THE
TRUST
FOR
PUBLIC
LAND

Land
for
people.

Our mission

LAND FOR PEOPLE

The Trust for Public Land creates parks and protects land for people, ensuring healthy, livable communities for generations to come.

Our impact Since 1972

FROM NEIGHBORHOOD PARKS TO NATIONAL PARKS

5 thousand+ places created

3 million+ acres protected

70 billion+ public funds generated

8 million+ people within a 10-min walk
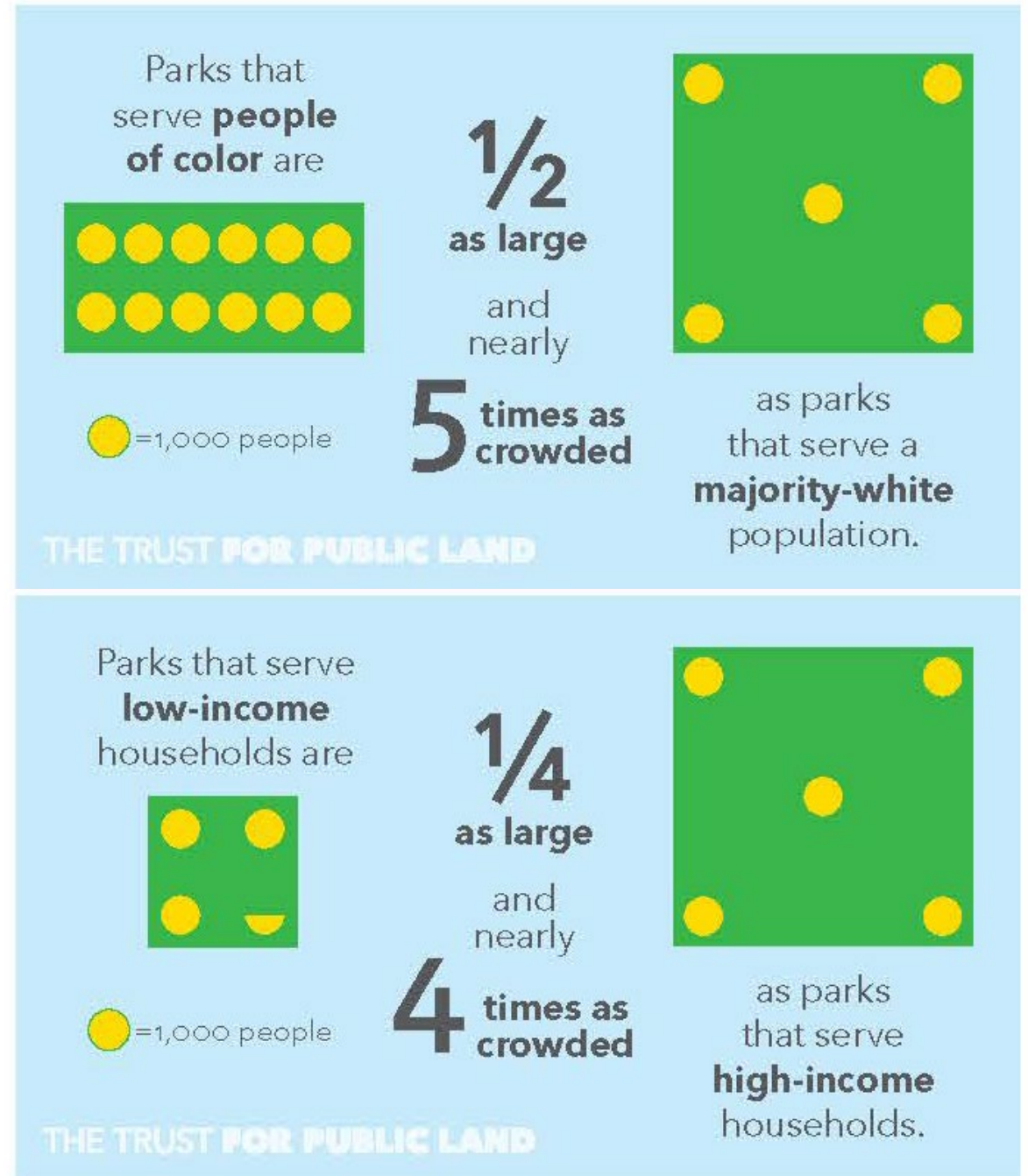
Why We Need Parks

100 million people, or more than 1 in 3 Americans, do not have a park within a 10-minute walk of home.

