

Draft Purpose and Need Framework

Purpose

To enhance local and regional mobility and improve safety along the corridor. This will be accomplished by accommodating multiple users in a manner sensitive to the corridor's residents and its context.

Need

The project addresses local and regional issues described below.

Mobility and Accessibility

- US 24 is a barrier to north/south movement within the corridor.
- Intersections and traffic congestion delay regional and local trips.

Safety

- Accident rates between 8th Street and I-25 are the highest in the corridor.
- Traffic and pedestrian movements conflict at Ridge Road.
- Few pedestrian crossings exist between 31st and 21st Streets.

Corridor Context

- The corridor is used by vehicle passengers, pedestrians, and bicyclists.
- The corridor is used by commuters moving through without stopping, residents making local trips, tourists and recreational travelers.
- The corridor is a gateway to Manitou Springs and Colorado Springs, and a gateway to the mountains.
- The corridor is home to businesses and residents, who value its character and aesthetics.