

Ketring-Gallup ParkPreliminary Master Plan

June 2024







Introduction

Ketring Park, Gallup Gardens, and Gallup Park comprise approximately 55.5 acres collectively around Bemis Public Library and the Littleton Museum, about a mile southeast of Historic Downtown Littleton. These parks feature passive and active spaces, Ketring Lake (also known as Gallup Reservoir), a mature tree canopy, rich vistas, public artworks, pedestrian trails, and multiple parking areas.

The City of Littleton, in partnership with South Suburban Parks and Recreation, identified the need for an overarching master plan of all three parks, which will serve as a guiding document in realizing a more comprehensive vision that celebrates and fosters the cultural amenities of the site.

This Preliminary Master Plan was developed based on feedback gathered during Survey #3, which presented two different conceptual alternatives for the design of Ketring-Gallup Park. The Preliminary Master Plan was presented to the Littleton City Council and SSPRD Board in March and is now available for public review and comment.













Master Plan Goals

At the outset of this planning effort, the following objectives were formulated in conjunction with the City of Littleton, South Suburban Parks & Recreation, and Littleton Museum and Bemis Library leadership.



Unify the parks & promote their identity as Littleton's cultural core.



Increase accessibility to the park for the community as a whole.



Facilitate partnerships between project stakeholders that continue beyond this planning effort.



Consider the security implications.



Address equity areas and needs.



Utilize this opportunity to provide or incorporate program or park elements that may not exist nearby.



End with a solid implementation strategy.





Master Plan Process

The Master Plan for Ketring Park, Gallup Park, and Gallup Gardens is the result of an extensive public outreach process and continuous stakeholder engagement.







Engagement Highlights

- 3 online surveys with a total of 1,014 respondents
- 8 small group meetings
- 4 large community events
- 2 door-to-door canvassing efforts

- 1 interactive park installation
- 3 stakeholder meetings
- 9 public newsletter publications
- **3 social media campaigns** with a combined reach of over 7,000 viewers





Phase 1



Objectives:

- Build trust and relationships with the community and project stakeholders.
- Raise awareness of the Ketring-Gallup Park Masterplan.
- Understand current perceptions of the park through a simple online survey and small group discussions.

Survey #1: 564 responses









5 small group meetings



1 stakeholder meeting



Ketring-Gallup Park
Preliminary Master Plan
FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Phase 1: What We Heard

What you said you would like to see in the future

The full results of Survey #1 and a more comprehensive summary can be found on the project webpage.

> More seating and shade will make the space seem more inviting.



people asked for more shade in the park

The water quality of the lake needs to be addressed.



people expressed concern regarding Ketring Lake

The area east of the Ketring pond could be better landscaped/maintained. It often ends up as weeds or a dirt patch, which makes lingering near the lake not particularly pleasant.

people named overall upkeep as priority



I just want the upkeep of the park to continue to keep the park beautiful! I would love a dog park if possible as well!

people expressed a desire to not see the park's character change

larger space for play — there can be large amounts of children and some of the equipment needs updating.

people asked for playground improvements

New playground equipment and



people mentioned protection of the mature tree canopy

Protect the mature tree

canopy. Maintain the natural

beauty and also plant native

flowers and bushes.



Ketring-Gallup Park Preliminary Master Plan FOR PUBLIC COMMENT





Phase 2



Objectives:

- Discover the community's vision for the future of Ketring-Gallup Park.
- In addition to a second online survey, create an interactive installation within the park to solicit ideas and opinions of possible improvements.

Survey #2: 201 responses



Postcard mailers
August 2023

1,600 residences



Craft Fair at the Western Welcome Week Grand Parade August 19, 2023







In-park installation Aug - Sep 2023



3 small group meetings





Phase 2: What We Heard

Most Desired Program

Survey #2 gathered public preferences on potential improvement opportunities within 11 different areas within the parks.

The full results of Survey #2 and a more comprehensive summary can be found on the <u>project webpage</u>.

Bemis Library Grounds

117 Outdoor education space104 Gathering space

Gallup Gardens

167 Restoration of the gardens138 A water feature

Library Lane

122 A "festival" street
120 Improved pedestrian connectivity
107 Improved crossing at Gallup Street

Gallup Street

137 Wider sidewalks125 Improved crossings

Gallup Park

85 Improved connection to Ketring Park

Gallup Park Playground

111 Updated and expanded playground110 Shaded play features

Ketring Park

117 Shaded seating

Ketring Park Natural Areas

165 Preservation of existing canopy110 Vegetation improvements

Ketring Lake

156 Improved water quality127 A looped walking trail

Ketring Lake East Open Space

156 Native vegetation improvements

Southern Trail Connection

129 Improved trail102 Lighting





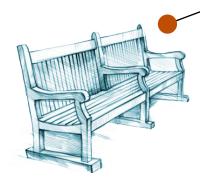
Phase 2: What We Heard

Community-Identified Design Priorities

Six objectives for the master plan were formulated based on the outstanding themes that surfaced in Survey #1 and recurred in Survey #2.



