

Denver, Colo., July 17, 1912

Board of Park Commissioners  
Denver, Colorado.

Gentlemen:-

In pursuance of your instructions, I submit the following memorandum in regard to the matters brought to my attention during my present visit to Denver:-

MOUNTAIN PARK PROJECT

I need not enlarge upon my keen appreciation of the importance and value of the project as a whole, but will at once offer certain suggestions as to procedure.

Withdrawal of Public Lands.

The first line of work to take up is to follow up the action of the previous unofficial committee in approaching the State and federal authorities with a view to safeguarding temporarily all the existing State and federal lands in and near the region from alienation and from any encumbrance or injury that might be likely to embarrass the most perfect and complete realization of the project. I suppose this means, first, getting into personal touch with the proper State officials, and, second, with the local representatives of the Department of the Interior, to whom the authorities in Washington will undoubtedly refer back any questions for report, and without whose lively and friendly interest prompt action by the Government will be difficult to secure. But it means also, of course, following the matter

2 Park Com'rs. - 7/17/12

through the Departmental channels at Washington and securing (if it has not already been done) the temporary withdrawal from entry of all the Government land in question. In this connection, also, it is desirable to get in touch with the local and the Washington officials of the Forest Service, so as to get from them and from the Department of the Interior a clear understanding of the situation in respect to present and prospective Forest Reserves, National Parks and National Monuments within a considerable radius about Denver. It would be well also, in this connection, at the proper time, to see that the Colorado congressional delegation and other influential people accessible to you are properly posted in regard to the excellent bill now before Congress, with the backing of the Administration and the support of the American Civic Association, for the organization of a Bureau of National Parks in the Department of the Interior, intended to provide proper administrative machinery in place of the present chaotic condition under which the National Parks are administered.