Inequitable Distribution of Parks

"Not everyone has easy access to a park, and if they do, that park might not be very large or very green."

- The Heat is On, TPL Report

Parks that serve **people of color** are **1/2 as large** and nearly **5 times as crowded** as parks that serve a **majority-white** population.

= 1,000 people

THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

Parks that serve **low-income** households are **1/4 as large** and nearly **4 times as crowded** as parks that serve **high-income** households.

= 1,000 people

THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

In Detroit, where 78% of residents are Black, the city devotes 6% of its land to park space, compared to the national median of 15%.

In Memphis, Tennessee, just 5% of land area is comprised of parks, while in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, only 3% of the city is dedicated to parkland.

PARKLAND AS PERCENT OF CITY AREA IN MAJORITY BLACK CITIES ON THE PARKSCORE® INDEX

THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

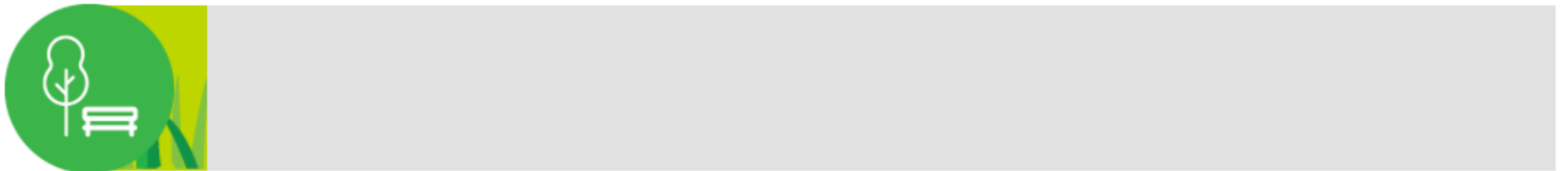|	
National median	15%
Baton Rouge	3%
Memphis	5%
Detroit	6%
Atlanta	6%
Baltimore	10%
New Orleans	26%

Denver's 2020 ParkScore Ranking: #22

91% of residents live within a 10 minute walk of a park.

National average **55%**

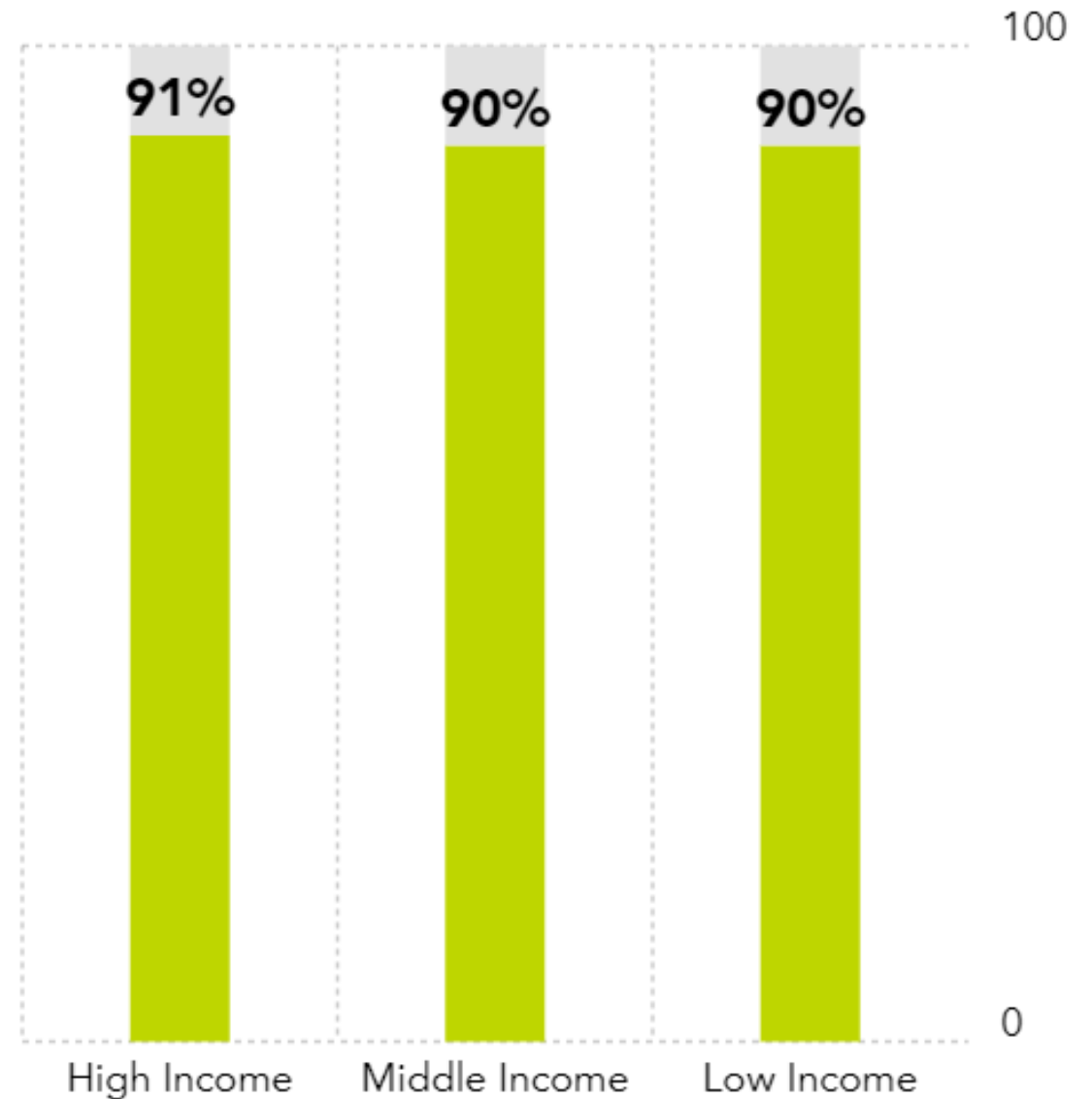**8%** of Denver's city land is used for parks and recreation.

