

XPRESS

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Photos from top to bottom: 1) staging the Uptown Avenue bridge opening ceremony; 2) Mayors Pat Quinn of Broomfield and Nancy McNally of Westminster cut the ribbon; 3) the first car to proudly journey across the new bridge, a 1957 Oldsmobile 88

OUT WITH THE OLD AND DRIVING ON THE NEW

The Uptown Avenue bridge opened to traffic on Tuesday, Oct. 15, replacing the 112th Avenue/Olde Wadsworth bridge. The Uptown Avenue bridge opening ceremony marked a major project milestone. The 62-year-old structure, demolished in late September over the course of two nights, was the first of the old major bridges to be torn down and one of five bridges being completely rebuilt on the project. Three more are being widened to accommodate additional lanes on the highway. Representatives from the Regional Transportation District (RTD), the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), Westminster, Broomfield, and other local stakeholders in the area helped to celebrate the event with an official ribbon cutting. Speakers included Tim Harris from CDOT, John Cater from the Federal Highway Administration, Mayor Pat Quinn of Broomfield, Mayor Nancy McNally of Westminster and RTD Director Judy Lubow. The bridge opened to through traffic directly following the event.



BROOMFIELD'S NEW BUNDLE OF JOY

People traveling the US 36 corridor may notice that the aging Wadsworth Parkway bridge that spanned the highway for 62 years is conspicuously absent, a shiny new structure proudly established in its place. The demolition of the old Wadsworth Parkway bridge took a total of 18 hours, over the course of two nights, to accomplish. Forty girders, weighing approximately 500,000 pounds, were torn down and hauled off to be recycled. In preparation for the demolition of the old bridge, traffic was completely realigned onto the new structure, marking a major milestone for the project. The Wadsworth Parkway bridge is one of three bridges along the corridor that Ames Granite committed to having replaced and reopened by fall 2013. The



Cars on the new Wadsworth Parkway bridge

whole Wadsworth Parkway interchange is receiving a much needed facelift. Helping to ease congestion is the construction of a new ramp providing access to westbound US 36 from northbound Wadsworth Parkway, which allows for a free flow of traffic without a signal. With a few minor touches left, including some final pavement and signal installation, the new Wadsworth Parkway interchange will be set in its final configuration and ready to show off in the weeks ahead.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT ENROLLMENT GROWING

The Ames Granite Joint Venture is expanding the Workforce Development Program for the US 36 Express Lanes Project. The Workforce Development Program is a partnership with the Colorado Contractors Association (CCA), Workforce Initiative Now (WIN) and the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT). The purpose of the program is to offer on-the-job-training and classroom construction craft training to Ames Granite Joint Venture employees and sub-contractors interested in the construction industry and bring more minorities, women and the disadvantaged into construction. Currently, there are 62 people enrolled, including 30 Ames Granite employees on the job.



Coordinated effort to install noise wall panels along eastbound US 36

Since the inception of the program, there have been 18 graduates, who continue to excel on the project in their respective disciplines. The program provides quality training in heavy equipment operation, pipe laying, carpentry, truck driving, safety and other professional services. It has been a big asset to the project, providing training opportunities and helping people to become integral team members.

NOISE WALLS RECYCLED FOR LOCAL BASEBALL FIELD

The Brighton High School baseball team hit a home run acquiring the wood from the noise walls recently removed along eastbound US 36. A member from the Dugout Booster Club with Brighton High School contacted Ames Granite about donating the wood to build a fence for their outfield. Crews were able to provide approximately 1,400 feet of wood for the fence. With limited funding for programs and facilities, the Booster Club is thrilled the project could make this a "Win" for everyone involved.



Old fence pickets donated to create new outfield fence