Vision

Liberty Park will be preserved as the central gathering space of Salt Lake City, offering diverse opportunities for the community to relax, recreate, gather, and celebrate, and as a model for urban ecological function and resiliency for the next 100 years.

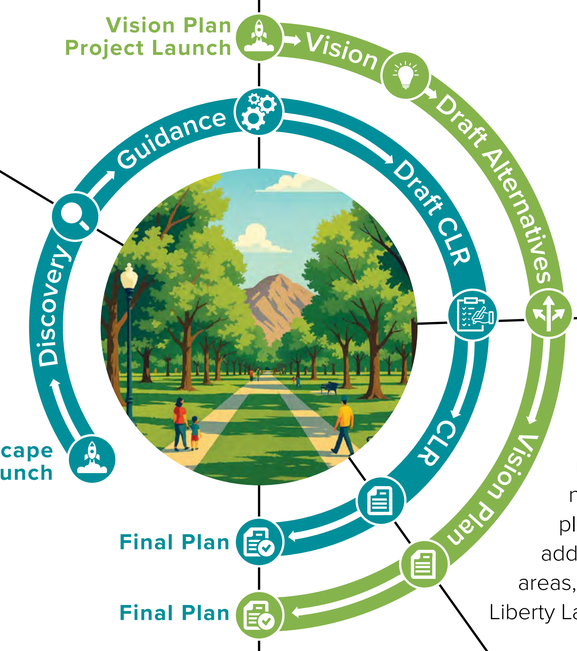
Guiding Principles

Collectively, these guiding principles ensure Liberty Park retains its historic integrity, continues to offer diverse visitor experiences, serves as a model for resiliency, and achieves the vision for Liberty Park.

How you shaped the vision!

Who we spoke with: TAC, CAC, Community

What we heard: Preserve open green space, trees, and habitat areas while supporting thoughtful improvements that enhance accessibility, safety, and park uses, and long-term resiliency. Repair historic features and maintain existing amenities. Provide space to gather and host community events. Provide clean facilities and a safe park for all.



Who we spoke with: City Council, Historic Landmark Commission (HLC), TAC, CAC

Who we spoke with: HLC, TAC, CAC, Community

What we heard: Excitement/support for urban forest, gardens, native and more resilient plantings, improved and additional picnic and gathering areas, repair historic patterns, and Liberty Lake improvement.

Who we spoke with: City Council, HLC, TAC, CAC, Community

What we heard: Support for the shared vision!

Who we spoke with: TAC, CAC

What we heard: Support for the shared vision, prioritization of items in need of urgent repair, and recommendations to enhance existing visitor uses and safety and operational functions at Liberty Park.

Engagement Summary

3
community meetings

10
tac members

14
cac members

688
survey responses

200+
community meeting attendees

Explore the Vision!

Meadows provide space for everyday park use and special events.

Gardens and native plantings reestablish Liberty Park as a horticultural destination, providing a setting for programming and opportunities for visitors to explore and appreciate the native ecosystems of Utah and the historic significance of the park's gardens and legacy of plant propagation.

Court sports offer opportunities for basketball, horseshoe, bocce, and volleyball courts, with the potential for a court sports core area near the Rice Pavilion.

Rice Pavilion, along with potential additional **picnic shelters**, offers picnic facilities.

Picnic sites include basic amenities and establish new picnic sites at key areas (e.g., play and courts).

Rotary Play and new play offer diverse play experiences, including the hillside north of Liberty Lake and at the site of the current concrete volleyball court.

Gathering spaces of varying scales offer diverse opportunities to relax, recreate, gather, celebrate, enjoy the park, and strengthen community and social connections.

Amusement Rides provide a year-round amenity accessible to all visitors.