National median **15%**

PERCENT OF RESIDENTS WITHIN A 10-MINUTE WALK OF A PARK BY AGE

Children (0 - 19)

91%

Adults (20 - 64)

91%

Seniors (65+)

89%

PERCENT OF RESIDENTS WITHIN A 10-MINUTE WALK OF A PARK BY INCOME ⓘ

100

91%

90%

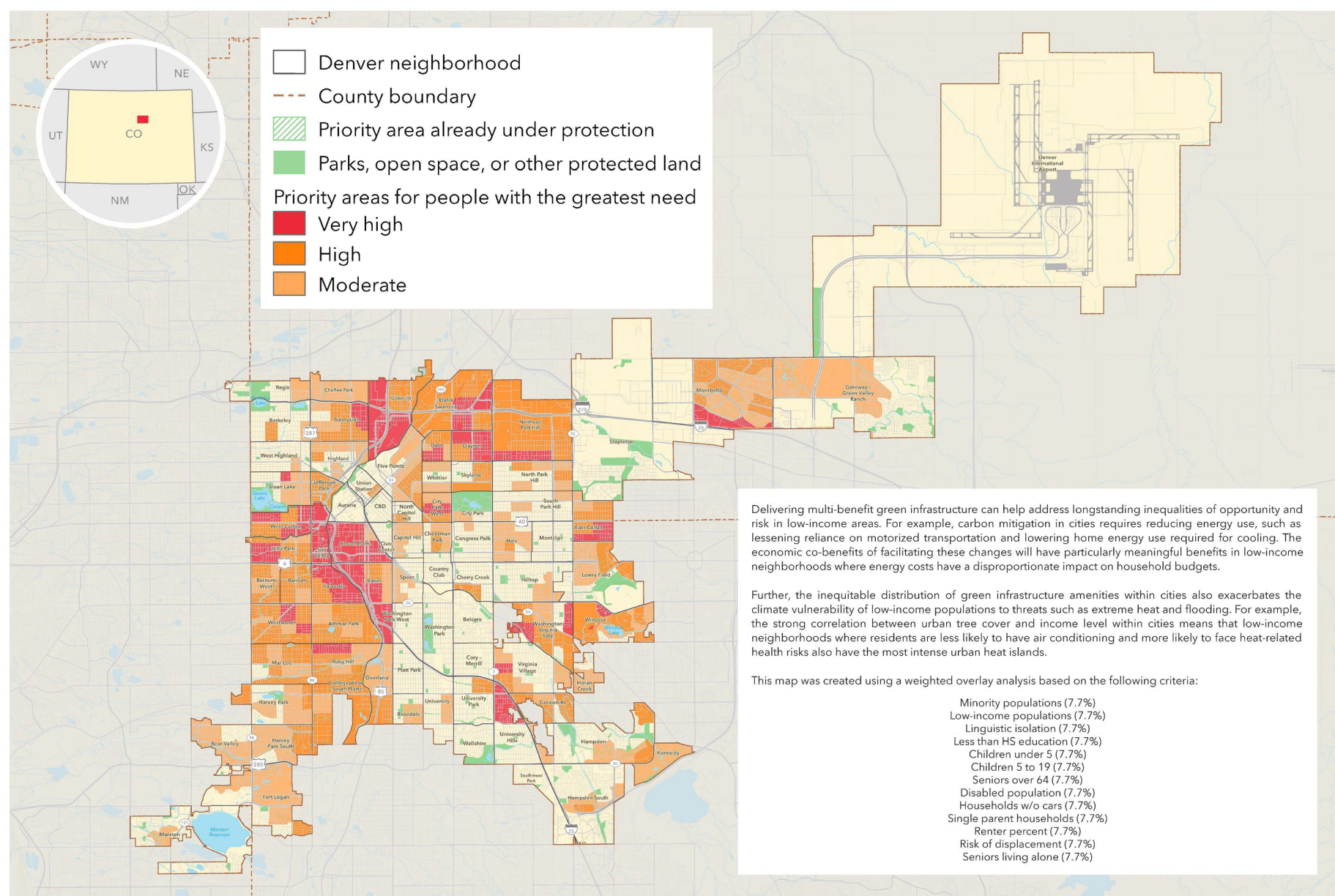90%

High Income

Middle Income

Low Income

0

