

Draft Purpose and Need Framework

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 safe 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.

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.