

Design Details and Challenges

Having worked through design challenges, the WAAP project team anticipates achieving 90 percent design completion by Feb. 2016. The ability to determine precise funding requirements for construction was important for the design phase to move forward. Below are some of the design details and challenges:

- Extensiveness of utility undergrounding, realignment of utility storm sewers and electric lines, as well as necessary utility upgrades (approximately six miles of utility work has been determined to be needed)
- Age of some of the utility and storm drainage infrastructure requires upgrading
- Numerous utility connections to private properties resulting from undergrounding work
- Rights-of-way alignment impacts
- Americans with Disability Act improvements
- Fountain Creek relocation necessary to construct a new, more efficient bridge at Colorado Avenue and Columbia Road, replacing the original bridge built in 1934. Renamed by the public to Adams Crossing Bridge, the structure needs replacing along with creek upgrades and stormwater and drainage improvements

"Utility undergrounding and service line replacement remains the biggest challenge the project team still has to work out with Colorado Springs Utilities," said Andre Brackin, El Paso County Engineer. "Once we have finalized plans related to utilities, we'll know where we stand with the project budget and will be able to solidify for the public the construction phasing schedule."