

Aria Denver

Denver, Colorado, U.S.



Photo courtesy of Aria Denver

Size:

25 acres

Dates:

2009 – 2013

Project Team:




Architects: Michelle Kaufmann, OZ

Architects; Developers: Urban

Ventures, Perry Rose

Aria Denver is a residential development with retail and office space. The project will have a diversity of housing types. Part of Aria is the redevelopment of a convent. Its goal is to become a model for socially, environmentally and economically conscious design, and to create a community that appeals to all generations.

Goals & Strategies

 Place	
Food	Goals: Promote healthy lifestyle. Strategies: Community gardens, greenhouses, farm stands, community meals.
Habitat	Goals: Low-intensity landscaping. Strategies: Drought-tolerant landscaping. Permaculture landscaping. Tree-lined streets.
Transportation	Goals: Promote wellness through a walkable development. Strategies: Light rail station, metro transit bus system connecting to Denver (2.5 miles away). Bicycle infrastructure. Walkable neighborhood, walking paths with distance signage to destinations.
 Water	
Water	Goals: Water conservation. Strategies: Some rainwater capture. Rainwater storage constructed.
 Energy	

Energy	Goals: Energy efficiency. Strategies: ENERGY STAR appliances required. Passive solar strategies, LEED certification for homes, new construction, and neighborhood development.
+ Health + Happiness (Details not provided by researchers)	
Materials	
Embodied Energy & Carbon	Goals: Prefabrication used to reduce waste and increase performance. Strategies: Some material salvaged from demolition waste. Recycled and recyclable products used in construction. Locally-sourced, low-maintenance, durable products. Prefabrication. 3 rd -party certification for carpets.
Waste	Goals: Goals not defined. Strategies: Standard practices.
Equity	
Neighborhood & Access	Goals: Diversity of living options. Strategies: Public access to streets. Human-scaled design. Low-VOC paint. Specified nontoxic materials.
Access to Community Services	Goals: Goals not defined. Strategies: Job training. Brochures on community services. Easy access to schools. Assisted living facilities. Access to health center and services. Healthy lifestyle education available.
Beauty	(Details not provided by researchers)

> See next page for Performance Levels achieved

Performance Levels Achieved:

	Standard	Good	Better	Living	Regenerative
Place					
Limits to Growth					
Food					
Habitat					
Transportation					
Water					
Energy					
Health + Happiness					
Civilized Environment					
Neighborhood Design					
Biophilia					
Resilient Connections					
Materials					
Material Plan					
Embodied Energy & Carbon					
Waste					
Equity					
Neighborhood & Access					
Access to Nature					
Access to Community Services					
Investment					
Beauty					
Beauty & Spirit	Not specified				
Inspiration					

Sources:

<https://www.ariadenver.com>

<http://www.urbanventuresllc.com/development-projects/aria-denver/>

<https://www.ic.org/directory/aria-cohousing-community/>

**Note: This case study was developed using found information.*

21st Century Development is a model for the creation of regenerative communities that strives to provide a healthy environment for all people and living systems now and in a dynamic future.

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