

# Iconic 'Kress' building in downtown El Paso part of 'big puzzle,' Foster says

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El Paso billionaire Paul Foster

Credit: KFSM14



EL PASO, Texas (KFOX14) — El Paso billionaire Paul Foster sat down with Robert Holguin to discuss one of his latest projects in downtown El Paso.

The Kress building will open once preservation efforts are completed.

Foster who purchased the building years ago, described his plans for the iconic building.



Robert Holguin reports on iconic 'Kress' building in downtown El Paso part of 'big puzzle,' Foster says ARCHITECTURE

### RECOMMENDED: Historic downtown El Paso building to be restored by billionaire Paul Foster

"The first thing, and the biggest thing, we had to work with the city on, and it finally got approved is, we are building a tunnel under Oregon Street," Foster said.

The tunnel will connect the basements of the Plaza Hotel and the Kress.

Visitors will feel like they're walking down a hallway of the hotel.

The Kress basement will be an extension of the Plaza Hotel, Foster explained.

The first-floor of the Kress will be a food hall with the iconic soda fountain.

Foster said the fountain will look and feel like it did before.

The top-floor of the Kress will be an entertainment venue.

The space will be geared toward young adults, he said.

He teased at more attractions to come, saying the Kress is a critical piece of the puzzle.

"I don't see it as the final, but I certainly see it as an important piece of the puzzle, partly because of the history, but also because of its location.



El Paso billionaire Paul Foster

Credit: KFSM14

The Kress is located along Mills Avenue, across the street from San Jacinto Plaza and other Foster projects.

Foster completed projects involving restoration of historic buildings are Tand The Anson Mills Building.

### RECOMMENDED: Plaza Hotel Pioneer Park reopens in downtown El Paso after \$78 million renovation

Foster hinted at more developments in the future.

"We have some more things we plan to do ourselves," Foster said.



El Paso billionaire Paul Foster and Robert Hill, chief operating officer of Historic Mission Investments, on restoring historic Kress Building in downtown El Paso Credit: KFSM14