



Building for the Generations, by Kathleen McCormick

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“People want a different kind of community,” says Chris Achenbach, principal of Zocalo Community Development in Denver. “They don’t want to be in a single-generation resort community away from their families. There’s a trend back toward community within a more diverse urban fabric.” Zocalo’s expertise in building downtown Denver apartment projects and the firm’s market research—as well as Achenbach’s personal experience helping relocate parents and grandparents to the Denver region—have informed the design and amenities for the Grove, the firm’s first age-qualified apartments for people 55 or older.

Now under construction at Stapleton, the mixed-use redevelopment of Denver’s former airport site, the Grove is designed around “the active Colorado lifestyle and community-building opportunities,” says Achenbach. Inside, these opportunities include plans for a central great room, a classroom, a movie theater, a yoga/fitness center, and a community kitchen and pub. Outside amenities intended to encourage residents to be active and social include a pool and spa, a dog park, community gardens with raised beds, and a grove of fruit trees. A “garden house,” featuring a workshop, potting shed, and special bike-repair room equipped with an air compressor, bike stands, a workbench, and tools

Read more at <http://urbanland.uli.org/development-business/building-generations/>