



**DENVER** - Despite the tough economy, the owners of the Pavilions shopping center are launching a \$25 million renovation.

Denver-based Gart Properties, which bought the 350,000 square-foot shopping center last July, decided to follow in the footsteps of the Sheraton Hotel to help upgrade and modernize the upper stretch of the 16th Street Mall.

Mark Sidell, President of Gart Properties was on **9NEWS 6 a.m.** to talk about the redo which begins this week. "I think the Denver Pavilions has come a long way towards really revitalizing the upper end of the mall [which was] one of the key goals," Sidell said. "One of the motivations for us is that that job has not quite been completed."

Sidell is hopeful the project will be finished by the end of October, just in time for the start of the all-important holiday shopping season.

Sidell says the good news is that none of the current restaurants, retailers or entertainment facilities will have to close for the renovation, but you can expect to see plastic tarps and other protective materials peppering the area while the makeover is completed.

The renovation will include making the center more accessible from 16th Street, transforming the entry portals and adding new flooring and landscaping. Part of the project's funds also will be used to prepare spaces for new tenants.

"One of the key goals is to attract some of the nation's best retailers, some of the 'first to market' and 'only in market' retailers," Sidell said.

A six-block-by-two-block area from 14th to 16th streets and from California Street to Broadway, known as the Tremont District, has already begun a clean up the phase in advance of the upgrade.

For more please visit: <http://www.denverpavilions.com/>

**Editor's Note:**

**9NEWS interns Jade DeGood and Nicole Thomas contributed to this article. Jade attends the University of Northern Colorado where she is majoring in journalism. Nicole is a journalism major at Metropolitan State College of Denver.**

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