

Block 407 | Governor's Mansion Campus Master Plan

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

What is Block 407?

Block 407 encompasses the entire block the Governor's Mansion, also known as the Kearns Mansion, sits on. The block is located between G and H Streets and South Temple and First Avenue in the Lower Avenues of Salt Lake City. The campus, owned by the State of Utah, consists of the Historic Governor's Mansion, Carriage House, and Glendinning Home, all of which are located facing South Temple. In addition, the State purchased three parcels at the corner of G Street and First Avenue to support the security needs of the Governor's Mansion Block.

Why does work need to occur?

In 2022, the Utah Highway Patrol (UHP) and the Division of Facilities Construction and Management (DFCM) conducted a security review of the environments the governor inhabits across the state, but specifically at Block 407. The result of the assessment and research into security operating procedures at other governor's residences indicated significant changes needed to occur on Block 407 to ensure the safest living and working environments for this and future governors and their families. In 2022, a campus master plan codified the route to resolve deficiencies and was further updated in 2023 with a facilities master plan and programming effort.

Who will benefit from the project?

The Block 407 Master Plan is a security driven effort to decrease threats and increase safety, not only for the first family but for all state staff and visitors to the campus.

How big is this project?

The project will include planning and design for the entire block. The historic Kearns Mansion and Carriage House will continue to support the needs of the state. Many of the event functions, which have been difficult to support in the ballroom of the Mansion, will be held in the renovated Carriage House in the coming years. UHP staff will have formal offices and manage visitor control and screening out of the Glendinning Home. Former residential rental properties on G Street and First Avenue have been acquired by the State and as of January of 2025 no longer have tenants. DFCM is working closely with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to ensure broad historic preservation goals will be upheld on the project. To accomplish security goals, the three residential rental properties will be razed in early 2025. In their place, a secure exterior yard will be added to the campus, something a first family has never had access to on site. In addition, an underground parking structure and maintenance facility will be added to the campus.

What is the project(s) timeline?

The Block 407 project is now underway. Early construction efforts include abatement removal, selective demolition, and earthwork to prepare the site for upcoming phases of work. This page will be updated every 6–8 weeks to share project progress, key milestones, and information relevant to the surrounding community.

Who is managing the project?

The project is managed by the State of Utah's Division of Facilities and Construction Management (DFCM) and design is being led by CRSA, a Salt Lake City architectural firm.

How will the project impact the Lower Avenues?

The project will modify the look of Block 407, first by removing physical structures that were security risks and replacing them with facilities that will support the overall safety needs of campus visitors and the first family. The team will work closely with contractors to ensure work occurs during typical working hours and that noisy activities are scheduled to limit disruption to neighboring homes and businesses. As with any construction site, we will work diligently to plan routes for material deliveries, waste collection and staging activities on site so that do not negatively impact the neighborhood.

Will the appearance of Block 407 be significantly changed by this project?

We are working actively with the Utah State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) to ensure that the character of the neighborhood remains intact and that the historic aesthetics are preserved. While the razing of the residential buildings on the north side of the block is a significant change, these buildings pose a security risk to the First Family and others on site. Carefully designed landscapes and a historically referencing maintenance building will maintain the charm of Block 407.

Will traffic be impacted during or after construction?

We do not anticipate that there will be any impact on South Temple Street for the duration of construction. Sidewalk closures on Block 407 will occur where work is being done, and some temporary lane or street closures are possible to complete necessary utility work. Any closures will be insignificant and temporary and will be permitted through the City of Salt Lake.

Who can I contact with my questions?

We are happy to answer questions to the best of our ability. Please send an email to Sara at sara@crsa.com and CRSA's architectural team will respond as quickly as we are able.