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**US 36**  
EXPRESS LANES PROJECT

# XPRESS

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Flatiron Flyer service to begin Jan. 3, 2016

## RTD Debuts New Bus Rapid Transit Service Jan. 3

The Regional Transportation District (RTD) will roll out its new bus rapid transit (BRT) service Sunday, Jan. 3. Dubbed the "Flatiron Flyer," this new service will offer riders more frequent trips, improved reliability and optimal bus travel times along the 18 miles of US 36 between Denver and Boulder.

The highway has been reconstructed with new Express Lanes, which will ensure travel priority for the new buses and allow Flatiron Flyer vehicles to move at highway speeds. This will be the first BRT service in the Denver metro area and the third in Colorado. Along with more frequent and faster service, BRT also offers enhanced passenger stations with large canopies and windscreens for better weather protection at the six park-n-rides on US 36; digital information screens with bus departure times; and 59 new branded vehicles that include USB ports and 120-volt outlets for passengers to charge laptops, tablets and smartphones.

RTD fares, districtwide, will be changing Friday, Jan. 1. The BRT fares have been consolidated into [local and regional](#) classifications and are dependent on distance traveled. The [route names](#) will be also changing; instead of boarding the "B" buses, all BRT routes will begin with "FF." Ambassadors will be present at the BRT stations Dec. 15-17, 22 and 29 to let riders know of the upcoming changes. Ambassadors will also be on site Jan. 3-9 to answer questions and help riders navigate the new service.

The Flatiron Flyer will offer free rides on Monday, Jan. 4, and light refreshments and giveaways will be available at most of the stations. For more information, visit [www.rtd-denver.com/flatironflyer](http://www.rtd-denver.com/flatironflyer). The new BRT service is part of the RTD FasTracks' 2004 voter-approved plan to expand rapid transit across the Denver metro region. Check out a [video](#) describing all of the features of the bus rapid transit service. And, check out the latest information about the Flatiron Flyer.



## University of Colorado (CU) Transportation Summit

An elite group of selected University of Colorado (CU) students attended a Leadership Transportation Summit on Friday, Nov. 6. The goal of the summit was to help students identify the major leadership challenges within the transportation and logistics industry. Students visited E-470, Denver Public Works, Uber, Regional Transportation District (RTD), Boulder County and the new Diverging Diamond Interchange (DDI) at McCaslin Boulevard. At the end of the tour, the students were given a test to summarize and communicate what they learned. Here are some of their findings.

### ***What did you take away from your visit?***

"I took away from the McCaslin bridge visit that managing hundreds of people sounds very stressful and complicated."

"Surprisingly, a lot of creativity and innovation were required for the McCaslin bridge project. The McCaslin intersection and bridge are complex as they must accommodate many different groups of people. A lot of time and effort had to be put in to this project (it's no ordinary roadway!)."

"I find it so interesting that the intersection provides buses with their own off-ramp to unload passengers separate from the roadway -- that is not only innovative but also could prove to boost safety on the roads."

### ***What do you see as one of biggest challenges of construction?***

"The biggest challenge of construction seemed to be dealing with the public and keeping everyone happy during the actual construction."



CU Leadership Transportation Summit participants -Lauren Beough, Ben Cloud, Carly Smith, Nathaniel Poulter, Jacob Vendi, Dylan McNally, Eileen Klawitter and Rebecca Randolph

## Phase 2 Bikeway....Not Open Yet!

The Phase 2 bikeway (from 88th Street in Superior/Louisville to Table Mesa in Boulder) is still under construction and will not open until spring 2016. While concrete is in place in many sections and may appear to be open for cyclists, the bikeway is still a work zone and closed to the public. Barricades are in place to protect cyclists and pedestrians, and local law enforcement is now patrolling and issuing citations for use of the closed bikeway. For safety reasons, it is critical that we keep cyclists off of the future path. We appreciate your patience as we work to complete this section of the US 36 Express Lanes Phase 2 bikeway. The Phase 1 bikeway is open for patrons from Turnpike Drive in Westminster to the 88th Street bridge in Louisville.



Phase 2 bikeway construction

## Phase 2 Construction Wrapping Up!

Phase 2 construction continues to progress with substantial completion scheduled by the end of this year. Once the remaining paving is complete, final signage and lighting will be installed. Upon completion of US 36 Phase 2, toll testing will begin in some areas later this month. As the toll lane systems are tested in December, there will be periodic times when there are three lanes of travel open on eastbound US 36 east of South Boulder Creek bridge to the West Flatiron off-ramp. During the testing phase, motorists will be allowed to use the Express Lanes free of charge with no tolls being charged in the testing areas. Tolls will resume at the West Flatiron toll point as indicated by overhead signage. Regular tolling rates will apply in the Phase 1 Express Lanes (between Federal Boulevard to 88th Street in Louisville/Superior). Work on some finish items including landscaping, final signage and the Phase 2 bikeway will continue through spring 2016.



Phase 2 eastbound view at McCaslin