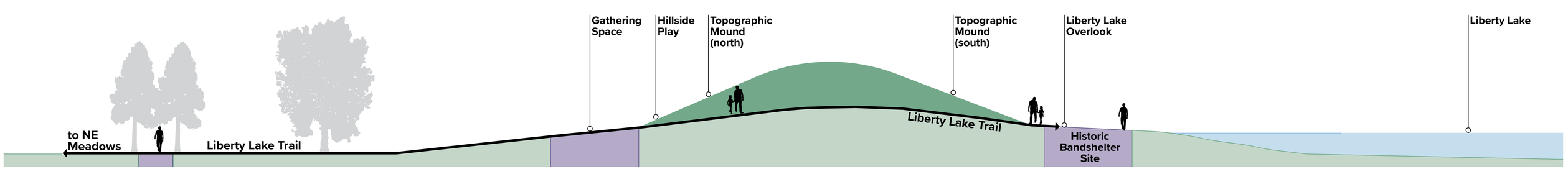
Liberty Lake

Enhance Liberty Lake as an immersive experience for the community and park visitors to enjoy nature in the heart of Salt Lake City.

Liberty Lake Trail

Gathering Space and Hillside Play north of the topographic mound will incorporate seating and play.

Liberty Lake Overlook will provide a flexible urban park space in the park for small informal gatherings and larger programs or events.



Re-establish the historic visual and physical connections between Liberty Lake and meadows to the north with hillside play and gathering to the north and a prominent community gathering space to the south at site of the historic band shelter.

Greenhouse

Elevate the Greenhouse as a center of plant propagation in Salt Lake City with horticultural displays offering space for community gatherings, education, hands-on volunteer opportunities, and a place to enjoy the diverse landscapes of the Wasatch Front.

Koi Pond

Celebrate Koi Pond as a tangible connection to Liberty Park's history as Salt Lake City's first zoo, the pond's origins as a naturally occurring spring, and its connection to the historic Chase Farm.

Constitution Drive

Constitution Drive Existing Condition

Vision for Improved Safety and Visitor Experience

Improve Constitution Drive along the southwest corner of Liberty Park to re-establish historic evergreen tree allées, deciduous tree row, and provide greater physical separation between the multi-use trail and 700 E. Remove a section of on-street parking along Constitution Drive and provide improvements to enhance the safety and enjoyability of the route for bicycle use.

Landscape Typologies

Waterwise Streetscape

Limited passive visitor uses along tree allées with understory planted with native bunchgrasses and sod-forming grasses.

Functional Lawn

Lawn designed for areas of high use, active uses, and gatherings. Turfgrass blend of Kentucky Bluegrass with Perennial Ryegrass or hybrid Bermudagrass.

Waterwise Meadow

No active programming or uses. Cold and warm season plants, including hardy and native bunchgrass and sod-forming grass species, forbs, and perennials.

Waterwise Swath Planting

Visitor use is limited to defined trails and seating areas. Mass-grouping or drifts of hardy and native shrubs and perennials.

Garden

Visitor use is limited to defined trails and seating areas. Plant material includes perennials curated for seasonal interest.

Riparian/Wetland

Visitor use is limited to defined trails and seating areas. Plant material includes native riparian grass and forbs with less than 35% total tree and shrub cover.

Forested Lawn

Lawn designed for locations with limited visitor use and gathering. Grass species require less water and fertilization.

