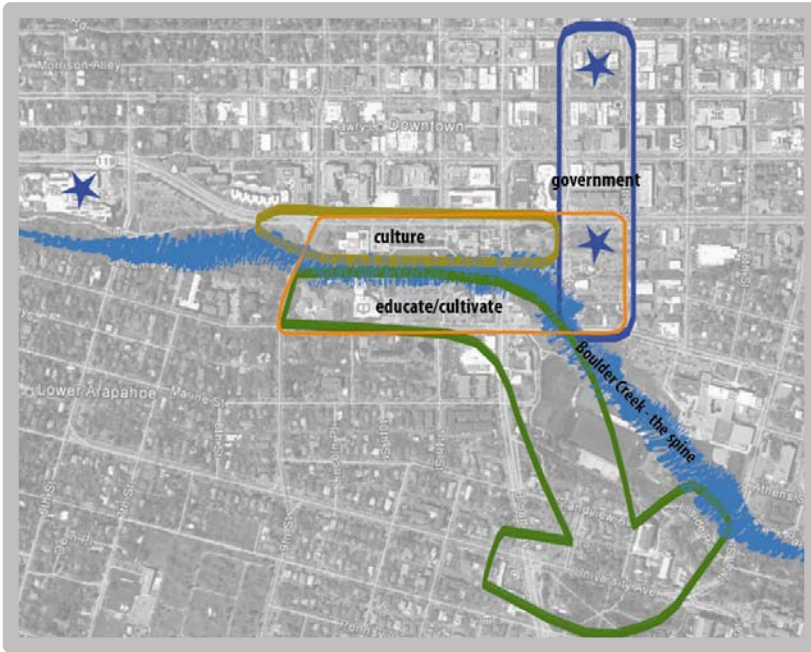
Cultivate, Educate, Celebrate



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Project Title: *Cultivate, Educate, Celebrate*

Overview



the big idea

- Boulder’s Civic Area must be bolstered to create a truly identifiable *place* within the heart of the community.
- Boulder Creek is the zipper – or the spine, from which three primary components of civic center’s thrive:
 - Culture
 - Education
 - Government
- **Culture:** A culture zone is naturally aligned north of the Creek – beginning with the existing sculpture garden west of 9th St. and continuing east to a new performing arts center.
- **Education:** “Educate/Cultivate” is about exploiting the learning and healthy eating opportunities along the south edge of the Creek and as this zone continues to grow beyond the civic center to the high school and University of Colorado.
- **Government:** This zone naturally sets itself up between 13th and 14th streets with the existing Boulder County offices and a proposed new grand city hall.
- Boulder Creek is a significant asset that not every community in Colorado can boast as having. Having it flow through the heart of a community, and at the center of the civic center is momentous – something that must be celebrated.



Location: _____

Submission No: _____ (Organizer Use Only)

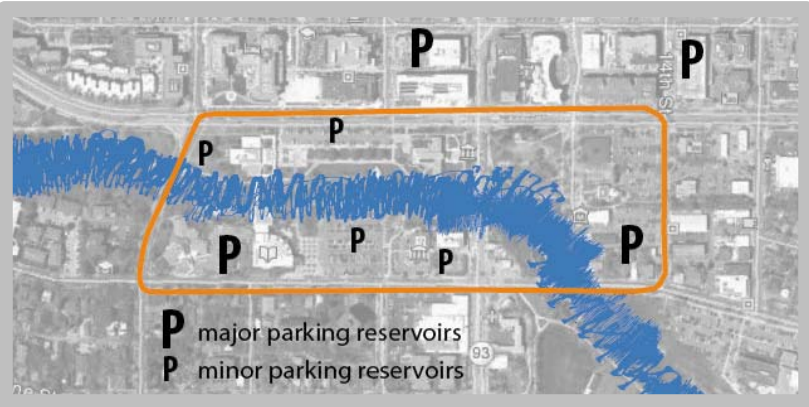


Approach



build upon current assets, exploit opportunities

- The **Cultivate, Educate, Celebrate** theme builds upon existing assets.
- This is a true vision – it is based in creative, big picture thinking of the potential for this key area in Boulder.
- The ‘big idea’ simply takes the community’s current vision statement for the area and creates a physical manifestation for that vision.
- The vision provides a clear and logical structure from which a detailed master plan and subsequent project based implementation can occur.
- While a vision – the strategy is cognizant of mobility to, from and within the area, including accommodation of significant parking opportunities (over 800 off-street spaces alone in Primary Focus Area), improved bicycle movements, significant pedestrian connectivity, and recognizes the need for growth of the transit center.



