

## Table 2: City Parks and Open Space

### **KIM BAILEY**

Kim Bailey began as the new Manager of Denver Parks and Recreation on October 1, 2003, and has a wealth of experience. As Manager of Denver Parks and Recreation and an appointed member of the Mayor's Cabinet, Kim oversees the complete operations of the department. This includes 30 recreation centers and programming, over 350 urban parks encompassing over 4,000 acres and 14,000 acres of mountain parks. Denver Parks and Recreation currently has an annual operating budget of \$52 million, 600 permanent staff and 1,100 seasonal/temporary staff.

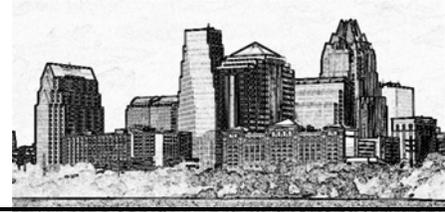
Kim is a veteran of the nationally renowned Chicago Park District, most recently as a Region Manager for the Chicago Park District. In this capacity, Kim was responsible for overseeing the complete operations of the Chicago Park District's recreation programs, facilities and grounds for 123 parks (46 staffed recreation centers; 77 passive areas) on Chicago's Southeast side, totaling approximately 1,400 acres. She managed a \$20 million annual operating budget, 650 year-round employees, and a regional management staff performing recreation, financial, human resources, marketing and communications, security, facility management, forestry, and landscape operations duties.

As an Area Manager for the Chicago Park District, Bailey was responsible for ensuring the quality of leisure and recreation programming, facility and ground maintenance, staff recruitment and development, community outreach and the monitoring of capital improvement projects. Bailey's previous roles with the Chicago Park District also include serving as a field-based program specialist and staff training facilitator.

An expert on youth development, Bailey co-authored "The role of social capital in youth development: The case of 'I Have a Dream' programs, which was published in 1999, and has presented numerous academic papers on the social development of youth as a research assistant at the University of Illinois at Chicago and a senior research associate at Stanford University.

Bailey received her bachelor's degree in psychology from Northeastern University, and a master's degree in counselor education from New York University.

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	Denver	Austin
<b>Parkland acres/10,000 population</b>	447	554
<b>Baseball, Soccer and Tennis courts/ 10,000 residents</b>	4.1	2.1
<b>Recreation Centers/20,000 residents</b>	1.1	0.5
<b>Park playgrounds/1,000 residents</b>	0.26	0.14

Denver Parks and Recreation historically has had a common trait of creating a "sense of place" to enhance the comfort and familiarity of its residents. Enhancing and developing new parks has been part of the department since the 1800's when the first trees were planted.

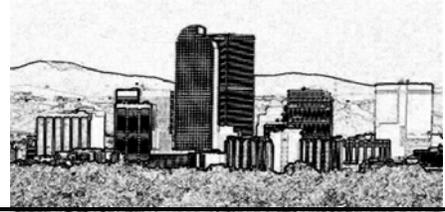
Youth development programs and recreation facility enhancements at various locations around the city, is part of the department's legacy. Through numerous non-profit groups and private sector developers the department has been able to make many improvements and renovations. Numerous trails, parks and playground projects will be remembered as a direct result of establishing our volunteer program and our master planning efforts. Countless partnerships have been established and maintained with existing governing bodies.

Some of Denver's recreation facilities, amenities, and open spaces are highlighted below:

- 397 urban parks and pathways equaling over 4,000 acres of green space
- 14,000 acres of mountain parks: Red Rock's Amphitheater; the Buffalo Bill Museum; a ropes course; a braille trail; 1 elk herd; and 2 bison herd
- 2,500 acres of urban native areas including a weed-eating goat herd
- Over 285 permitted multi-use athletic fields for activities such as sand volleyball, soccer, football, tennis, horseshoes, baseball, softball, rugby, bocce ball, croquet and basketball
- 29 recreation centers offer programs in cultural arts, sports & fitness, social enrichment, outdoor education and events for youth and adults
- 17 outdoor pools and 13 indoor pools, including children's "spraygrounds", lap pools and a therapy pool
- 7 public golf facilities with one 27-hole regulation course, six 18-hole regulation courses and one 9-hole course
- The nation's largest, free, public skate park
- 85 miles of urban trails for multi-purpose use

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- 24 lakes that offer fishing and some boating activities, including paddle boat rentals and City Park's Ferril lake

The Manager for Parks and Recreation provides leadership and direction on overall departmental goals and objectives, especially those that cross divisional lines, develops departmental policies, facilitates employee development training and directs work programs. The Manager is Cabinet member appointed by the Mayor of the City and County of Denver, provides budget and management oversight and is responsible for communications with citizens, the media, and other departments.

[http://www.denvergov.org/Parks\\_Recreation/](http://www.denvergov.org/Parks_Recreation/)