

LEED Credits in Holiday

**Studio 2014
Tom Becherer**

Attained LEED Credits in Holiday

Access to Civic and Public Spaces (1 pt.)

Holiday has a large central green space on the western end of the neighborhood. All the residences that surround the green vary in type and value. At first glance it is hard to tell which of the homes are considered affordable, and some homes are duplexes, some are single family, some town homes and towards the northern end of the green are four multi-unit apartment complexes. The green itself is bordered by a road and the homes are almost against the sidewalk, meaning the front yards are almost non-existent. This way, residents are encouraged to use the park out front as their front yard. Every building faces the park, putting the green space on a higher tier in the hierarchy of the neighborhood.

The park itself is inviting to all groups in Holiday. It is open to those who have dogs, children, and is inviting to all ages. There is a small playground with structures that encourage creative play. On the eastern side of the park, there are sculptures that represent large film reels, symbolic of Holiday's past as a drive-in movie theater. During the summer on scheduled nights, the park hosts outdoor movies appropriate for all ages, also alluding to the area's past.

Community Outreach Involvement (2 pts.)

Holiday's design includes an aspect of community involvement. One component to that, are the summer movies that take place on the park. Here on scheduled nights during the summer, the park hosts outdoor movies that are appropriate to all ages. Residents and friends are welcome to set up chairs, blankets and picnic on the green and enjoy a family movie. This is also much more than just a community activity, but is becoming a tradition that pays homage to Holiday's past as a drive in, outdoor movie theater.

Another component that helps Holiday have a strong community is its co-housing sub-communities. Within the whole of Holiday, there are a couple co-housing communities that are intended for an older demographic. They consist of smaller homes that all face inward to a small courtyard with parking off to the side. This small layout creates a safe environment both for the people that live there, and for grandchildren that come to visit. These co-housing communities also have a structured schedule that is intended to keep the residents organized. There is a central building in the courtyard that serves as a dining room and place to entertain guests. Here, the schedule is implemented as each resident is to cook a meal for the entire co-housing community where they all eat together in the central dining room and there is a schedule for cleaning up after the meal as well.

The last main component to creating a strong community, is Holiday's live-work concept. Here, the homes also have the capability to serve on the lower level as a small office or studio and have the ability to have employees working there, without officially working at home. This not only creates jobs for some who live in Holiday but can potentially reach out to the greater community as some might have clients from outside the neighborhood.

Compact Development (6 pts.)

Holiday can pride itself on being a close-knit community. There are little to no private yards, encouraging the residences to use the public spaces where users have a much higher chance of interacting with others and potentially creating relationships between one another. Almost all the parking is on the street, tucked away in small shared garages or underneath the homes. This way, there are no driveways for each home, thus bringing each building physically closer together. Privacy might go down slightly yes, but the idea of holiday was to create a strong community where people are encouraged to engage with one another. There are also some areas such as the Live-Work and the co-housing communities that are pedestrian only. The buildings are tucked away in areas to create layouts like small European cities. They create tight paved outdoor rooms that further encourage residents and workers to engage which increases the potential for relationships, and eventually increasing the chances for a stronger community.

Unattainable LEED Credits in Holiday

Preferred Location

This credit is debatable considering the city of Boulder and its relation to the surrounding areas. Holiday has access to main roads that go to highway 36 with access to Denver, but the intent of Holiday was to be a place for government workers in the city of Boulder. With that being said, Holiday sits at the northern most part of the city, far from downtown and the attractions of Boulder.

Reduced Parking Footprint

Most of the parking for Holiday is on the street with little off-street parking.

Transit Facilities

There are no transit facilities in the area, there are bus stops but Table Mesa and downtown are the main transit facilities for the city of Boulder.

Local Food Production

Holiday has small gardens for those who live in the neighborhood but no local food infrastructure to supply the entire community.

Existing Building Reuse

Before the neighborhood was built there were no existing buildings as Holiday was 27 acres and used as a drive-in outdoor movie theater.

Access to Civic and Public Spaces

The central park on the western end of the neighborhood is easily accessible by most. In the park is both a large green space where the summer movies are held and also a playground.



Community Outreach Involvement

1. Park for all residents of Holiday
2. Live-Work community
3. Co-housing development



Compact Development

Buildings are close together increasing the chance of interaction between the residents. This does reduce privacy but a goal of Holiday was to create a strong community and to do so, there needs to be a high potential for people to meet randomly.