Retain the park's essential character and intent.



Create new opportunities for interaction, gathering, and contemplation.



Increase the level of maintenance.





and promote biodiversity.



Provide for real & perceived safety through environmental design.







network.

Phase 3



Objectives:

- Solicit the community's feedback on two conceptual alternative plans for Ketring-Gallup Park.
- Feedback gathered in this stage will help refine the vision for development into a preliminary master plan.

Survey #3: 250 responses

> Welcome to the Ketring-Gallup Park Master Plan Virtual Public Meeting!

We will get started shortly.

Virtual Public Meeting December 7, 2023



Open House Event at the Bemis Public Library December 11, 2023



2 small group meetings





Phase 3: What We Heard

Preferred Alternative

Survey #3 sought to share two conceptual park improvement alternatives based on feedback received in the first and second phases of engagement.

The concept alternatives differed from each other primarily in the level of change they offered, with Alternative 1 offering a "lighter touch" that focused on rejuvenating existing park program and amenities in their current locations, while Alternative 2 proposed more dramatic change.

Understanding the love the community has for the parks, Alternative 1, called "Restore & Connect," aimed to take a light touch in improving aspects of the parks that are special to people, while rejuvenating select spaces to improve access, increase safety, and expand natural diversity.

In addition to many of the same improvements proposed in Alternative 1, Alternative 2 primarily focused on reenvisioning the Bemis Library / Gallup Gardens campus to create a dynamic "Cultural Core" of the three parks.

Overall, Alternative 2 received more support, with the exception of select proposed changes to Gallup Park. The community expressed a preference to not add parking to support the tennis courts and multi-use fields near Parkhill Avenue.

The full results of Survey #3 and a more comprehensive summary can be found on the <u>project webpage</u>.

"Restore & Connect"



"Cultural Core"



(Preferred Alternative)







Development of a "Cultural Core" between the Bemis Library and Littleton Museum



Formation of new park connections & improvements to the existing circulation network



Tree canopy preservation and transition plan



Native area vegetation improvements for increased biodiversity and reduced water use



Additional seating opportunities and shade provision



Safety improvements through darksky friendly pedestrian lighting



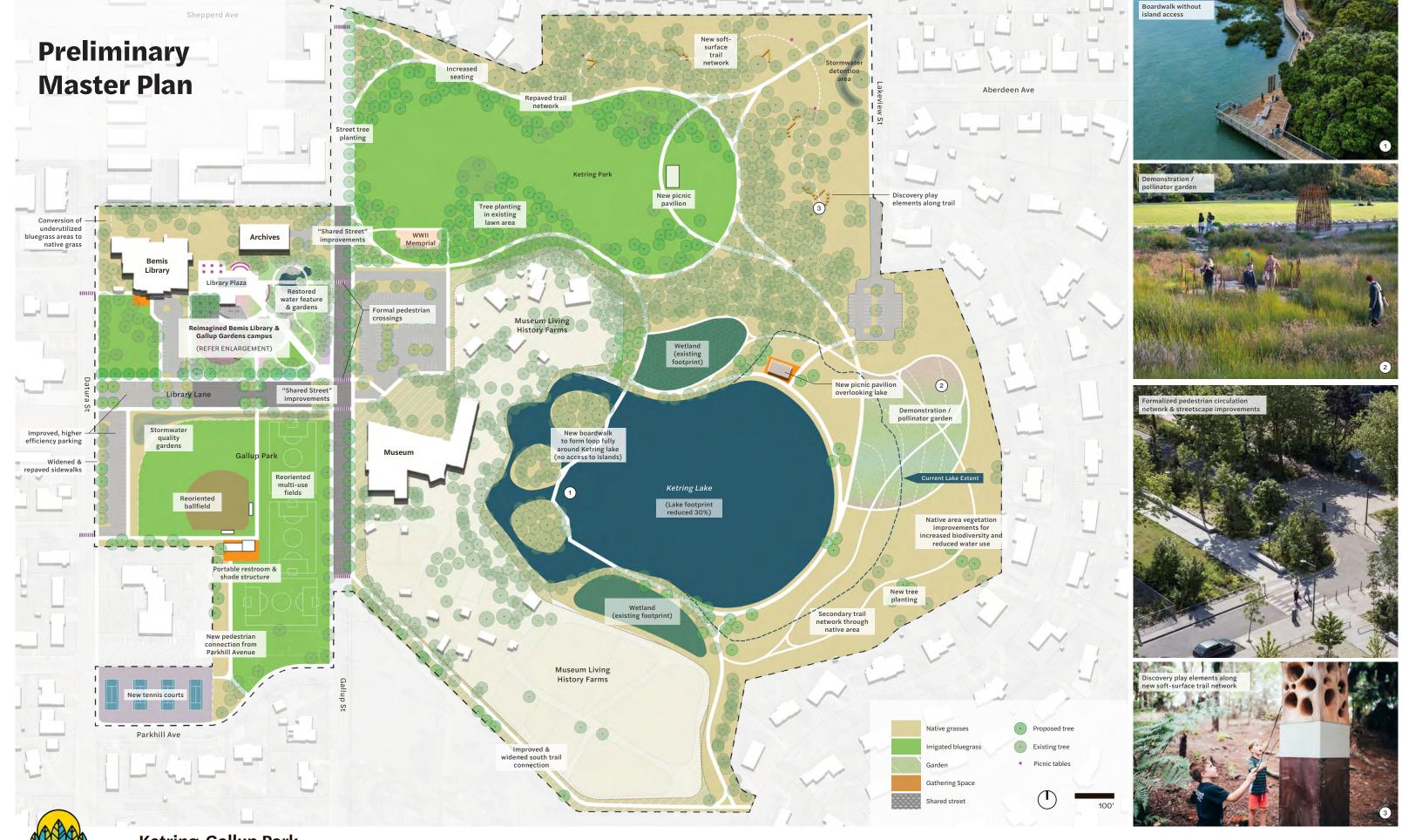
"Shared Street" traffic calming and multimodal improvements to Library Lane & Gallup St



