

CHOOSE YOUR MOVE



**US 36**  
EXPRESS LANES PROJECT

# XPRESS

July 2014

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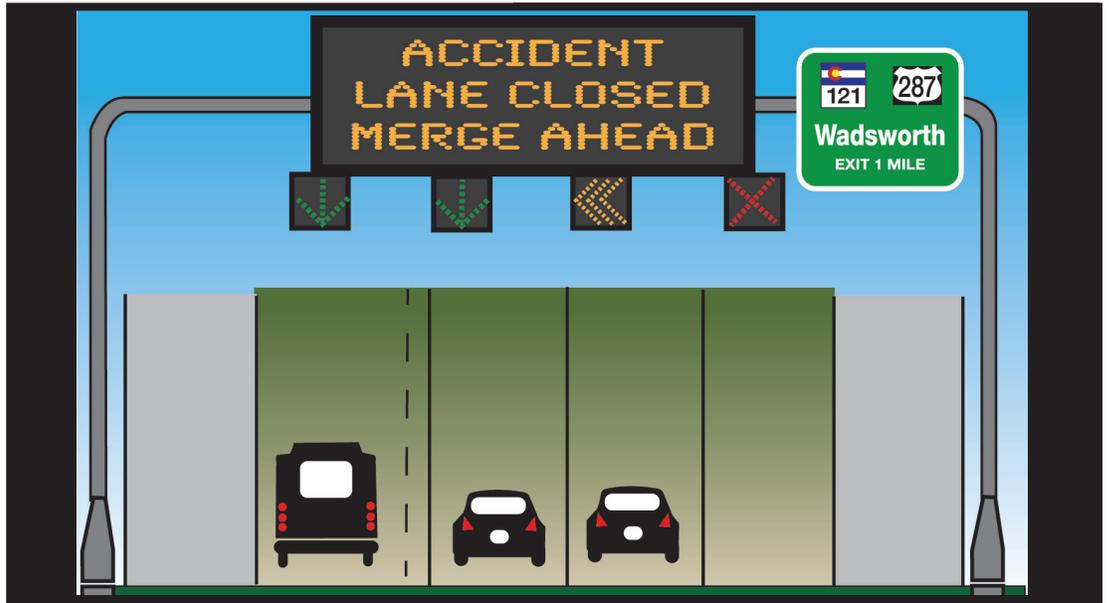
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Rendering of the new overhead signage designed to keep traffic moving

## BRINGING INNOVATION TO THE US 36 CORRIDOR

The complete overhaul of US 36 is not only rejuvenating the aging corridor, but also bringing exciting new technology and innovative traffic management solutions as well. State-of-the-art overhead signage and the ability for buses to temporarily drive on shoulders are two high-profile tactics that have been implemented successfully in other parts of the nation, and will be used on the US 36 corridor.

Active Traffic Management (ATM) is used to reduce accidents and keep traffic flowing when there's congestion and blocked lanes. The new overhead signage will provide advance notice of traffic conditions. Symbols will alert drivers to take action, such as reducing speeds as they approach areas of congestion, or to change lanes if a lane is closed ahead. The system allows motorists to plan ahead and avoid sudden braking. ATM is designed to mitigate collisions and accidents by preventing stop-and-go traffic and the inconsistent speeds that result.

Another innovative addition to US 36 is the allowance of RTD buses to temporarily use the shoulder as a travel lane during congested periods, known as Bus on Shoulder. If traffic in the general purpose lanes is moving at speeds lower than 35 mph, the local buses will have the option of using the shoulder to bypass backups. The buses will be allowed to travel up to 15 mph faster than that of the general purpose traffic to help maintain their schedule.

Studies have shown that these strategies ease congestion overall and increase lane capacity, traffic flow and highway safety. These are just a few of the numerous advantages these innovative techniques provide, and all those who utilize US 36 will reap the benefits.

Upon project completion drivers will have smooth new roads, more travel choice and advanced technology to improve their trip on US 36.

## CELEBRATING ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL BIKE TO WORK DAY

If your commute on Wednesday, June 25, felt a little lighter, it was not just your imagination -- Colorado celebrated Bike to Work Day with more than 20,000 registered riders. This annual Colorado tradition has gained great momentum since the City of Boulder first celebrated the event more than 25 years ago.

In 1995, the Denver Regional Council of Governments began supporting and coordinating the event, linking all of the cities and counties' events together. In years past, as many as 27,000 cars were removed from Colorado roads as bicyclists attempted to conquer their commutes on two wheels. Along the US 36 Express Lanes Project, cyclists stopped by several of the breakfast stations to grab snacks and freebies before peddling their way to work. Many regions celebrated with Bike to Home Parties in the afternoon and evening.



Bike to Work Day participants at East Interlocken Park

CDOT Project Director Mark Gosselin believes that upon completion of the new bikeway along US 36, the number of bikeway commuters will increase dramatically.

"The new bikeway is an essential component of this project that will make biking to work a daily reality, and a truly viable option for commuters along the corridor," he said.

For more information about this year's Bike to Work Day, visit [www.biketowork2014.org](http://www.biketowork2014.org).

## COURTESY PATROL KEEPING US 36 TRAVELERS ON TRACK

When Ames Granite Courtesy Patrol driver Joe Ross pulled up to a broken-down vehicle on a Tuesday afternoon, he had no idea the impact he would have on the distraught couple trying to catch their flight back to Israel. Mindy Gibon and her husband were vacationing in the area and were heading to the airport when their rental car broke down. They were having trouble communicating with the rental car company due to a language barrier when Ross pulled up.

"I got on the phone with their rental car company and told them about the situation," said Ross. "I told them how I thought the car had overheated, and the agent asked me to perform a few routine checks before I towed them to a nearby gas station."

Ross towed them at no charge to either them or the rental car company and accompanied the couple while they awaited their replacement rental car.

Upon her successful arrival back in Israel, Mrs. Gibon called Ames Granite Superintendent Richard Marquez to share her gratitude.

"She wanted to thank Ross for helping them during a crisis they had not anticipated," Marquez said. "She went on to explain how Ross provided them with directions on where to go for dinner and how to avoid rush hour traffic while they made their way to the airport, reassuring them the entire time that they would not miss their flight."

For Ross, it is helping people in need that makes his work so fulfilling, because as a part-time car repossession company owner, he often experiences the frustration of customers he is towing. Working for Ames Granite over the past year and a half has provided Ross with what he calls "balance" in his life.

"I get more excitement helping people on a given day than you could ever imagine," said Ross.

During construction of the US 36 Express Lanes Project, the courtesy patrol drivers have assisted more than 2,500 stranded motorists on the roadway, helping with everything from flat tires and overheated cars, to accidents. The goal of the courtesy patrol is to assist and remove cars from the roadway while minimizing impacts to other travelers and keeping the traffic safe and on track.