Welcome to "The Boulder Experience"

5th AnnualNew Partners for Smart Growth ConferenceJanuary 26, 2006Mobile Tour #4



Tour Leader Contact Info:

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About Boulder

This tour takes you to the eighth largest city in Colorado (population 94,673), the Boulder County seat, and home to the CU Buffaloes. Boulder is located 35 miles northwest of Denver, at an elevation of 5,430 feet.

Government preservation of open space around Boulder began with Congress approving the allocation of 1,800 acres of mountain backdrop/watershed extending from South Boulder Creek to Sunshine Canyon in 1899. Since then, Boulder has adopted a policy of controlled urban expansion similar to what is now known as Smart Growth and New Urbanism. Key efforts have included acquiring open space, regulating building heights to preserve mountain views, a residential growth management ordinance, historic preservation code, and a master plan dictating future zoning, transportation and urban planning decisions.

Wide sidewalks and crosswalks exist throughout Boulder, making it extremely walkable for pedestrians. Additionally, over 120 miles of hiking trails start just at the edge of town. The League of American Bicyclists has awarded Boulder its prestigious Bicycle Friendly Community designation at the Gold Level. GO Boulder has also teamed up with the community to promote Walk and Bike Week, a fun tradition which encourages the use of alternative modes of transportation.

The culture of Boulder, both as a college town and as a center of environmentalism, has contributed to the size of the public transit system. GO Boulder - a collaboration between RTD, the City and the University of Colorado - provides an extensive high-frequency bus system of brightly decorated vehicles. Many residents and businesses pay for transit not by the ride, but by the year, under a program called "Eco Pass." Under the same program, entire neighborhoods buy group bus passes, and all University students are issued bus passes as part of their school ID, paid for by student fees.

Downtown Boulder is the heart of it all - a thriving mixed-use environment that contains the shopping destination of Pearl Street Mall, which hosts a variety of restaurants, bars and boutique stores.

Tour Details

The walking tour of Downtown Boulder will end with small group break-outs. Everyone needs to head to Canyon and Broadway at 12:15 to pick up their box lunch and begin boarding the bus. Lunches will be available in the lobby of Lee Real Estate, 1800 Broadway in One Boulder Plaza.

Your bus will depart for Denver at **12:30 sharp** from 13th and Canyon.

Or, you may stay on, enjoy the afternoon in Boulder, and catch the RTD B Route or BXpress back to Denver's Market Street Station (schedule at right). From there, you can take the Free Mall Ride shuttle back to the Adam's Mark.

Boulder-Denver RTD Service

	depart Boulder Station	arrive Market Street		depart Boulder Station	arrive Market Street
BX	2:00 2:00 2:30 2:57	2:44 3:01 3:31 4:02	BX BX	4:30 4:39 4:54 5:00	5:23 5:47 6:02 5:53
BX	3:00 3:12 3:27	3:46 4:17 4:32	BX	5:09 5:15 5:28	6:17 6:06 6:31
BX	3:30 3:42 3:55	4:16 4:47 5:02	BX	5:44 5:58 6:00	6:46 7:01 6:48
BX	4:00 4:10 4:24	4:48 5:17 5:32	BX BX	6:29 6:30 7:00	7:31 7:15 7:44



COMMUNITY TRANSIT NETWORK





THE BOULDER EXPERIENCE SITE #2 PEARL STREET MALL.... 10:45-11:30 BREAK-OUTS...... 11:30-12:15 BICYCLE & PEDESTRIAN TRANSIT & PARKING MIXED-USE & HOUSING SITE #3 BROADWAY 12:30-12:45



HIGHLIGHTS	28th Street	Downtown	Broadway
Complete Streets	 28th street is transforming into a complete street with unique transportation, safety, visual and economic enhancements. Functional art is incorporated into several components. Drought-resistant plantings and drought-tolerant trees. New landscaping requires no mowing and little maintenance. 	 Most downtown streets support pedestrians, bicyclists and transit in addition to the automobile. Downtown pedestrian mall is easily accessible regardless of transportation mode. 64% of downtown employees get to work using transportation options other than single occupant vehicles. 	 A key multi-modal corridor in the 1996 Transportation Master Plan (TMP), it serves two of the city's major activity centers. Variety of high frequency local and regional transit services result in a 20% transit mode share in the Broadway corridor. The Broadway Boogie is the parallel bicycle/pedestrian path.
Pedestrian Environment	 Wide detached sidewalks. Pedestrian underpasses connect student housing to CU-Boulder campus. Raised intersection at College Underpass prioritizes pedestrian crossing. Pedestrian scale buildings and landscaping. Countdown pedestrian crossing signals. 	 Narrow streets with slow traffic, on-street parking, wide sidewalks, enhanced street crossings and pedestrian- friendly land uses create an overall Pedestrian Supportive environment. The Pedestrian Mall (no bikes allowed) is a successful mixed- use Pedestrian Place. 	 Pedestrian-actuated crossing signals. Underpass at College Avenue connects CU-Boulder and The Hill business district. Enhanced pedestrian crossing treatments between CU and The Hill at three intersections. Detached sidewalks. Countdown pedestrian crossing signals.
Bicycle Facilities	 Parallel on-street bike lanes and off-road path accommodate all user types and offer good transition between facilities. Bike facilities connect to east- west facilities on Baseline, Boulder Creek, Arapahoe and Pearl. 	 Boulder Creek Greenway path traverses the heart of downtown civic park and connects to north- south bike facilities at 9th, 13th, 17th Streets. 13th Street contra-flow bike lane. Shared Lane markings along Mall loop streets. Enhanced pedestrian crossings on Canyon Blvd. 	 Broadway path separates bike and foot users and connects to east-west on-street bike facilities at University, Pleasant, Baseline and Table Mesa. Warning signs advise turning motorists to watch for bikes. Raised right-turn by-pass island prioritizes bike/pedestrian crossing at intersections.
Housing & Mixed-Use Developments	 Mixed-use residential zoning has prompted redevelopment along the reconstructed segments of 28th Street. 	 Mixed-use residential developments have brought residents to downtown One Boulder Plaza, 13th & Canyon: The Lofts, The Ice Rink and commercial properties. 15th and Pearl Mixed-Use Structure parking, retail and office space. St. Julien, 900 Walnut: Hotel & Spa with public parking garage. Maxim Place, 902 Pearl: Retail with apartments, townhouses and offices 	 the north end of Broadway have embraced mixed- use concepts resulting in the creation of new neighborhoods and business districts in a former low density commercial district.
Transit Service	 Bus-only lanes on frontage road, with slip ramp onto 28th Street. Transit "Super Stops" incorporating work by local artists. Future BRT service. 	 Served by several high frequency transit routes. Parking meter revenue provides Eco Passes for downtown employees. 	 Served by several high frequency transit routes. Conveniently located transit stops. NextBus real-time bus arrival information. Future BRT service.
Parking Management	 Proposed back-in parking along frontage road. Parking structures incorportated into new developments. 	 Five public garages, plus on-street meters for short and long-term needs. Urban design practices integrate parking infrastructure. Vertically-structured Parking Dept. includes Admin, Maint, Enforcement TDM and event coordination. Parking funds many diverse district initiatives and economic goals. 	 Broadway serves the city's three paid parking districts: Downtown, University Hill Business District and the University of Colorado. Four RTD park-n-Rides are located along the corridor.

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