South trail connection improvements



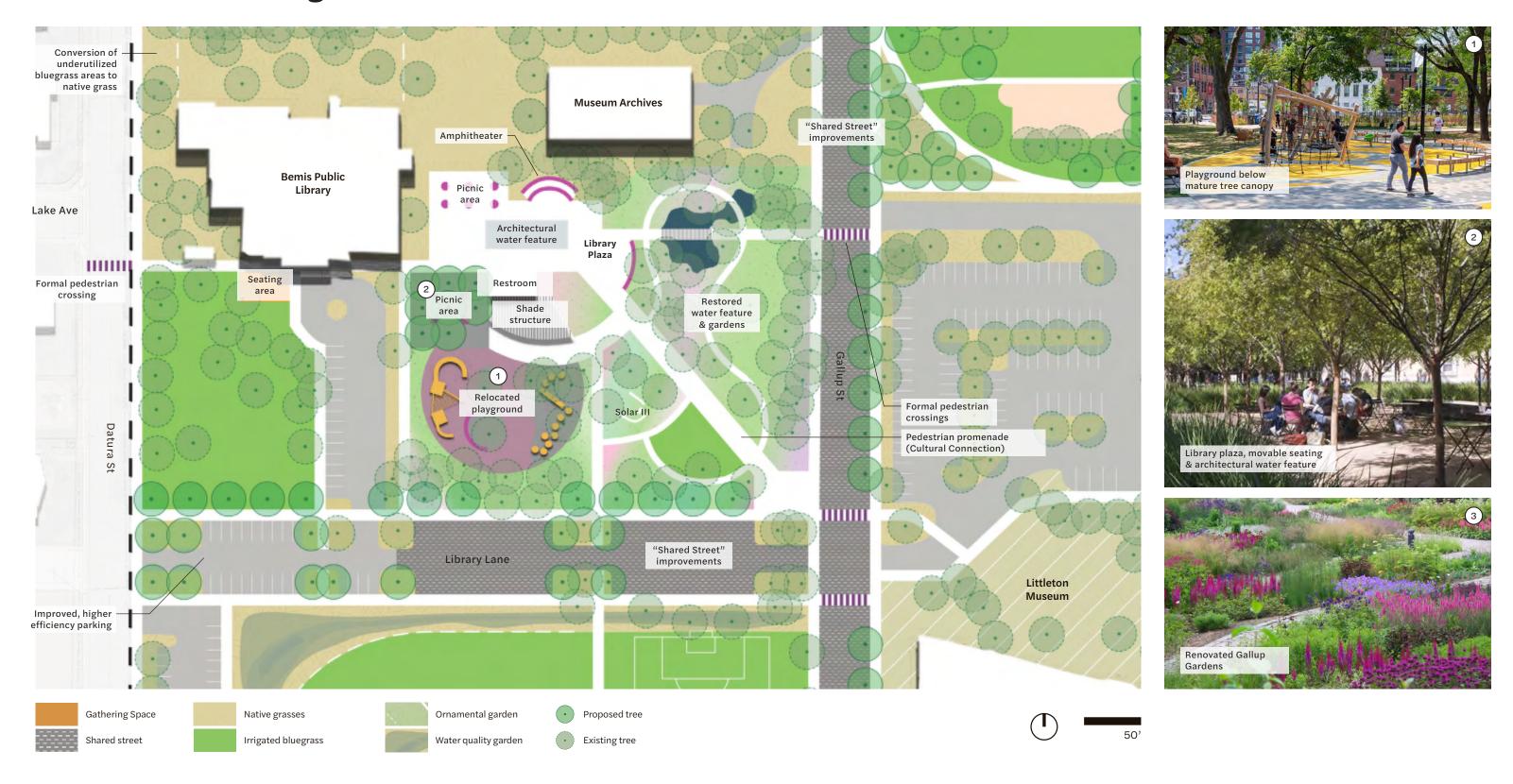






KETRING-GALLUP PARK

Cultural Core Enlargement







Cultural Core









Ketring Lake Eastern Open Space









Ketring Lake Boardwalk

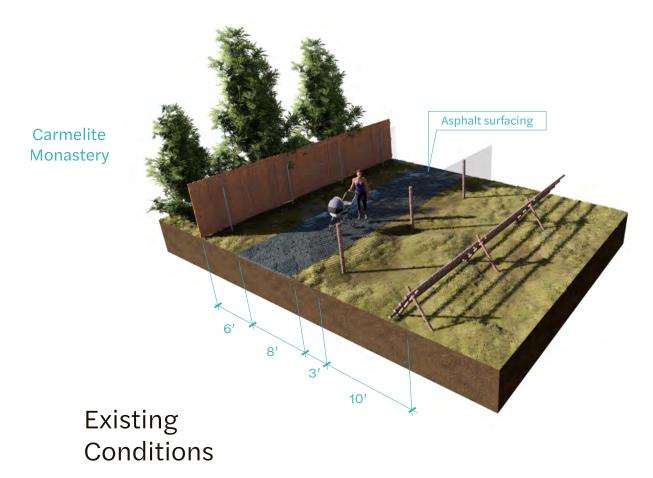


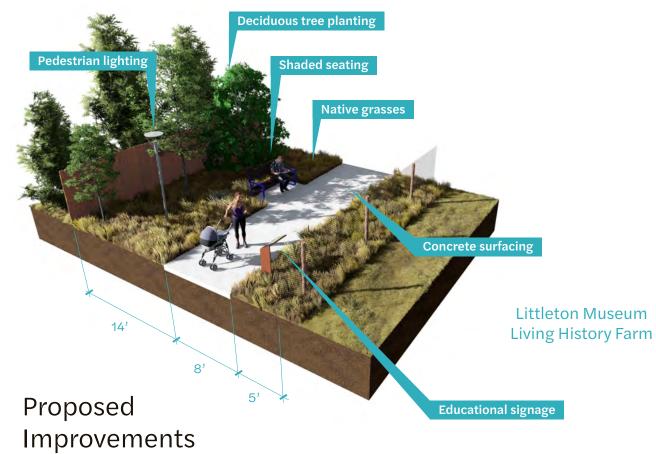






South Trail Connection Improvements