PERCENT OF RESIDENTS WITHIN A 10-MINUTE WALK OF A PARK BY RACE/ETHNICITY ⓘ

Climate Smart Cities Program

The Trust for Public Land's nationwide effort to help cities deploy multiple-benefit green infrastructure to lower carbon emissions, build resilience, and advance climate justice.
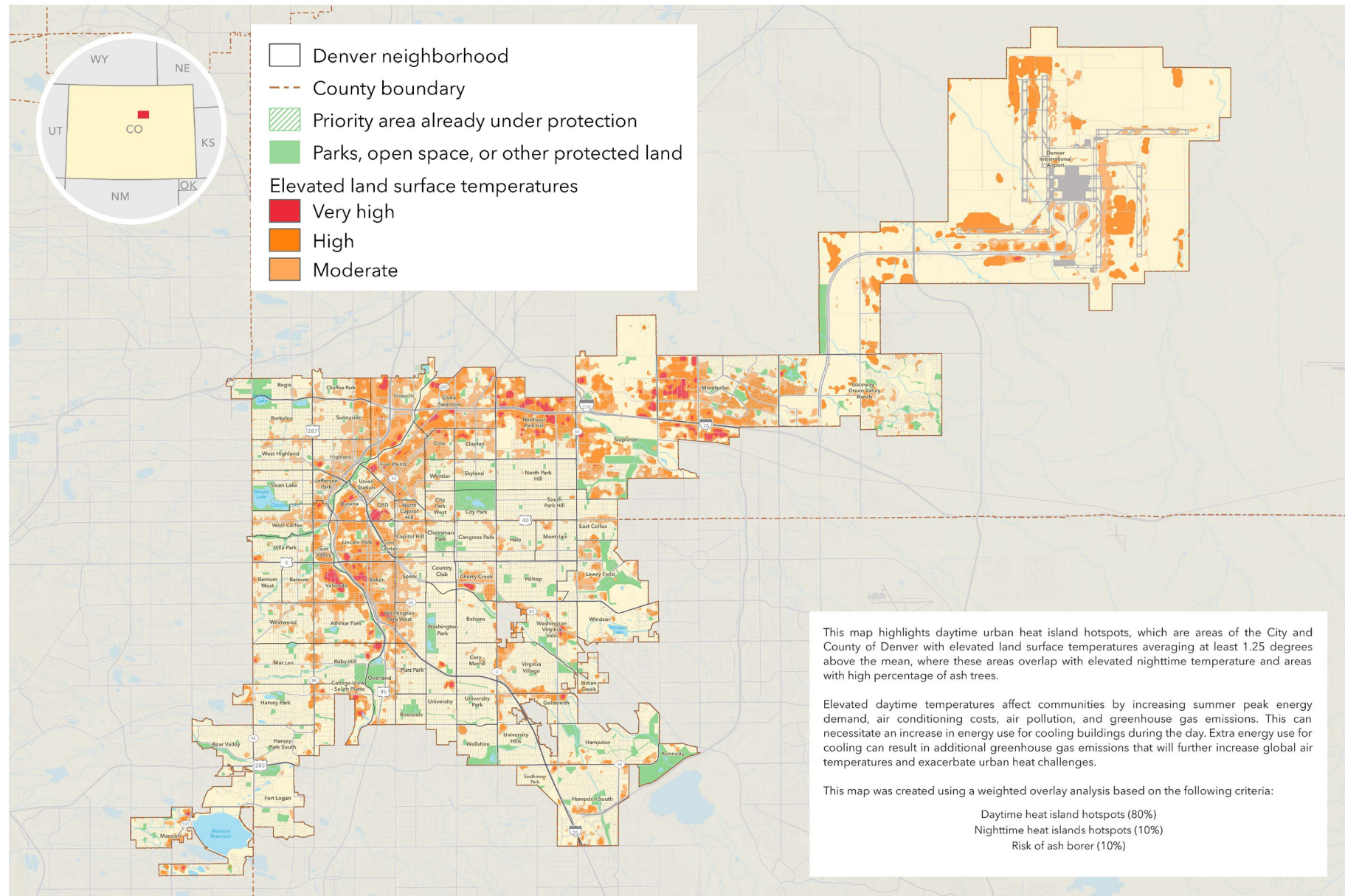

