

CHOOSE YOUR MOVE



**US 36**  
EXPRESS LANES PROJECT

# XPRESS

October 2012

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Ames/Granite demolition crew at US 36 bridge over Lowell Boulevard

## Bridge Work Ramping Up this Fall

The US 36 Express Lanes Project will reconstruct or improve eight bridges – some of which are in poor condition. Construction on the Wadsworth Parkway, 112th Avenue and Sheridan Boulevard bridges is scheduled to begin this fall and be completed by fall 2013.

The new bridges at these locations will be built adjacent to the existing bridges with temporary ramps to give access to existing traffic, while creating a safe work zone for crews. Traffic will be realigned to the new bridges once they're completed, at which time the old bridges will be demolished. The placement of bridge girders will require full nighttime closures of US 36 over the course of two weeks.

In addition, minor widening began this summer on three other bridges along the corridor and work will continue through the fall.

Demolition of the first phase of the westbound US 36 bridge over Lowell Boulevard is complete, and crews will begin building the foundations for the new bridge in October. Nighttime work and a one-week closure of Lowell Boulevard are necessary to complete the girder placement on the new bridge. More information will be released as the work is scheduled.

Crews continue to remove the railings on the US 36 bridges over East and West Flatiron Crossing in preparation for widening the bridges. *(continued on page 2)*

## Slow for the Cone Zone!

As construction heats up on the US 36 Express Lanes Project, driver and worker safety deserve increased attention. Equipment, workers, barriers, realignments and signs require additional attention from all drivers. Please obey lower speed limits and flaggers and put away all distractions while driving through work zones. With your help, we can keep this project safe!

### Work Zone Facts

- 85% of work zone fatalities are motorists and occupants
- In Colorado last year (2011), preliminary statistics show there were 830 work zone crashes, resulting in 96 injuries and 10 fatalities, many of which could have been prevented.
- About 600 people die and more than 37,000 people are injured in work zone crashes nationwide.
- In a typical five-day work week, an average of seven motorists and one highway worker are killed nationwide.

## Bridges

*(continued from page 1)*

Starting in October, crews will construct the foundations of these new structures and set girders, which also require two weeks of nighttime work.

Information about construction and traffic detours will be provided on the project website under "Traveler Impacts," as schedules are finalized.



## Upcoming Construction Activities

- Pile driving operations have started and will continue this month on the US 36 bridges over East Flatiron Crossing Drive and Lowell Boulevard, and on the new Wadsworth Parkway and 112th bridges. This work is necessary to build the foundation for the new bridge structure and involves driving large steel beams into the ground. Work will take place during daytime hours starting at 8 a.m. and be completed by 5 p.m. daily. An increase in noise is expected during these hours.
- Starting on Monday, Oct. 8, Commerce Street in Broomfield will be completely closed from 116th Avenue to 118th Avenue. The closure will allow crews to reconstruct and realign Commerce Street to the north/east to make way for the widening of US 36. In addition, a 5-foot sidewalk will be constructed. Commerce Street is scheduled to reopen by the end of November 2012. Parking will not be allowed along Commerce Street during construction or following the construction. RTD patrons currently using Commerce Street for parking can use the RTD parking structure adjacent to the 1STBANK Center on the opposite side of US 36.
- Retaining wall construction at the US 36 bridge over Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railway and along Industrial Way in Broomfield.
- Grading and drainage installation work from Federal Boulevard to 88th Street along westbound US 36.
- Bridge construction at Wadsworth Parkway, Sheridan Boulevard and 112th Avenue.
- Continued work on US 36 bridges over East and West Flatiron Crossing Drive.
- Preparation and mobilization for the installation of temporary pavement on westbound US 36.

## US 36 Public Information Meetings

The initial series of public information meetings for the US 36 Express Lanes Project were a huge success with more than 100 attendees. Meetings were held in Broomfield, Westminster and Boulder for stakeholders, business owners and the general public. Key representatives from the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), Regional



Transportation District (RTD), Ames/Granite, HDR and 36 Commuting Solutions were available throughout the evening to answer questions about the project and discuss design.

These meetings were an opportunity to engage with the project team and gain valuable information about the US 36 Express Lanes Project. Thanks to everyone who attended. Continue to look for scheduled meetings as the project continues.