Central Promenade

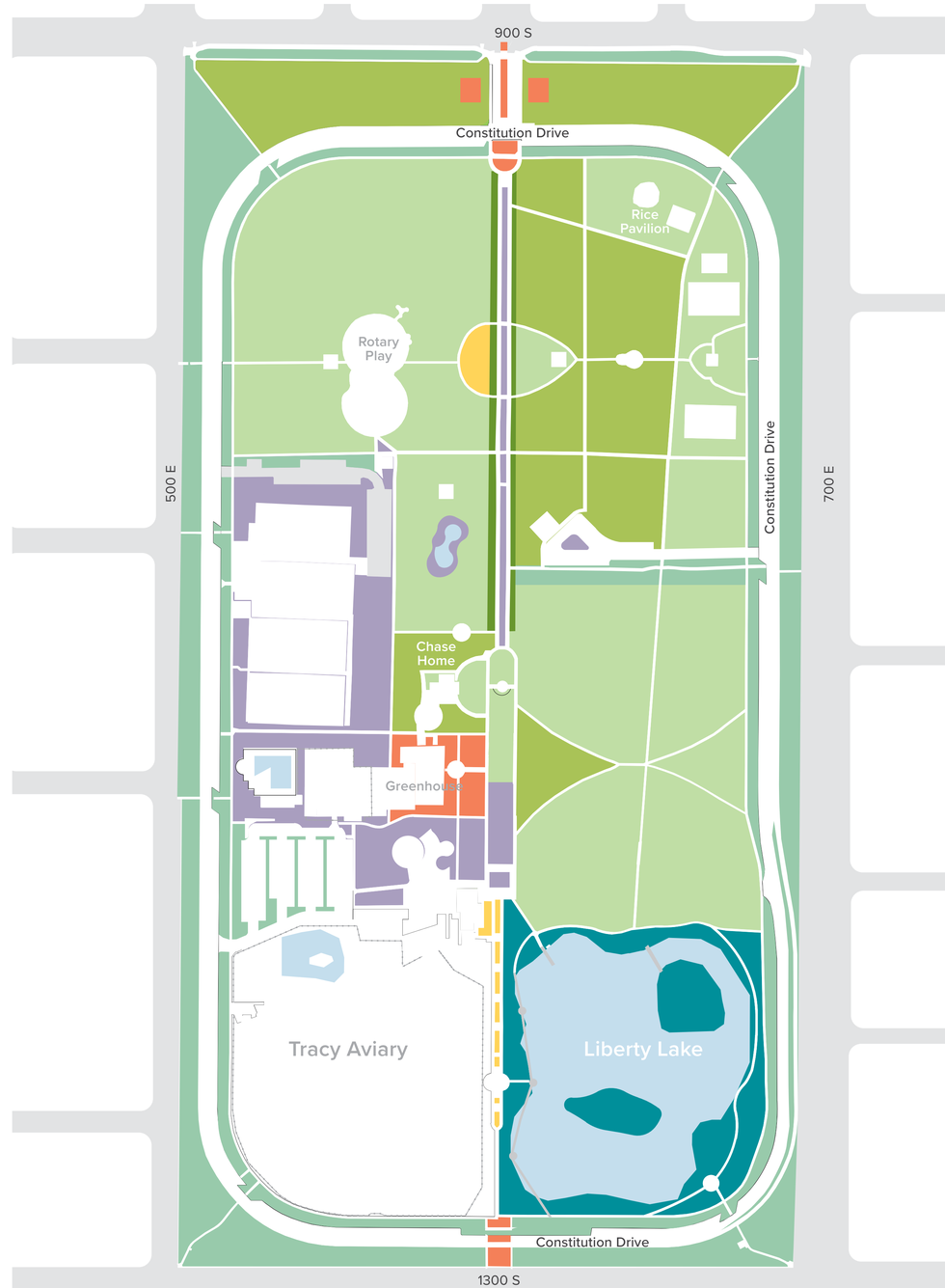
Visitor use is limited to defined trails and seating areas. Two to three inches of organic mulch suppresses weeds and reduces moisture evaporation, water runoff, and soil compaction.

47% conversion
of traditional park landscape to waterwise landscape

14% decrease
in total annual water use

+6k lbs/yr
of annual carbon sequestration by trees

+1k trees



Landscape Typologies

- Functional Lawn
- Forested Lawn
- Waterwise Streetscape
- Waterwise Meadow
- Waterwise Swath Planting
- Garden
- Riparian / Wetland
- Central Promenade

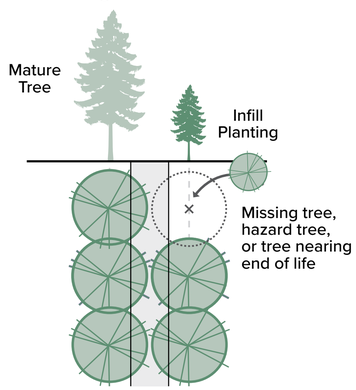
Urban Forest

Three strategies will increase the resiliency of the urban forest and preserve historic patterns for future generations, with specific guidance for the Central Promenade. The location, spacing, symmetry, and arrangement of existing and historic tree allées, tree rows, and tree groves serve as a guide.

