

# BLUR | WORK SHOP

**DATE:** February 2, 2023

**TO:** City of Aurora Staff

**REGARDING:** Gaylord Rockies Event Pavilion

**SUBJECT:** Gaylord Rockies Contextual Site Plan Amendment

To whom it may concern,

The Gaylord Rockies Hotel and Convention Center is looking to enhance the guest experience by providing a new event space and supporting amenities on the property. The new event space and site enhancements aim to provide a unique meeting space and event venue unlike any others offered at the property or in the region. Taking advantage of the view corridors to the rocky mountain range and an ability to allow guests to move between the interior and exterior environments, this new event space will transform an underutilized portion of the existing facility into a true amenity for the property. The Gaylord Rockies Event Pavilion includes a rentable event space(s), landscape enhancements, hardscape enhancements, and other architectural improvements to the existing property in the following ways:

The new event pavilion will feature roughly 19,000 square feet of interior conditioned space, including a rentable indoor event space, and an associated pre-function area as a supporting accessory to this space, where access to new restrooms, public circulation, and back-of-house will be located. In addition, the new pavilion and its corresponding sitework will feature roughly 4,900 square feet of outdoor covered area, roughly 12,000 square feet of new sitework and roughly 43,000 square feet of new landscaping. The event space will feature a large indoor fireplace, exposed timber structure, and glazed façade to feature views out to the surrounding landscape. The primary public circulation to this event space will feature a new stair and elevator to connect to an elevated concourse that will tie into the primary existing public thoroughfare in the lobby, restaurant, and retail spaces of the existing hotel. The event space will be served by a new back-of-house area that will provide meal services to patrons of the event space(s). Hardscaped patios will border the event space on the north, west, and south sides. The northern patio is covered by a wood porch, and features outdoor fireplace chimneys, soft seating areas, and access to the existing hotel lawns as well as to the new lawns provided by the new enhancements to the surrounding landscape.

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Enhancements to the surrounding landscape will include a robust hardscape and planting plan to greatly enhance the existing conditions of the hotel. The new plan will provide several additional exterior lawns for the property to be used as event spaces and as flexible outdoor areas to support the new event pavilion. The west event lawn will be roughly 5,500 square feet, the larger north event lawn will be roughly 6,900 square feet, and the smaller north event lawn will be roughly 1,700 square feet. The new landscaping will provide a variety of exterior stepped terraces that will create new outdoor gathering spaces, with new stairs and sloped sidewalks to gently navigate changes in grade. New deciduous and coniferous trees will enrich the site's landscape, featuring several large specimen trees and other plants native to Colorado and the surrounding area.

Sincerely,  
BLUR Workshop, L.L.C.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Scott Sickeler". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Scott Sickeler, AIA  
Principal