

While the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) was planning for the transportation improvements along US 24, it quickly became apparent that the many systems at work along the corridor provided an incredible opportunity for a dynamic community amenity.

In addition to the roads, the corridor intertwines trails, Fountain Creek, shopping, neighborhoods, parks and open space — all of which need to remain connected for the corridor to meet its objectives. The multi-faceted plan includes trails, natural water quality treatments, trees, fountains, places to play and areas to discover. Plus, the Greenway will also serve as an important watershed feature, designed to carry a 100-year flood and help protect surrounding homes and businesses.



Historically, Fountain Creek has been the east/west corridor connecting the plains and the mountains in the Pikes Peak region. The Greenway will be a focal point and an asset of Colorado Springs' Westside. This will create gateways to the mountains, neighborhoods. By connecting the metropolitan area, and the Greenway will also focus on Fountain Creek itself, and provide a safe and fun environment for both residents and visitors. Improving Fountain Creek will enhance the area for residents, business owners and visitors.

Another opportunity is partnering with the Fountain Creek Foundation, an organization that was formed to champion improvements along the creek between Colorado Springs and Pueblo. This stretch of Fountain Creek west from I-25 to Manitou Springs is an important part of the overall watershed and could be an integral part of the Foundation's overall scope.

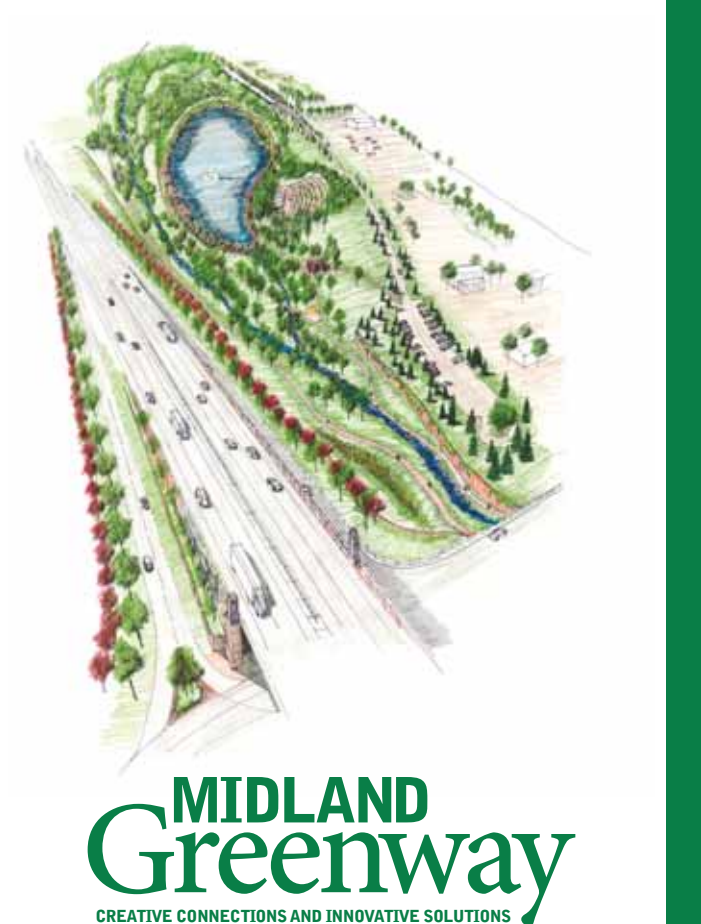
While CDOT's US 24 improvements will play a significant role in the Greenway, the key is finding a group to lead the Midland Greenway efforts and pursue these opportunities and partnerships, ensuring that the plans that have been set forth can be brought to life.



Additionally, the Greenway can optimize resources such as local, state and federal dollars by combining different goals and resources. Construction of elements using a variety of funds and accomplishing different goals can be done concurrently, which opens up the possibility of bringing a wide variety of partners into the project.

For example, the first project along the corridor includes improvements to Fountain Creek at Gold Hill Mesa. The City of Colorado Springs Stormwater Enterprise, Gold Hill Mesa and CDOT partnered on this project, working to improve water quality, improve the floodplain and increase vegetation along this stretch of the creek.

MULTIPLE USERS



UNIQUE OBJECTIVES

THE GREENWAY WILL BE...

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

The Greenway will have active and passive uses. It will be a gathering place for many types and sizes of groups and it will include elements such as paths, trails, parks, recreational opportunities, interpretive opportunities and business opportunities.

A NATURAL PLACE

The Greenway will fit the area and blend in with its surroundings. Its appearance will change with the seasons, and vary along its course. The natural design will make sustainability the first goal and will facilitate its role in improving water quality and managing the floodplain.