Location: _____

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Why Choose Our Design?

What about your proposal is innovative or inspirational?

Natural Environment

Cultivate, Educate, Celebrate does just that – enhances the tremendous asset of Boulder Creek by improving the riparian zone and providing significant educational and interpretive information; as well as better access along Farmer’s Ditch. By presuming that the Creek/Ditch is the spine or zipper from which everything happens and access (visual or physical) exists, we create a uniquely Boulder civic center.

Built Environment

Cultivate, Educate, Celebrate focuses on providing a built environment that is environmentally aware, through new innovative and sustainable structures that exudes ‘civic’ through consistency, materials uses and design details.

Distinct zones help organize and direct users to each and every activity, experience, and/or building, while parking reservoirs are kept

Built Environment, continued

primarily at the edges – allowing vehicular as well as bike and transit access while maintaining a *pedestrian paramount environment* in the core of the civic center.

Community Needs

Cultivate, Educate, Celebrate provides a multitude of year-round, daytime and nighttime, cross-generational and ability, venues and creative experiences within a sustainable platform that result in a vibrant, first class civic area for the City of Boulder.

This is a holistic vision for a civic center – the plan, the urban design, districts, nodes, edges, paths, activities, mobility, functionality, placemaking.



Required Principle: The Civic Heart of Boulder

Project Title: *Cultivate, Educate, Celebrate*



Primary elements that comprise a civic center are all located within The Civic Heart of Boulder:

- government offices,
- art and cultural venues,
- educational venues,
- gathering spaces,
- opportunities for festivals and events.

The Civic Area is clean, safe, inviting, diverse, exciting, and sustainable.



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Required Principle: Life and Property Safety

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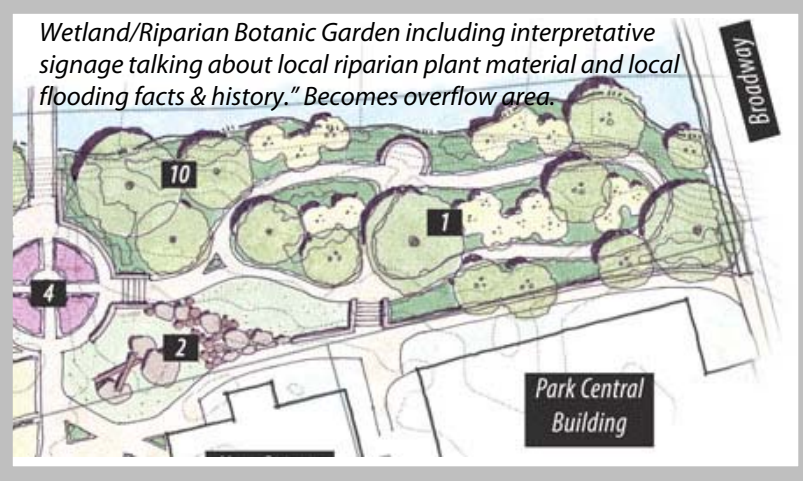
Create new ground level rolling windows/doors for year round farmer's market



Create new entry/front door



Provide 'face lift' that is both purposeful and artful. Re-use of buildings versus demolishing has a lower carbon footprint impact.



- Our vision does not propose new habitable structures w/in the HHZ.
- We are proposing relatively modest improvements to existing New Britain and Park Central buildings to make them more user friendly (but re-using the facilities rather than demolishing).
- We have removed a significant amount of surface parking from the HHZ.
- The Children's Experience will substantially provide educational opportunities for both kids and adults on the hazards of flooding, as well as providing flood attenuation.