## US 36 EXPRESS LANES PROJECT FACTS

### Project Boundaries

Federal Boulevard to 88th Street in Louisville/Superior.

### Project Elements

The US 36 Express Lanes Project is a multi-modal project led by the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), Colorado High Performance Transportation Enterprise (HPTE), and Regional Transportation District (RTD) to reconstruct 10 miles of US 36 from Federal Boulevard to 88th Street in Louisville/Superior.

### The project will:

- Add an express lane in each direction of US 36 for Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), High Occupancy Vehicles (HOV) and tolled Single Occupancy Vehicles (SOV);
- Reconstruct existing pavement on US 36 and widen the highway to accommodate 12-foot

inside and outside shoulders;

- Replace the Wadsworth Parkway, Wadsworth Boulevard (at 112th Avenue), and Sheridan Boulevard bridges, and the US 36 bridges over Lowell Boulevard and the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway;
- Add BRT improvements, including new electronic display signage at stations and bus priority improvements at ramps. The improvements also will allow buses to operate on the shoulders of US 36 and between interchanges to decrease bus travel time.
- Install Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) for tolling, transit, traveler information, and incident management;
- Install a separate commuter bikeway along much of the corridor; and
- Improve RTD stations along the corridor, including new canopies with enhanced weather protection.

## US 36 Express Lanes Phase II Update

In addition to the current construction on US 36, there are plans for Phase II of the project, which would extend the Express Lanes and bikeway from 88th Street in Louisville/Superior to Foothills Parkway in Boulder. The draft Request for Proposals (RFP) has been released, and the final RFP should be released late this fall. CDOT plans to select a contractor in spring 2013, have a financial close in fall 2013 and begin construction by early 2014. For more information, go to [www.coloradodot.info/projects/US36ExpressLanes/88th-to-foothills-pkwy](http://www.coloradodot.info/projects/US36ExpressLanes/88th-to-foothills-pkwy).

## US 36 Noise Wall Update

The project team has received several calls from residents about the future installation of noise barriers along US 36. During the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process, a noise analysis was completed to document potential noise impacts and to identify locations where noise mitigation would be required. At this time, the project team is updating the noise analysis to verify the locations and heights of noise barriers. As the design progresses and specific locations are determined, we will make this information available to the general public. Watch the US 36 Express Lanes newsletter and websites for more details. For more information about noise barriers on CDOT projects visit [www.coloradodot.info/programs/environmental/noise/noise-faqs.html](http://www.coloradodot.info/programs/environmental/noise/noise-faqs.html).



US 36 Noise Wall Rendering

## US 36 Express Lanes Informational Kiosk

You can now find even more information on the US 36 Express Lanes Project with the installation of an information kiosk at the Flatirons Mall. The kiosk is located in the food court across from Guest Services, and provides the latest project photos, information and updates available. The mall welcomes more than 3 million visitors to this area every year, making this the perfect location for the kiosk.

## US 36 Express Lanes Lunch and Learn Sessions

The US 36 Express Lanes Public Information team continues to host Lunch and Learn Sessions along the project. These are a great resource for educating your employees and co-workers about upcoming construction activities, construction impacts and alternative options for transportation. To schedule a Lunch and Learn Session, contact Sheryl Machado at 303-404-7014. Lunch and Learn Sessions can be scheduled on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays between 11:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.

## 36 Commuting Solutions Corner

*Workplace Ambassador Network: Activate Commuting at Your Workplace*



36 Commuting Solutions is always on the lookout for those who are passionate about making a difference in the way people commute. That is why they developed a Workplace Ambassador Network (WAN) program. The purpose of the WAN is to foster a network of corridor company representatives who wish to

inspire their colleagues to give active commuting a try.

The role of a Workplace Ambassador is unique for each organization. 36 Commuting Solutions will work with you to understand which transportation resource works best for your organization and supply you with RTD, carpool, bicycling and telework information you need to share with your colleagues.



If you are interested in becoming a Workplace Ambassador for your business, or simply wish to learn more about the WAN, visit [www.36commutingsolutions.org](http://www.36commutingsolutions.org) or email [info@36commutingsolutions.org](mailto:info@36commutingsolutions.org).