Legend:
- ☐ Denver neighborhood
- - - - County boundary
- ▨ Priority area already under protection
- ▩ Parks, open space, or other protected land

Priority areas for people with the greatest need
- ▉ Very high
- ▉ High
- ▉ Moderate

Delivering multi-benefit green infrastructure can help address longstanding inequalities of opportunity and risk in low-income areas. For example, carbon mitigation in cities requires reducing energy use, such as lessening reliance on motorized transportation and lowering home energy use required for cooling. The economic co-benefits of facilitating these changes will have particularly meaningful benefits in low-income neighborhoods where energy costs have a disproportionate impact on household budgets.

Further, the inequitable distribution of green infrastructure amenities within cities also exacerbates the climate vulnerability of low-income populations to threats such as extreme heat and flooding. For example, the strong correlation between urban tree cover and income level within cities means that low-income neighborhoods where residents are less likely to have air conditioning and more likely to face heat-related health risks also have the most intense urban heat islands.

This map was created using a weighted overlay analysis based on the following criteria:

Minority populations (7.7%)
Low-income populations (7.7%)
Linguistic isolation (7.7%)
Less than HS education (7.7%)
Children under 5 (7.7%)
Children 5 to 19 (7.7%)
Seniors over 64 (7.7%)
Disabled population (7.7%)
Households w/o cars (7.7%)
Single parent households (7.7%)
Renter percent (7.7%)
Risk of displacement (7.7%)
Seniors living alone (7.7%)

