



February 2021

Great Hall Project Strives for Completion of Phase 1 by the End of 2021

The Great Hall Project continues to make significant progress behind the construction walls and remains on schedule to complete Phase I by the end of 2021.

The biggest improvements in Phase 1 are the new Level 6 ticketing pods on both the east and west sides of Jeppesen Terminal. By redesigning and consolidating the ticket counters, we create the space needed on the north end of Level 6 for the new security checkpoint.

What used to be long, linear check-in counters are being transformed into dynamic check-in areas for both Southwest Airlines and United Airlines. The new ticketing pods are being tied into mechanical and electrical systems and completely enclosed with drywall. Also, 86 self-bag drop stations, which will be a part of the new, innovative check-in process, are currently being installed, as well as new quartz tile flooring.

Passengers may have noticed that construction walls have been extended in the Level 5 arrivals area. These walls are protecting the public from construction happening on Level 6 above.

New, sleek “wood paneling” ceilings are also being installed on the overhang from Level 6. The new ceilings will provide a warm and polished look for passengers in the terminal. Passengers can also look forward to revamped restrooms in the arrivals area.



Do you remember those cranes on Level 6 last summer and fall? Great Hall Project crews were working to replace the exterior walls as part of the Level 6 expansion. The expansion of Levels 5 and 6 increases square footage of the terminal and adds four new restrooms. There will also be room in the expansion for the addition of escalators in the future. DEN continues to work on those new exterior walls to ensure that they are weather-tight with some finishing touches including new glass.

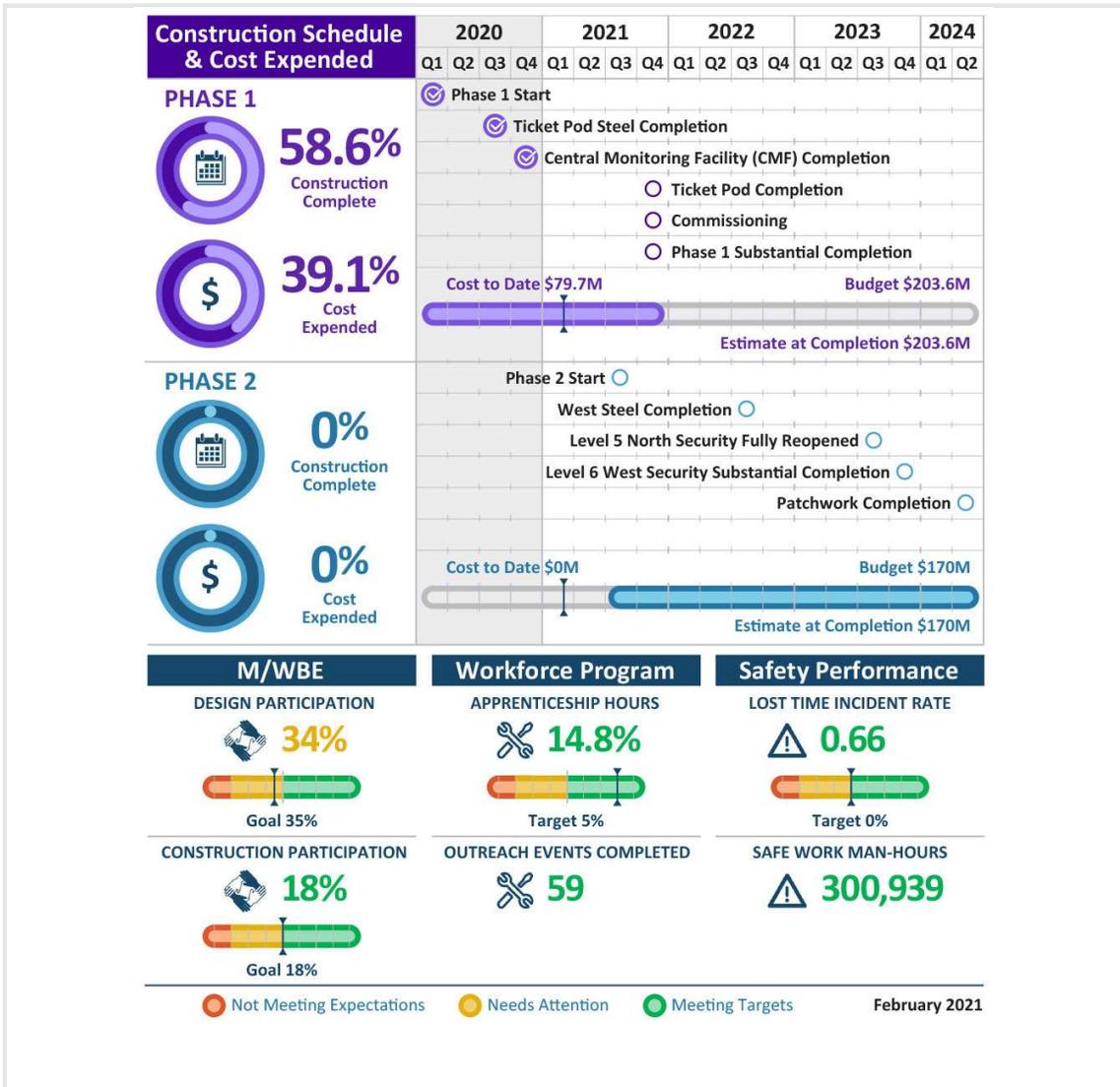
Improvements have begun on the Level 4 arrivals side (where you exit the trains at the terminal) as the ceiling work continues. Construction walls are placed around the escalators on platforms at different times to protect passengers while allowing crews to complete work on the ceiling above each escalator. Project personnel are available to direct passengers around the construction work area.

