



# XPRESS

February 2015

## CONTACT US

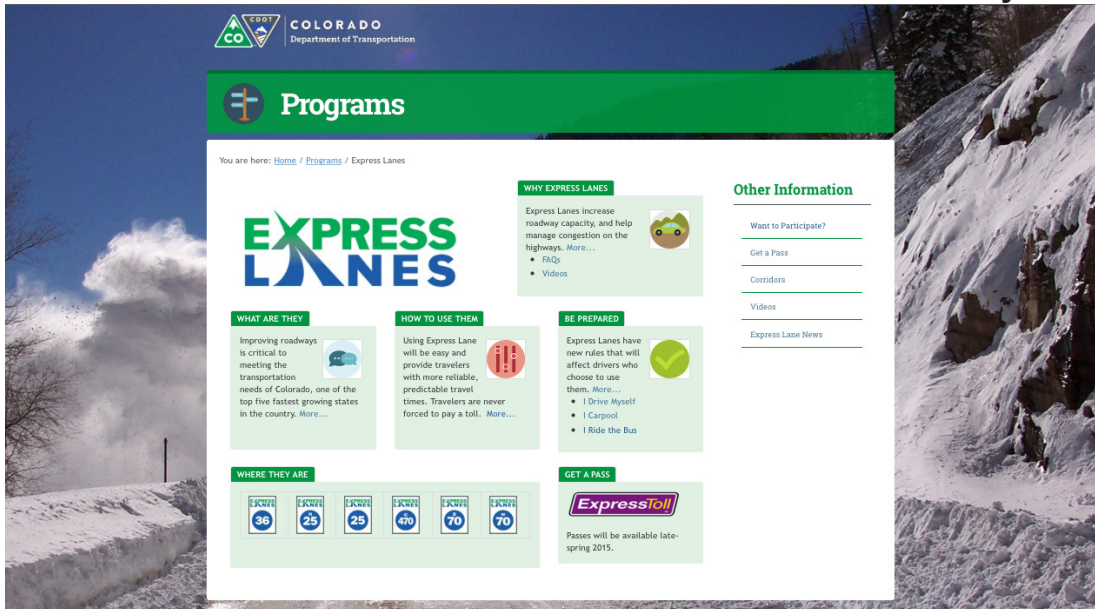
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To receive email updates during the project, click on the cell phone icon in the upper right corner. You can then subscribe to a variety of lists including “US 36 Express Lanes Project.”

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Homepage of the new CDOT Express Lanes website

## NEW YEAR, NEW WEBSITE

The new year means exciting progress for the US 36 Express Lanes Project and exciting changes for the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT) website.

CDOT recently launched a new website and educational video in anticipation of the opening of the first phase of the US 36 Express Lanes Project this summer. The new website - [expresslanes.codot.gov](http://expresslanes.codot.gov) - was created to convey information in a clear, concise and easy manner so that motorists can get where they need to go safely and effectively. Similarly, the “[How to Use Express Lanes Video](#)” is an additional tool to help motorists understand what they need to know to use the four new Express Lanes opening in the next year.

New features of the website include an easy-to-use landing page, updated Express Lanes information, easy access for setting up an ExpressToll account and an upgraded search function. The site will also size correctly on any device that it is loaded on, such as an iPhone, Android or tablet, giving people access to all the necessary information at any time.

“The Express Lanes are all about choice, and we have incorporated a lot of great tools on the website, including the new video, to enable people to make choices in how they travel,” said Amy Ford, CDOT Communications Director. “While we have Express Lanes on I-25 now, many of these lanes will function a little differently, so we hope this information is useful to everyone from drivers to transit riders to bicyclists.”

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## NEW CDOT WEBSITE

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The five-minute “How to Use Express Lanes Video” anticipates that as the Express Lanes open, motorists will have lots of questions. The video addresses tolling, carpooling, Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), passes and many other important topics. It also provides an animated visual of what many of the Express Lanes will look like once they are completed and explains innovative components – like Active Traffic Management – which are new to the state.

Express Lanes increase roadway capacity, and help manage congestion on the highways. The use of toll pricing during peak travel times reduces delays, manages congestion and maintains reliable travel times. Express Lanes currently span seven miles on I-25, between downtown Denver and US 36, and are being built on I-25 in both directions to 120th Avenue and on US 36 to Boulder. Both Express Lanes corridors are scheduled to open later this year. Additionally, CDOT is planning Express Lanes in major mobility corridors across Colorado including I-70 through east Denver and in the mountains, and C-470 – as a way to effectively manage traffic congestion. For more information about Express Lanes, visit [expresslanes.codot.gov](http://expresslanes.codot.gov).

## US 36 MASTER ECOPASS PILOT PROGRAM TO REDUCE TRAFFIC CONGESTION

Thanks to funding in part from Ames Granite Joint Venture and the US 36 Express Lanes Project, 36 Commuting Solutions is launching the first RTD Master EcoPass Pilot Program along US 36. The nonprofit organization is providing EcoPasses to 919 employees who work for 25 employers.

Organizations located within one-quarter mile of US 36•McCaslin, US 36•Broomfield and US 36•Sheridan Park-n-Rides were eligible for the EcoPasses. This initiative is part of a larger Transportation Demand Management (TDM) program in conjunction with the US 36 Express Lanes Project. At its peak, the TDM effort will reduce traffic congestion by close to 27,000 vehicle miles of travel per day.



The EcoPass program launch at Home Depot

The EcoPasses are free in 2015, and employers will receive 70 percent off the Master EcoPass contracts in 2016. The EcoPass is valid for unlimited rides on all RTD Local, Express and Regional bus service, Light Rail and Call-n-Ride service. Employees with an EcoPass pay only \$2.50 each way for SkyRide service to Denver International Airport. In the case of an emergency such as an unplanned schedule change, the Guaranteed Ride Home program gives EcoPass holders a free taxi ride home.

The pilot program will inspire employees to use transit and assist employers with attracting and retaining good talent. Another benefit of the program includes more parking spaces near employers as space is freed up from commuters leaving their cars behind.

As a result of this pilot program, more commuters will be using the US 36 Express Lanes and Bus Rapid Transit after the construction project is complete in early 2016.

## CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

South Boulder Creek Trail Closure - The South Boulder Creek Trail will remain closed on either side of US 36 until Sunday, March 15. The trail between South Boulder Road and Marshall Road will remain open, however, for the safety of the traveling public, access under US 36 will not be allowed. This closure is necessary for the improvements being made to the South Boulder Creek bridge.

BNSF Bridge - Construction on the final phase of the new bridge will continue through February.

US 36 Bridge over Promenade - Final aesthetics work will continue through March.



BNSF bridge work