TREMENDOUS PROGRESS FOR THE CANAL

Through strong leadership and collaboration, the local communities along the Canal have made significant investments to enhance our High Line Canal.

This year marked the culmination of some of the most significant enhancement projects on the Canal to date. One of the largest scale projects, the Colorado and Hampden underpasses, has been in development since 2014, the same year the Conservancy formed.

Since that time, the local governments along the Canal have invested over $32 million in improvement projects closing trail gaps, creating safer street crossings, improving access, and enhancing the natural environment up and down the 71-mile corridor.

This progress over the last eight years has created incredible momentum to help the Canal reach its full potential as a recreational and ecological resource. But we’re just getting started! Through the Canal Collaborative, these local government partners and the Conservancy are working together to implement The Plan for the High Line Canal, with another $42 million in projects in the works for the next five years.

SUMMARY OF IMPROVEMENTS

**ACCESS**
- $3.3M
- Three trailheads and nine new pedestrian bridges have connected users to the trail and improved accessibility.

**CONNECTIVITY**
- $21.1M
- Four underpasses, an overpass and five at-grade crossing upgrades are improving safety and connectivity for trail users.

**LANDSCAPE ENHANCEMENT**
- $2.4M
- Six stormwater projects, Canal-wide tree canopy care, and new tree planting pilots have improved the environmental health of the Canal and resiliency of adjacent neighborhoods.

**TRAIL GAPS CONNECTED**
- $2M
- Newly constructed segments of trail have closed two of the Canal’s final five trail gaps, allowing users to explore more of the 71-mile corridor.

**AMENITIES**
- $3.5M
- Two new restrooms serving trail users and a brand new park along the Canal have improved the trail user experience.

Photo credit: Evan Anderman
TRANSFORMING THE CANAL WITH STORMWATER

The Canal’s transition to green stormwater infrastructure is resulting in a cleaner, healthier, and more vibrant corridor providing benefits to the environment and communities of our region.

Two additional stormwater projects came online in 2021, one in Douglas County and one in Centennial (managed by the Southeast Metro Stormwater Authority). This brings the total number of active projects to six, representing nearly 12 miles of the Canal.

This year we celebrated the installation of the Canal’s first water quality berms, implemented as a part of the City and County of Denver’s innovative stormwater project along Eisenhower Park and Welshire Golf Course. The berms, shown right before and after a storm, will retain stormwater that flows in the Canal, improving water quality by increasing stormwater filtration and infiltration.

The Plan for the High Line Canal recommends installing similar water quality berms about every half-mile in the Canal in sections repurposed for stormwater management.

MEDIA HIGHLIGHT: STORMWATER MAGAZINE

A new Life for Denver’s Historic Irrigation Ditch

May 15, 2021

“With a hidden treasure in every sector, this is a not-to-be-missed adventure in the heart of Denver. Thank you to the High Line Canal Conservancy for nurturing this jewel for posterity.”

Athanassios Yannoukos, Walk FOR the Canal Participant

“Water quality berm near Eisenhower Park”

Photo credit: Evan Anderman

“Water quality berm after a storm”

Photo credit: Jeev Ranarama
CANAL PROJECTS AT A GLANCE
ACTIVE AND COMPLETED PROJECTS SINCE 2014

For more information about current and upcoming projects, visit highlinecanal.org/trail-updates.

71 mile markers installed
34 wayfinding signs installed
250 trees planted

SEMSWA = SOUTHEAST METRO STORMWATER AUTHORITY
SSPRD = SOUTH SUBURBAN PARK AND RECREATION DISTRICT

CANAL-WIDE IMPLEMENTATION PROJECTS

Denver International Airport

Eisenhower Stormwater Project
City & County of Denver
Completed in 2021

Centennial Stormwater Project
Douglas County
Initiated in 2021

S. Holly Street Bridge
City & County of Denver
Completed in 2021

Parker & Mississippi Underpass
City & County of Denver, Arapahoe County
Under construction

Valencia Crossing Enhancement
City & County of Denver
Completed in 2021

Conservancy Tree Planting Pilots
Littleton, Centennial, Denver
Completed in 2021

Douglas County Stormwater Project
Douglas County
Initiated in 2021

George Underpass
Greenwood Village
Completed in 2021

Belleview Trailhead
Greenwood Village
Completed in 2021

Hampden Underpass Connection
Cherry Hills Village
Completed in 2021

Colorado & Hampden Underpasses
City & County of Denver, Arapahoe County, Cherry Hills Village
Completed in 2021

Conservancy Tree Planting Pilots
Littleton, Centennial, Denver
Completed in 2021

Denver International Airport

Photo credit: Evan Anderman

Waterton Canyon

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