Focusing on people with the greatest need

CLIMATE-SMART CITIES™ DENVER: CLIMATE EQUITY PRIORITIES

THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

Experts estimated that extreme heat contributed to the deaths of an average of 5,600 people each year between 1997 and 2006 nationally.
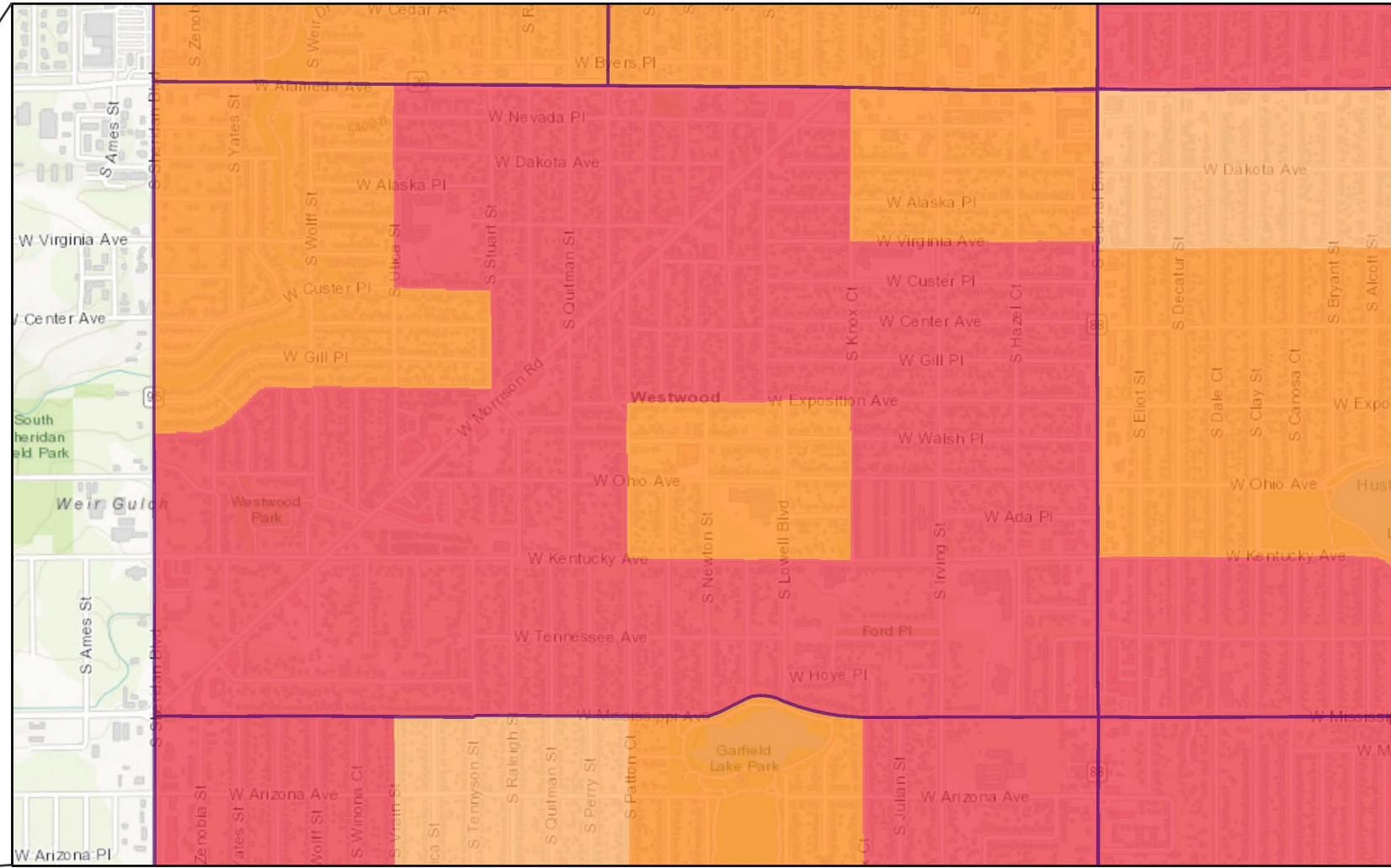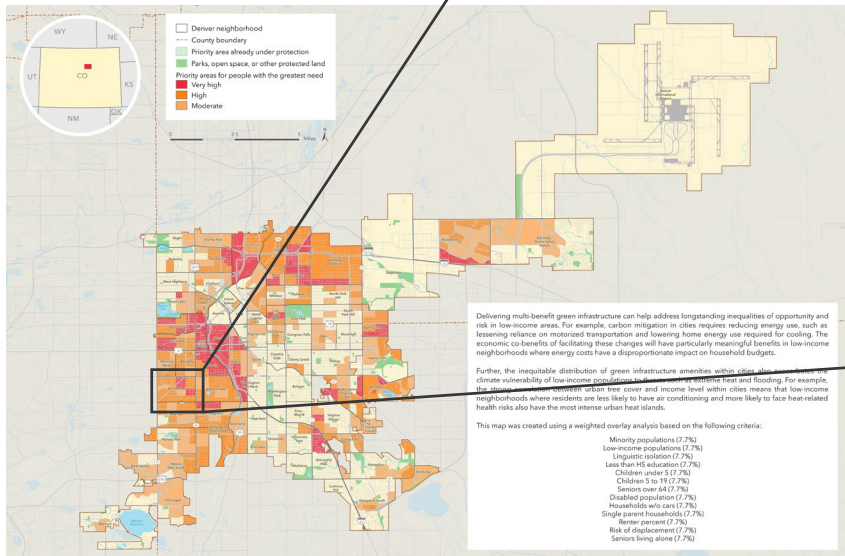
Legend:

