

Parker's vision is to be a full-service community with a hometown feel.



Master Plan Vision and Guiding Principles



INTRODUCTION

Each of us has a vision of what the Town of Parker should be like in the future. Although our visions are different, they share common qualities and reference points. We hope to create a safe, attractive town for ourselves, our children and for future generations. We envision a town where the natural environment is protected, where excellent services are provided and where citizens are true partners in their town government. We aspire to create a town that is economically healthy and a good place to do business. We envision a town that has balanced mobility options and connections to town-wide and regional networks. We see our community as a great place to live now and in the future.



We listened...

Our hometown feel

Through the public participation process, citizens consistently mentioned the importance of our 'hometown feel'. Parker area residents were concerned that as we grow from a community of 46,000 today to an additional 11,000 more residents in 2035, that we risk losing this character within our community. Our 'hometown feel' was described in a number of ways, from the friendly atmosphere of our Town, to the importance of our downtown, to the appearance of our buildings. It is important to all of us that we maintain this character. Because the hometown feel is such a broad issue, you will not see a specific hometown feel goal; however, you will see the 'hometown feel' intentionally reflected in the visions, goals and strategies throughout this Plan – each one of these protecting a piece of our 'hometown feel'.

Many characteristics combine to make Parker what it is now – the physical setting of our plains environment with views to the Rocky Mountains, the character of our downtown, thriving businesses providing diversified employment, a historical emphasis on our Western heritage and our neighborhoods.

The passage of time inevitably brings changes. Parker today differs from the town of twenty or fifty years ago and is different now than the town it will be in twenty or fifty years. The task facing us is to retain the most important characteristics of our town in the face of changes we cannot control, and manage as well as possible, those forces we can control.



Unanimous agreement about the future is not the goal of the Master Plan. Rather it strives to create balance and blending of opinions to form a community that collectively manages change. Only then can we retain the community's unique characteristics and still welcome the future. The 'Parker 2035 Master Plan' strives to reflect a coherent vision of the hopes, dreams and aspirations of a diverse population – senior citizens and children, long-term residents and newcomers, those living in established neighborhoods and those living in newly created neighborhoods.



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GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Parker's 'Guiding Principles' reflect the values of community residents expressed through the Master Plan outreach process combined with sound planning practices. Listed in random order, they serve as touchstones for the Town's planning decisions.

- **As we grow, we will strive to preserve the attributes of our unique, hometown character and community identity, the beauty of our natural environment, and the strengths of our neighborhoods, while lessening the adverse effects of growth.**
- **We value open space as an integral part of our community's hometown feel and will take advantage of opportunities for its enhancement and expansion.**
- **We value the native landscape and topographical features naturally occurring throughout our community**
- **We will maintain and enhance the historic and human orientation of our Downtown as the center of Parker life.**
- **We will seek opportunities to promote community events and cultural venues and experiences.**
- **Our community's health will be enhanced by embracing an active lifestyle.**
- **Architectural and land use design is fundamental to our identity. As our community grows, special attention will be given to promoting high quality residential and commercial development that reflects aesthetic excellence.**
- **We will preserve our single-family neighborhoods while providing choices that will allow people to live in Parker throughout their lives.**
- **The long-term economic well-being of the Town is fundamental to its future. Therefore, we will encourage a variety of employment opportunities, and promote unique, local businesses.**
- **We will promote transportation systems (roadways, bikeways, walkways and public transportation) that are safe and which emphasize local and regional connections while considering neighborhood impacts.**