

CHOOSE YOUR MOVE



US 36
EXPRESS LANES PROJECT

XPRESS

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New noise walls and bikeway near US 36 and 92nd Avenue

PHASE 1 OF US 36 EXPRESS LANES RAMPING UP TO WIND DOWN

As the final winter of construction on Phase 1 wraps up, the spring will welcome the completion of the first 11 miles of the US 36 Express Lanes Project from Federal Boulevard to 88th Street. The project is now 80 percent complete and will open to the public in early July. There are many disciplines involved to complete the project including drainage, structures, Intelligent Transportation System (ITS), roadway construction, paving, bikeway and wall construction. Here is a breakdown of the work ramping up to wind down:

- Drainage – 91 percent complete with nearly 16 miles installed
- Structures – 90 percent complete with all of the five bridge reconstructions nearing completion, and work progressing on widening of the Westminster Promenade, completing BNSF bridge
- Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) Installation – 70 percent complete
- Overhead Sign Structure Installation – 80 percent complete
- Paving Operations – 72 percent complete
- Retaining and Noise Wall Installation – 75 percent complete
- Bikeway Construction and Paving – 75 percent complete

The westbound paving will continue through the winter as temperatures allow, and crews will work to tie in the westbound US 36 on- and off- ramps with the new pavement. RTD bus station improvements will continue as canopies, electrical conduits and platforms are constructed throughout the corridor. As the project reaches spring, crews will begin painting the bridges, striping the roadways, and completing landscaping.

“It is great to see everyone and everything coming together to be able to deliver a quality product to CDOT, RTD and HPTE this year,” said Ernie Green, Ames Granite Project Manager. “To date, there have been 1.1 million man-hours worked to deliver this project.”

Once Phase 1 is complete, Ames Granite will focus more resources, equipment and manpower to Phase 2 to complete that portion of the project by early 2016.



SAFE WINTER DRIVING TIPS



January is sure to bring more snow on the US 36 Express Lanes Project, and winter driving can be hazardous and scary. Taking steps to prepare your vehicle and yourself can help make a trip safer or help you deal with an emergency.

The Three P's of Safe Winter Driving:

1. **PREPARE** for the trip.
2. **PROTECT** yourself.
3. **PREVENT** crashes on the road.

PREPARE

Maintain Your Car: Check battery, tire tread and windshield wipers, keep your windows clear, use no-freeze washer fluid and check your antifreeze.

Have On Hand: flashlight, jumper cables, abrasive material (sand, kitty litter, even floor mats), shovel, snow brush and ice scraper, warning devices (like flares) and blankets. For long trips, add food and water, medication and a cell phone.

Stopped or Stalled? Stay with your car, put bright markers on antenna or windows and shine the dome light so you can be easily seen. If you have to run your car, make sure the exhaust pipe is clear and run it just long enough to stay warm.

Plan Your Route: Allow plenty of time (check the weather and leave early if necessary), be familiar with the maps/directions, and let others know your route and arrival time.

Practice Cold Weather Driving!

- During daylight, rehearse maneuvering slowly on the ice or snow in an empty lot
- Steer into a skid
- Know what your brakes will do: stomp on antilock brakes or pump non-antilock brakes
- Don't idle for a long time with the windows up or in an enclosed space

PROTECT YOURSELF

- Buckle up and use child safety seats properly
- Never place a rear-facing infant seat in front of an air bag
- Children 12 and under are much safer in the back seat

PREVENT CRASHES

- Plan ahead if you're planning to drink and designate a sober driver
- Slow down and increase distances between cars
- Keep your eyes open for pedestrians walking in the road
- Avoid fatigue – get plenty of rest before any trip, stop at least every three hours, and rotate drivers if possible
- Drive distraction-free by putting away phones and any other distractions before you start your car



JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Over the past two years, more and more people have changed their commuting routine from a solo endeavor to a community affair. By offering cash incentives and teaching people about different commuting options, the nonprofit organization, 36 Commuting Solutions, has inspired travelers along the US 36 corridor to explore and broaden their transportation horizons.

36 Commuting Solutions started the Commuter Incentive Program (CIP) to spark the community's interest in alternative transportation methods. The program focused on shifting Single Occupant Vehicles (SOV) to different commuting options such as riding the bus, vanpooling and even teleworking. According to a recent survey, 36 Commuting Solutions has affected 73 percent of its participant's commuting routines through the program.

"Getting people to explore additional transportation methods is about education, outreach and shifting people's behaviors about commuting," said Audrey DeBarros, Executive Director of 36 Commuting Solutions. "Between August 2012 and September 2014, CIP participants reduced an estimated 17,125 vehicle miles traveled or 213 commuter trips."

Additionally, 36 Commuting Solutions has distributed 166 10-Ride Regional Ticket books from the Regional Transportation District, awarded four commuters with subsidies for vanpooling, and hosted four Telework introduction training sessions. As a result of the US 36 CIP, 51 percent of commuters said the program influenced their current commute behavior somewhat and 22 percent said the program influenced them a great deal.

The goal of the program is that the short-term commuting habit changes for construction will become long-term commuting behaviors.