- Denver neighborhood
- County boundary
- Priority area already under protection
- Parks, open space, or other protected land

Elevated land surface temperatures
- Very high
- High
- Moderate

This map highlights daytime urban heat island hotspots, which are areas of the City and County of Denver with elevated land surface temperatures averaging at least 1.25 degrees above the mean, where these areas overlap with elevated nighttime temperature and areas with high percentage of ash trees.

Elevated daytime temperatures affect communities by increasing summer peak energy demand, air conditioning costs, air pollution, and greenhouse gas emissions. This can necessitate an increase in energy use for cooling buildings during the day. Extra energy use for cooling can result in additional greenhouse gas emissions that will further increase global air temperatures and exacerbate urban heat challenges.

This map was created using a weighted overlay analysis based on the following criteria:

Daytime heat island hotspots (80%)
Nighttime heat islands hotspots (10%)
Risk of ash borer (10%)

Urban heat islands

CLIMATE-SMART CITIES™ DENVER: COOL PRIORITIES

THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

Neighborhood Scale Change

November 12, 2019

Neighborhoods

Equity Priorities

Very high

High

Moderate

Westwood Neighborhood

1:18,056

| 0 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.4 mi |

| 0 | 0.15 | 0.3 | 0.6 km |

THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

The Trust for Public Land
Copyright 2018
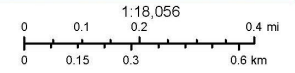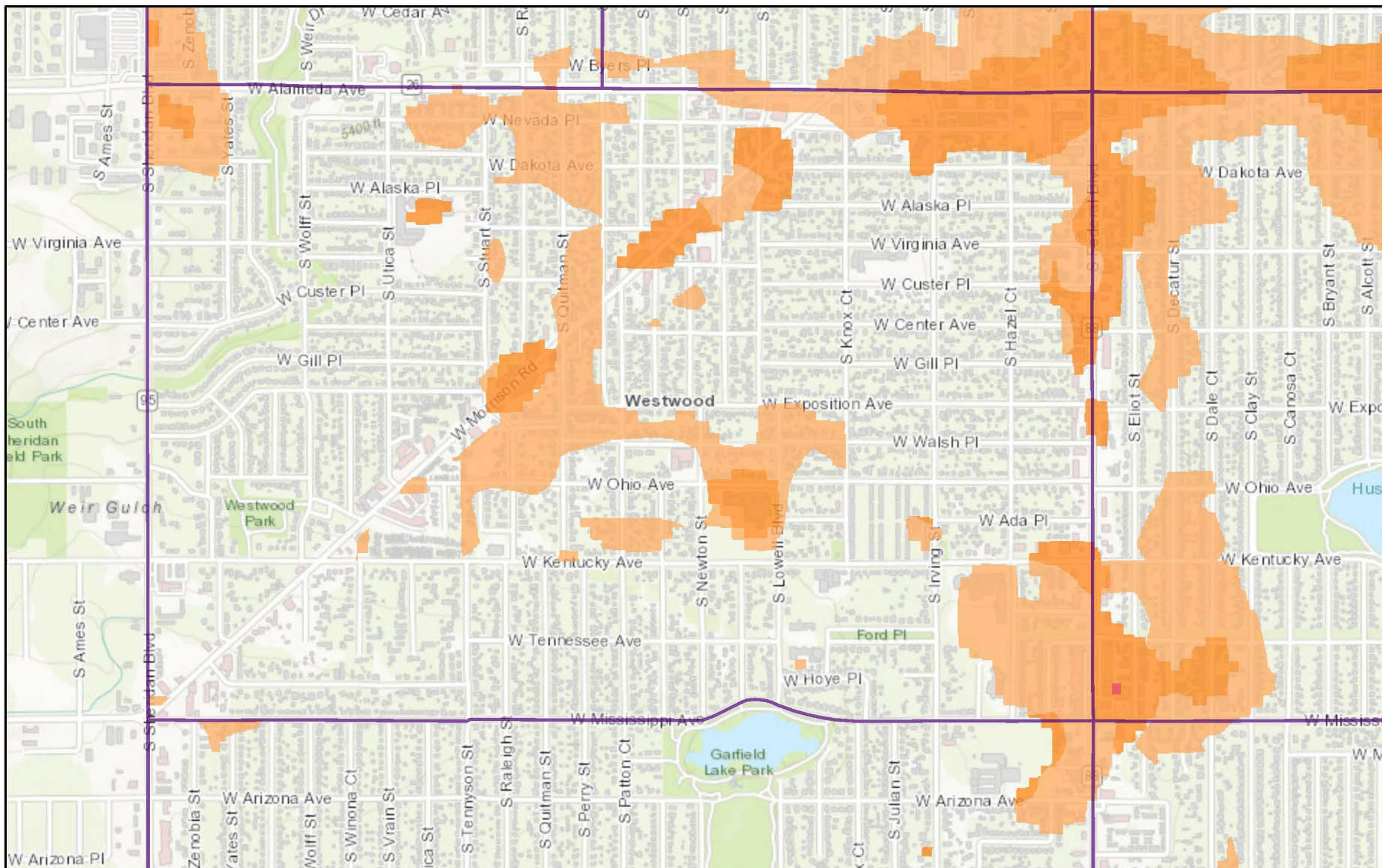
Cool Priorities