Alternating between a few tree species that share similar forms, heights, and branching structures within tree rows and tree allées (e.g., use the same species for 10 to 15 consecutive trees, then switch to another species for the next 10 to 15 trees) will maintain uniformity in form and symmetry while diversifying the urban forest.

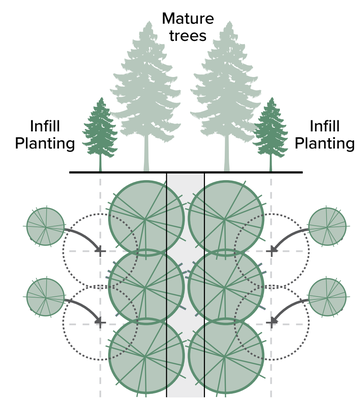
Strategy 1: Replace In-Kind in Original Locations

Provide in-kind replacement of trees where gaps exist, when trees become hazards, or reach the end of their life
Replace in original locations



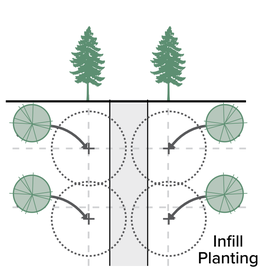
Strategy 2: Infill Planting Next to Mature Trees

Plant similar species within the understory / next to mature trees in anticipation of losing mature tree



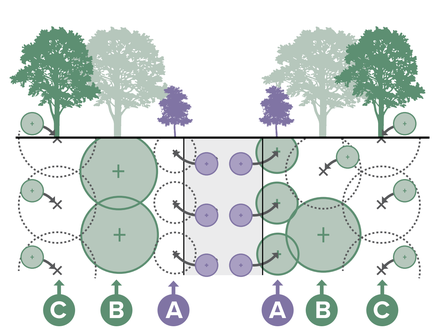
Strategy 3: New Planting

Plant tree allées, tree rows, and tree groves in areas of non-extant plantings where no or few mature trees remain



Central Promenade Strategy

Infill plantings where gaps exist along Fremont Cottonwood tree allée with similar species (B), phased removal and replacement of London Plane trees (A), establishment of an exterior row of mature canopy trees (C)



- **A** Understory Tree Row. Remove stump, Replace London Plane trees with understory tree species, and Transplant London Plane trees
- **B** Protected Tree Row. Infill planting with Fremont Cottonwood or canopy tree species with narrower crown
- **C** Outer Tree Row. Plant new outer tree row with deciduous species

Central Promenade existing condition (top) and vision for its deciduous tree allée (bottom)

Explore the Vision for Liberty Park!

Liberty Park will be preserved as the central gathering space of Salt Lake City, offering diverse opportunities for the community to relax, recreate, gather, and celebrate, and as a model for urban ecological function and resiliency for the next 100 years.

Meadows provide space for everyday park use and special events.

Gardens and native plantings reestablish Liberty Park as a horticultural destination, providing a setting for programming and opportunities for visitors to explore and appreciate the native ecosystems of Utah and the historic significance of the park's gardens and legacy of plant propagation.

Court sports offer opportunities for basketball, horseshoe, bocce, and volleyball courts, with the potential for a court sports core area near the Rice Pavilion.

Rice Pavilion, along with additional **picnic shelters**, offers picnic facilities.

Picnic sites include basic amenities and establish new picnic sites at key areas.

Rotary Play and new play offer diverse play experiences, including the hillside north of Liberty Lake and at the site of the current concrete volleyball court.

Gathering spaces of varying scales offer diverse opportunities to relax, recreate, gather, celebrate, enjoy the park, and strengthen community and social connections.

Amusement Rides provide a year-round amenity accessible to all visitors.

Learn more and view the final plans!

Scan the QR code:

¡Descubre más y echa un vistazo a los planos definitivos!

Escanee el código QR:

Picture Yourself in the future of Liberty Park!