



Founders Park looking north from Iron Ave.

Public Open House

Thursday, November 15, 2018

Open House from 5–7 p.m.

Presentation at 5:30 p.m.

Tony's Pizza Event Center
The Heritage Hall

800 The Midway
Salina, KS 67401

For More Info...

Please contact:

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All project information can be found at: www.salina-ks.gov/riverrenewal



Project Background

The Old Smoky Hill Channel winds 6.8 miles through the City of Salina and was isolated in the 1960s by construction of a flood control levee and bypass channel. The original river alignment (old river channel) has no sustained flow of water and has accumulated sediment and urban debris. The old channel continues to receive stormwater flows from approximately 75 storm sewer outfalls.

The City, with the help of HDR, worked together to refine design elements in an updated Smoky Hill River Renewal Master Plan and develop engineering plans that will make a long-held vision of rejuvenating the riverfront a reality for the community. The City has secured funding for the first phase of construction, and has already begun to identify and secure funding for future phases.

Refined Master Plan Design Goals

The Smoky Hill River Renewal project design concept reflects a wealth of public input and will rejuvenate the riverfront by getting water flowing again and restoring the natural ecosystem. This project will:

- Improve water quality
- Mitigate current algae and odor problems
- Create a community amenity that drives the revitalization of the river, downtown and adjacent neighborhoods
- Feature a cohesive aesthetic theme

Public Engagement

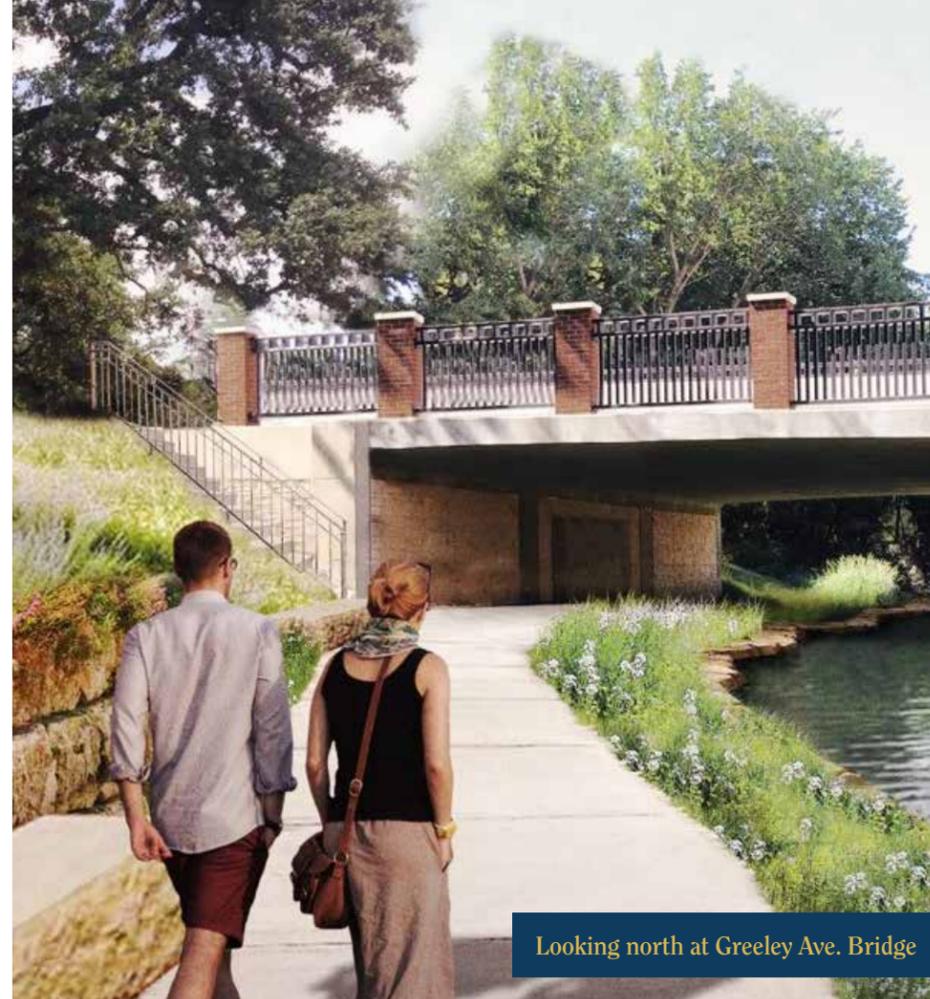
Feedback at key milestones throughout the project has been a critical component of refining the Smoky Hill River Renewal Master Plan and has helped transition the master plan from where it was in 2010 to reflect the general consensus of where the community is today. Based on public feedback, key refinements included:

- **Eliminating the second dam along the East Gateway** – the steering committee felt that adding a lock and dam at this location was not the best use of limited construction funds in this area
- Allowing **canoes and kayaks access to the entire stretch of the river** from South Ohio to Lakewood Park
- **Tabling water taxis** – a survey of the public showed that water taxis were one of the lowest desired features for immediate implementation
- Emphasizing the downtown stretch of the river to leverage nearby investments and revitalization efforts including the Downtown Streetscape, Salina Fieldhouse and other amenities. **Connecting downtown with the river** was identified as a high priority

Amenities & Aesthetics

The first phase of construction primarily focuses on restoring the flow of water within the channel. Future phases include construction of many amenities that have the potential to attract visitors from the region and beyond, help drive economic growth throughout the community, and transform currently underutilized green space into a one-of-a-kind recreational complex.