November 12, 2019

Neighborhoods   High

Cool Priorities

Moderate

Very high

1:18,056

0   0.1   0.2   0.4 mi

0   0.15   0.3   0.6 km

THE TRUST FOR PUBLIC LAND

The Trust for Public Land
Copyright 2018

CLAVE DEL MAPA

KEY MAP

N

Westwood Via Verde: Neighborhood Greenway

Resources

The Trust for Public Land Reports & Tools
The Heat is On https://www.tpl.org/the-heat-is-on

Parks and the Pandemic https://www.tpl.org/parks-and-the-pandemic

ParkScore https://www.tpl.org/parkscore

Climate Smart Cities (https://web.tplgis.org/denver_csc/

10 Minute Walk Campaign https://10minutewalk.org/

Parks and Recreation Plans & Related Articles
Denver Wants to Fix a Legacy of Environmental Racism, The New York Times
https://www.nytimes.com/2020/09/30/climate/city-parks.html?searchResultPosition=1

Denver Equity Index https://www.arcgis.com/apps/MapJournal/index.html?appid=2f30c73e83204e96824a14680a62a18e

Denver's Game Plan
https://www.denvergov.org/content/dam/denvergov/Portals/Denveright/documents/Game%20Plan/GamePlan_FinalReport.pdf

Denver Parks & Recreation 2A Five Year Plan 2020-2024
https://www.denvergov.org/content/dam/denvergov/Portals/747/documents/planning/investment/2A_5-Year-Plan_DPR.pdf

Minneapolis Neighborhood Parks Plan
https://www.minneapolisparks.org/about_us/budget__financial/20-year_neighborhood_park_plan/

Resources

Equitable development and anti-displacement strategies:

University of Illinois – Chicago: Gentrification and Neighborhood Change
https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/992726_7c881aaf56724952a4d8fd30039f35a0.pdf

Grounded Solutions: Housing Policy Toolkit https://groundedsolutions.org/housing-policy-toolkit

Policy Link: All In Cities Anti-Displacement Toolkit https://allincities.org/toolkit

National CAPACD – Anti Displacement Strategies
https://www.nationalcapacd.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/anti_displacement_strategies_report.pdf

Strategies specific to parks and green infrastructure investments:

UCLA: Park Related Anti-Displacement Strategies https://www.ioes.ucla.edu/project/prads/

University of Minnesota CREATE initiative: Sharing in the Benefits of a Greening City
https://create.umn.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/sharing_in_the_benefits_of_a_greening_city_-_final_web.pdf

SPARCC: Principles for parks and equitable development
http://www.sparcchub.org/2019/08/27/principles-for-parks-and-equitable-development/?mc_cid=2f5f192027&mc_eid=d6315d6ba3