Shared Street Improvements

Local Precedents









39th Avenue Greenway Denver, CO









Fillmore PlazaDenver, CO (Cherry Creek)









Linden StreetFort Collins, CO









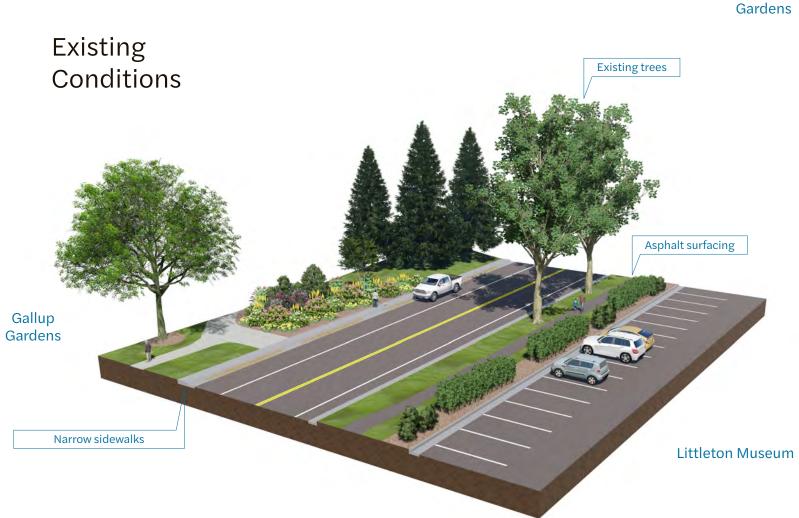
Vermijo + Sierra Madre Streets Colorado Springs, CO





Shared Street Improvements

Gallup Street











Shared Street Improvements

Library Lane