Submission No: _____ (Organizer Use Only)



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Additional Principle 1: A Place for New Community Activity and Arts

Project Title: *Cultivate, Educate, Celebrate*



- New community activity and arts via establishing a clear art/culture zone north of Boulder Creek w/ new museums, outdoor art galleries and a new performing arts center.
- A civic center architectural palette provides guidance and consistency for both the public and private realms.
- The significant activity and choice will ensure movement throughout the civic area – providing ‘eyes on the space’
- A new location for the farmer’s market provides for over 90 vendors in an environment that all will enjoy.
- Re-use of New Britain and Park Central bldgs. for year-round market stalls and creative class incubator office space.



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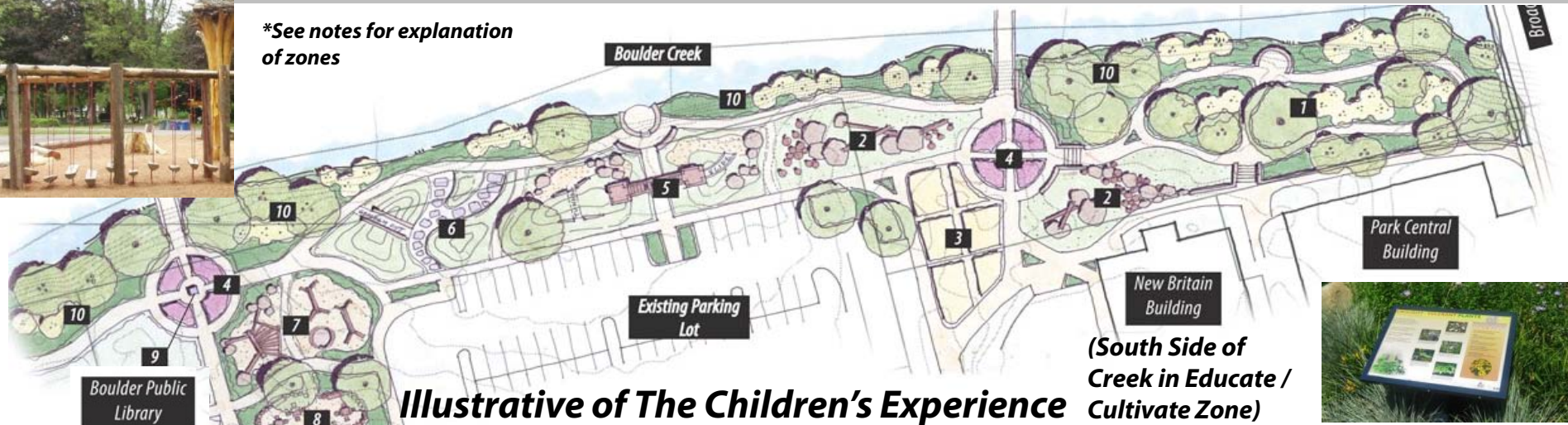


Additional Principle 2: Outdoor Culture and Nature

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*See notes for explanation of zones



Illustrative of The Children's Experience

(South Side of Creek in Educate / Cultivate Zone)



- Open space is more organized/themed – whether highly programmed or passive.
- Two linear promenades of open space straddle Boulder Creek.
- Riparian zones maintained w/ key flooding improvement near Broadway at south bank of Creek.
- 3 outdoor art gallery areas are established.
- Safe access to the Creek is maintained/bolstered through The Children's Experience.
- Improvements to pedestrian realm along Farmer's Ditch are provided.
- New overlook bridge provides for viewing the Boulder Creek asset.

Additional Principle 3: Celebration of History and Existing Assets

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- The Farmer's Market is in a new prominent location.
- Providing urban agriculture areas adjacent to the new farmer's market promenade area supports the idea of providing local/healthy food.
- By capitalizing on existing buildings a year-round market component is created.
- Many educational /interpretive opportunities w/in the entire area provide a very strong historic reflection of Boulder and the area.