Later this year, the construction walls on Level 5 in the arrivals area will be “flipped” to direct passengers to the north toward baggage claim and ground transportation. This will mark a major step for the project as it will allow DEN to complete the replacement of flooring and new finishes in the Level 5 arrivals area on the south end of the center of the terminal. It also means passengers will be welcomed by the new, completed areas within the Great Hall space on Level 5 north.

The next phase of work is scheduled to begin this summer. More details on that to come.

You will be able to follow the progress of Phase 2 on the public-facing dashboard currently available on the [project page at flydenver.com](#). The dashboard will continue to track schedule, budget and Minority/Women Business Enterprise (M/WBE) participation as well as Workforce hours and project safety performance.

Keep an eye out next time you're at DEN to see all the progress that our crews are making to provide a better airport experience for the future!



Spotlight on Four Star Drywall

This month the Great Hall Project is featuring another M/WBE that has been working on the project from the beginning, Four Star Drywall. We spoke with the owner, Ricardo Ruvalcaba about his experience on the project and how his company got to where they are today.

Ricardo and his brothers started their company 21 years ago with small projects. But that all changed when they started partnering with larger contractors. It wasn't long until they hitched their wagon to contractors that brought them to DEN. Since then, Four Star Drywall has been working non-stop at the airport for over 20 years. One of their first projects was a partnership with FCI Constructors to work on a United Airlines lunchroom.



Four Star Drywall continues with airport tenant renovations and new restaurants, but they are also working on the two biggest projects at the airport: Concourse Expansion and the Great Hall.

For the Great Hall, they are working on the most visible part of the project, the new ticketing pods that will be the future home of United Airlines and Southwest Airlines, as well as the exterior expansion of the terminal.

Ricardo and his brothers now have a staff of 150 employees (40 of them are working on the Great Hall Project) and do most of their work in the Denver metro area. Four Star Drywall is certified as a Minority Business Enterprise (MBE), Small Business Enterprise (SBE), and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE).

“We started working at DEN over 20 years ago as a small minority-owned business, it was a major part of our long-term strategy for the company. We are proud of the work we have performed over the years and the relationships we have built with exceptional clients and various general contractors. Starting from a small concession build-out, we are now part of some of the major concourse expansions and the Great Hall Project. We look forward to the future at DEN as we continuously improve our abilities to execute work there and provide the best possible service and craftsmanship,” states Ruvalcaba about his experiences with DEN.