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# Washington Park

Washington Park (or “Wash Park” as it’s referred to by locals) is an in-demand neighborhood that came from less-than-auspicious beginnings.

Mayor Thomas McMurray viewed Smith’s Lake as an ideal location for a new park and began purchasing land and condemning properties. With a total of 160 acres, the park design and transplanting of trees and shrubs from the mountains began on what was previously bare land. When streetcar lines with access to downtown were extended south on Franklin and South Gaylord, the improved accessibility sparked interest in residential development. Construction began in the early 1900s and came to include duplexes, bungalows, small apartments and pop-tops. The original Smith’s Lake and the newer Grasmere Lake provided for additional water - and swimming

holes -- that allowed the park to bloom and the neighborhood to flourish.

Now one of the most beloved and frequented parks in the city, Washington Park is the key draw for living in this neighborhood. Additional amenities include close proximity to Old South Gaylord, the quaint shops and cafes in Bonnie Brae, and the Cherry Creek shopping district. Today, Washington Park has great access to downtown, Cherry Creek, Denver Tech center and easy access to 1-25 and light rail.