A consistent aesthetic treatment will be used throughout the river corridor and will be incorporated within many amenities. The steering committee provided aesthetic direction throughout the planning process and gravitated towards a design that would be timeless. The river's downtown reaches will be more urban in character and will tie in with Santa Fe Avenue Streetscape improvements. Design will then transition to a more natural or native aesthetic away from the downtown core. Art was seen as being an important feature that will be incorporated where possible and as desired.



Looking north at Greeley Ave. Bridge



Iron Ave. Plaza looking south from Iron Ave.

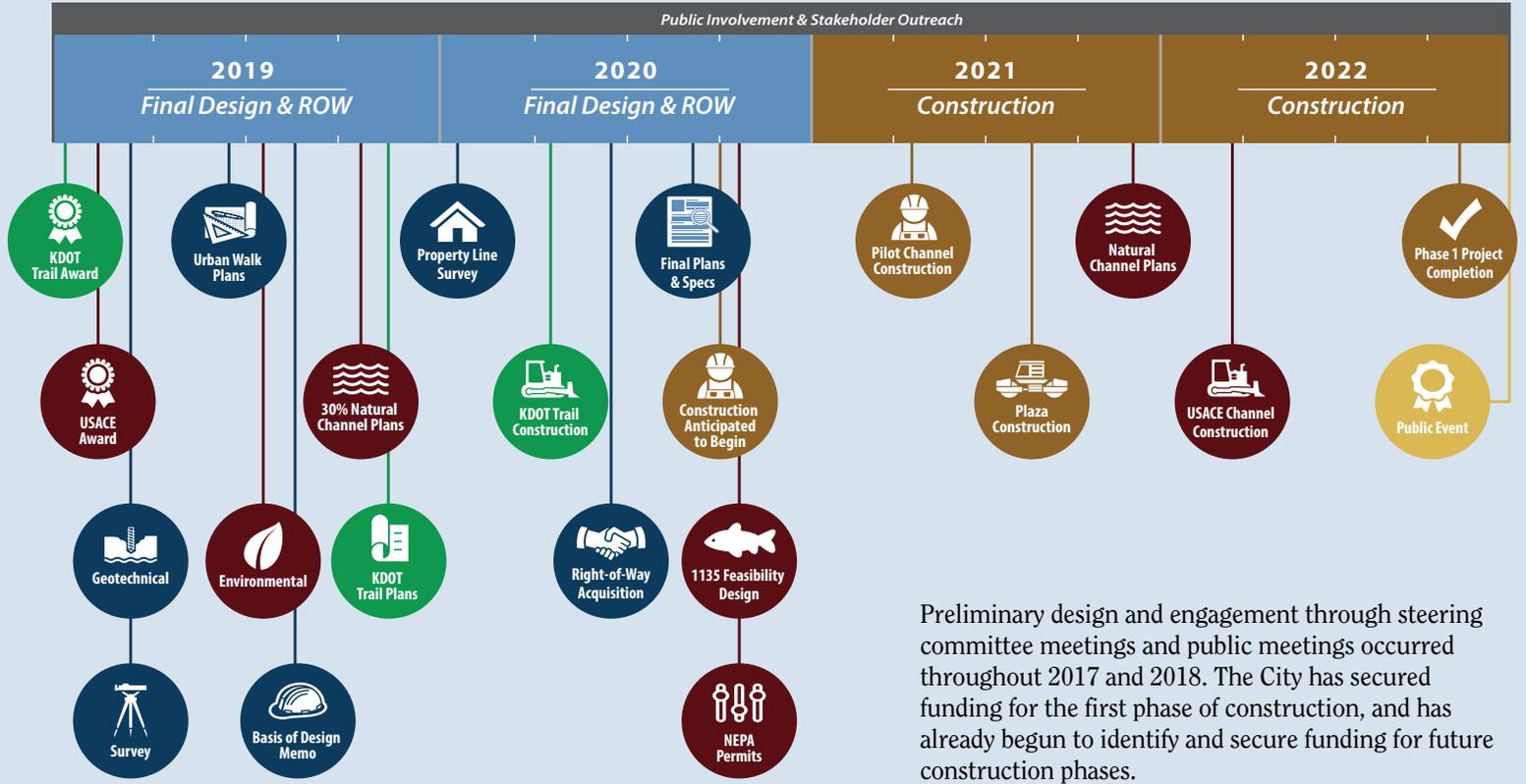
FUTURE AMENITIES

- Canoe and kayak launches
- Wilderness trail
- Maintenance and boathouse facilities
- Boardwalk
- River overlooks/beacons
- Step pools
- Canoe slides
- Shared space street
- Water features/falls
- Canoe discovery trail
- Hiking and biking trails



PROJECT SCHEDULE

Schedule is tentative and subject to change.



Preliminary design and engagement through steering committee meetings and public meetings occurred throughout 2017 and 2018. The City has secured funding for the first phase of construction, and has already begun to identify and secure funding for future construction phases.



East Gateway looking north from the Midway