A GATEWAY

The Greenway will help to aesthetically define the Westside, as well as announce a gateway to the community and to the mountains. It will convey to travelers on US 24 that this is a place, and not just a passageway.

A DESTINATION

The Greenway will be a regional destination, hosting events and encouraging people to stop. It will be a stopping place along local and regional trails and will encourage development of compatible adjacent businesses.

A CONNECTOR

The Greenway will provide connections to existing business districts, local attractions and to the Westside's parks and open spaces. Key elements to be connected on the Westside include Garden of the Gods, Old Colorado City, Manitou Springs, Red Rocks Open Space and the Midland Trail. It will also bind together local and regional trails.

ABOUT THE COMMUNITY

From the history of the area to its present day mixed use, the Greenway will tell the story of the Westside. The planning, management and maintenance of the Greenway will be a community success and a template for other projects within the Pikes Peak area. A true community partnership.



FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE PLANS FOR THE MIDLAND GREENWAY, VISIT WWW.US24WEST.COM AND CLICK ON THE MIDLAND GREENWAY IN THE RIGHT HAND MENU BAR.

OPPORTUNITIES TO GET IT DONE

CONNECTING A COMMUNITY



The Midland Greenway is a vital link in the trails and park system that runs throughout the Pikes Peak Region, offering connections to some of the most spectacular routes and scenery the area has to offer.

- To the east it connects with America the Beautiful Park and the Pikes Peak Greenway, which runs north to the New Santa Fe Trail through the Air Force Academy, or south to Fountain Creek Regional Park in Fountain
- To the west it joins the Ute Pass Trail that goes on to Woodland Park and beyond, or into the foothills where it ties into Barr Trail, climbing all the way to the top of Pikes Peak
- Street connections to the south link the Midland Greenway with Bear Creek Park
- Red Rock Canyon allows hikers and bicyclists access to Section 16 and the trails that lead to North Cheyenne Cañon Park



Potential Park and Ride Site



Existing Park



Old Colorado City Gateway Relocated Miner's Statue at 26th Ave

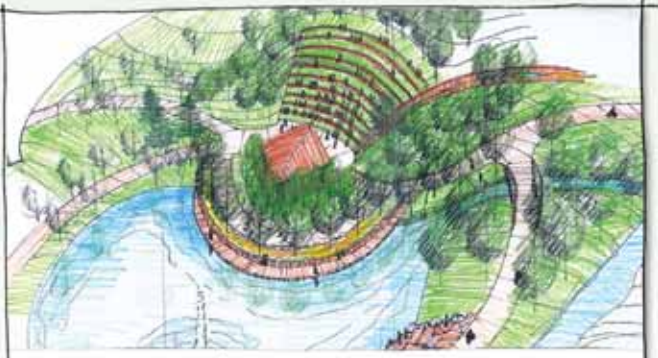


Pedestrian Bridge

Connections to Old Colorado City

Existing Park

MIDLAND Greenway
CREATIVE CONNECTIONS AND INNOVATIVE SOLUTIONS



Community Gathering



Habitat and Water Quality



Access to the Creek



Partial Urban Section



Midland Greenway Planning Organizations

The Midland Greenway Plan was developed through the expertise and participation of several organizations:

- ✘ Colorado Department of Transportation
- ✘ City of Colorado Springs
- ✘ City of Manitou Springs
- ✘ El Paso County
- ✘ Trails and Open Space Coalition
- ✘ Gold Hill Mesa
- ✘ Organization of Westside Neighbors
- ✘ Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments
- ✘ Friends of Red Rock Canyon

For more information about the Midland Greenway, visit www.us24west.com and click on "Midland Greenway"



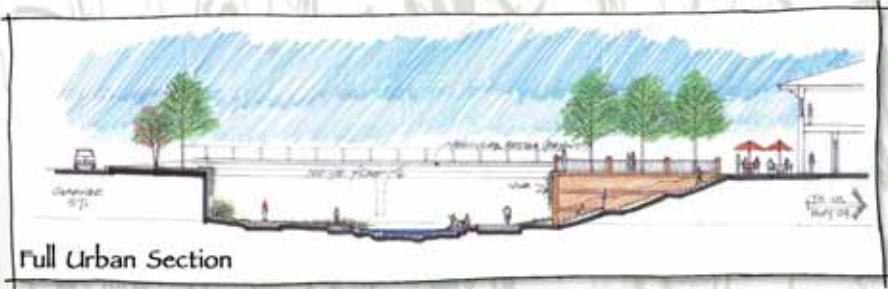
Access to Westside History



Retaining Wall and Pedestrian Trail



Recreation



Full Urban Section

America the Beautiful Park