



## News Release

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## Parking Garage, Additional Lot Planned for Robson Arena at Colorado College

COLORADO SPRINGS, CO (March 11, 2019) . . . Colorado College will build a parking garage and an additional parking lot to assure improved parking for visitors attending CC Tigers hockey and City for Champions-related events at the new Robson Arena on the CC campus.

At its recent meeting, after discussion and considering community feedback, the Colorado College Board of Trustees approved changes to the college's Campus Master Plan and the Robson Arena site plan, allowing for the construction of a parking garage next to the arena, Colorado College announced today. The revised plan moves Robson Arena to the north end of the block, near Cache La Poudre and Tejon streets, with a parking garage for 300-350 vehicles south of the arena.

Between the new parking garage, existing off-street campus lots, a new campus lot, and nearby private parking lots, the updated arena parking strategy accommodates enough parking for a sold-out CC Tiger hockey game scenario of up to 3,650 attendees, the largest capacity expected.

While the demand for a sold-out scenario is met by off-street and campus parking lots, additional parking opportunities are also included in the plan, including on-street parking, shuttles, ride share, biking/walking. (Approximately 500 students are expected to attend games, and they will primarily walk to the arena, not requiring parking).

The college's 3D Arts Workshop building, 133 E. Cache La Poudre St., will remain through fall 2019. The college is working to determine a permanent new location for 3D Arts. This refinement of the plans also means a new natatorium –part of the college's long-term master plan and not currently scheduled for construction – would one day be built on the current site of Schlessman Natatorium rather than next to the arena.

In addition, the board approved the relocation of the Burghart Tennis Courts to accommodate a parking lot

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with 100 spaces near El Pomar Sports Center. The college plans to relocate the tennis courts to college property south of the transportation center near the Van Briggie/Facilities Services building on Glen Avenue. The college is also in discussion with owners of multiple private parking lots close to the campus for use of their lots for Robson Arena events. Agreements with the lot owners would result in approximately 375-400 additional off-street parking spaces.

The board's decisions were made in response to community input about event parking, as well as addressing ongoing parking needs for the campus community.

Details of the parking strategy, updated site plan, arena architecture, and landscape ideas will be shared with the public at the **next scheduled Robson Arena public meeting, 10:30 a.m. to noon, Saturday, March 23, at the Kathryn Mohrman Theatre in Armstrong Hall, 14 E. Cache La Poudre St.** The presentation will by no means be a final plan as Colorado College and the arena project team continue to encourage and obtain additional community input and feedback to make this project the very best it can be for the community, neighborhoods, students, faculty, college staff, students, and CC Tigers hockey fans and players.

Visit the project website at <http://www.coloradocollege.edu/robsonarena> for the latest information, presentations, Frequently Asked Questions, and more. Following the March 23 public meeting, video of the meeting, presentation documents, site map, and schematics will also be posted to the project website ("Documents" tab top of the webpage). For notices of future project meetings, send an email to [RobsonArenaDesign@coloradocollege.edu](mailto:RobsonArenaDesign@coloradocollege.edu) requesting to be added to the email list.

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### **Background: Colorado College Continues Seeking Public Feedback on all Aspects of Arena Including Design, Architecture, Parking, and Traffic**

Colorado College has invited the community to engage in a public process to shape planning and design of Robson Arena, a new home for the CC Tigers Division 1 hockey team, and club and intramural ice sports. The arena also will include academic and co-curricular spaces and uses, as well as host national governing body and other community events related to the City for Champions initiative. The college has been seeking feedback and input on all aspects of the arena project, including design, architecture, parking, and traffic. This planning process is strategically designed to provide opportunities for changes and further refinements early in the planning process prior to the development of final plans.

Several community meetings have already taken place as part of the public process with several hundred citizens participating in the meetings. During these meetings the public has provided extensive input, ideas, suggestions, and reactions that have helped to shape each next step of the design and plans. Following each public meeting/workshop, the project team has been responding to community input by adjusting and

adding refinements to the plans. This has been an iterative process and will continue to be, assuring the final design and plans reflect as much community input as possible.

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Construction of the Robson Arena is expected to begin with groundbreaking in late 2019 and the arena has a projected opening date of 2021. Activities on the site in 2019 include demolition, utility relocations, and other activities necessary to prepare the site for construction.

As part of the City for Champions (C4C) initiative, the new Robson Arena is one of two Colorado Springs downtown sports venues in close proximity to the U.S. Olympic Museum — one outdoor and one indoor — with technological features coveted by competitive athletes. The two sports venues further solidify the city's vision as Olympic City USA, providing unique venues to host the growing momentum of a strong and vibrant tourism industry. The Colorado College campus arena, named for Edward J. Robson, a 1954 CC graduate and former member of the hockey team, is the multi-purpose indoor, on-campus competition arena. The outdoor stadium, in collaboration with the Switchbacks, the Colorado Springs professional soccer team and a member of the United Soccer League, is proposed for the south end of downtown Colorado Springs.

Funding for Robson Arena comes from a lead gift by Edward J. Robson and other private donations, totaling nearly \$21 million to date, and through the C4C initiative awarded to the city through the state's Regional Tourism Act. For additional information, visit <http://www.coloradocollege.edu/robsonarena>

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