



Pikes Peaks Summit Complex Preferred Design

What People Are Saying:

Survey responses received from the public indicate general support for the preferred design because it is minimalistic, low to the ground, simple and non-obtrusive.

Other aspects of the design the public likes include:

- Outdoor dining / seating areas protected from the wind by the building
- Restrooms separated from shopping and dining
- Concern for wildlife and the histories of the first people for whom this mountain was special/sacred.

A few comments received indicate a desire for the design to be more inspirational as opposed to minimally intrusive.

While most surveys indicate the public likes the preferred design as presented, some have indicated a desire for the following:

- More tundra restoration
- Make the building look like it is part of the natural environment. Use native stone as exterior wall material
- Tilt glass to avoid reflecting sunlight onto historic sites below
- Delete the exterior lighting or reduce it so that light cannot be seen from below
- Incorporate art within the facility
- A wind shield and toilet for hiker/climber use when the main facility is closed
- Lower side windows for viewing outside from the side areas without having to go downstairs
- Additional solar panels to allow lower external electricity requirements
- More interesting design at the building entrance from the parking lot. Minimize the service road parking area in front of the lab.
- Bicycle racks
- Benches along the walking path, heated outdoor stairs to keep people safe, sufficient stalls in the women's restroom

- The full panorama of the view from this site. This building design is very directional and focused on a single view; the low profile emphasizes the parking lot
- Recognize and honor the first people; importance of the Tabeguache (Northern Ute) people for whom this mountain is still sacred. They refer to the mountain as Tava meaning Sun Mountain. The Northern Ute still make pilgrimages to the Garden of the Gods and Sun Mountain
- Interactive science displays
- End the two viewing platforms on the left and right sides closer to the "front" window so you can see out better
- Walls on the left and right sides end at eye level, cannot see out in those directions. Ramp up those platforms, level off closer to the front window and allow views out the sides
- Include Spanish and New Mexican perspective on the Peak
- Importance of high altitude donuts
- Maintain a light visible from the city
- Add more parking; shuttles are good but do not eliminate the need for parking for those who drive to the peak
- Larger uninterrupted atrium for more people
- Reducing traffic will improve the experience and minimize environmental impact. Charge extra for autos going to the summit (\$2-\$4). Include the costs of operating the shuttle in the gateway fee
- Include a research grade observatory on the Peak which could serve as research and STEM education locally and nationwide

The public has suggested the following opportunities for enhancing the visitor experience:

- Ability to view the plains down below while sheltered from the weather
- Protected views, better interpretive experience
- Low profile structure does not diminish experience of the actual, natural summit.
- Great views, really like the way you can go on top outside or inside and both feel like it's all about the mountain
- More to see and explore
- Provides creature comforts without sacrificing the arrival experience, views are not blocked
- This design, compared to the current visitor center facility, will make me want to return and be proud to take family and friends
- Interpretive information and great viewing from inside the building
- Increased scenic viewing, environmental enhancements, historic information
- Photography, plain air painting groups, travelers from all over to see the span of the views without having to deal with the weather
- The ability to explore the entire peak area, which is currently not very desirable
- Lots of new technology, interactive educational and historical opportunities
- Multiple overlooks to disperse large numbers of people, walking path, educational section about the history of Pikes Peak and displays along the path.
- A newer rendition of the Pikes Peak mountain sign outside the current building

incorporated somewhere for continued photo opportunities showing the altitude, date, time and temperature; and perhaps a similar sign indoors, too, for photo opportunities during inclement weather

- Indoor and outdoor views, clear walkways, up to date interpretive opportunities
- Good sheltered viewing
- Associated interpretive displays reflecting the significant history of scientific research from the Peak, relating to astronomy, astrophysics, weather and climate
- Great improvements to views and addition of exhibits and clear outdoor trails are awesome
- Need to acknowledge the full 360 panorama atop the peak

Other public input for the design team includes:

- Use native site materials as wall surfaces so that buildings appear to be "rising" from the ground; avoid making an architectural statement with this facility
- Great job moving from the four extreme design concepts, collecting and interpreting the comments, and coming up with a preferred solution that exceeds my expectations!
- Thank you for not designing another "national park" lodge of stone and logs with grand fireplace. Your design is specific to Pikes Peak! Thank you
- An inexpensive shuttle to the summit, with bicycles permitted more freely
- Execute within budget -- avoid cost over runs
- Thank you for keeping the design at peace with the mountaintop
- A clear message to visitors that the mountain is a place of traditional cultural importance to numerous Native American tribes, particularly the Utes. It's not an amusement park and the summit needs to be treated with respect.
- Include sheltered picnic tables (or alternatives) for the hikers who bring their meals
- Regular construction updates on the Pikes Peak website and places where locals and visitors will be kept informed
- Don't ignore the views all around. It gets cold and windy up there and it would be nice to see all vistas from inside the building, vs. just the view to the east
- Interactive science displays (not dioramas or museum displays) such as the boiling point of water, barometric experiments with different gasses, UV measurements, how long it takes to boil eggs, etcetera would give people, especially younger people, something to do.
- How would a shuttle service handle the other viewpoints to the summit such as Devil's Playground and Elk Park?
- Would like to see more information regarding pedestrian and traffic flow