



# THE US 6th SENSE



**US 6 Bridges  
Design Build**

*Keeping you in tune with US 6 Bridges Design Build Project activities*

## In This Issue

[MONTHLY FEATURE](#)

[CONSTRUCTION UPDATE](#)

[PROJECT TEAM](#)

[WORK ZONE AWARENESS  
WEEK](#)

[NOTE FROM THE PROJECT  
DIRECTOR](#)

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[us6bridgesinfo@cig-pr.com](mailto:us6bridgesinfo@cig-pr.com)

April 2014

## Greetings!

Welcome to the first issue of The US 6th Sense - a monthly e-newsletter designed to keep you updated on the ins and outs of the US 6 Bridges Design-Build Project. Each issue will contain information on progress being made and upcoming activities so you can be on the lookout. We will also sprinkle in stories that take you beyond the construction you see. If you have a question about the project or perhaps see something on your US 6 commute that you would like us to address in this newsletter, send us an email at [us6bridgesinfo@cig-pr.com](mailto:us6bridgesinfo@cig-pr.com). We hope you find this newsletter to be informative, but we also understand your email box can be overwhelmed so if you would like us to remove you from our list, click the "SafeUnsubscribe" link at the very bottom of the page.

## MONTHLY FEATURE: AN INTRODUCTION

At its core, this is a multiple-bridge replacement project with the primary function of improving safety and efficiency of travel on US 6, one of the region's busiest highways. The project is set to replace six bridges, each having been identified as either functionally obsolete or structurally deficient. These six bridges include:



*Knox Court bridge over US 6*



*Federal Boulevard bridge over US 6*



*US 6 bridge over Bryant Street*



*US 6 bridge over I-25*



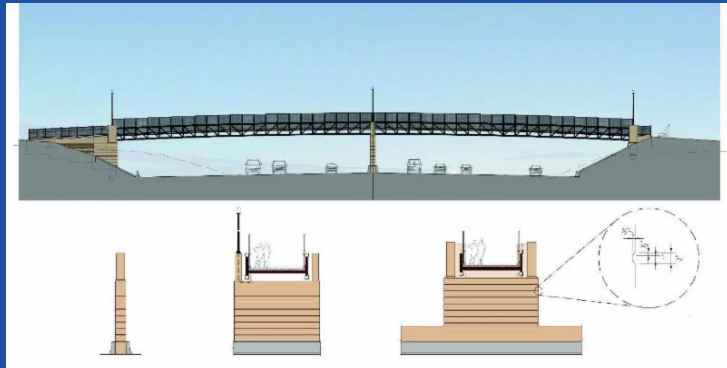
*US 6 bridge over South Platte River*



## US 6 bridge over BNSF tracks

The project corridor spans from Knox Court on the west through the US 6 bridge over the BNSF train tracks extending just east of I-25. And while the featured elements of this project include replacing these bridges, it will also make the following improvements to the corridor:

- Build new ramp structures to accommodate traffic exiting and entering US 6, while minimizing traffic weave movements
- Construct a bicycle/pedestrian bridge over US 6 (below), connecting Barnum Park North with Barnum Park South

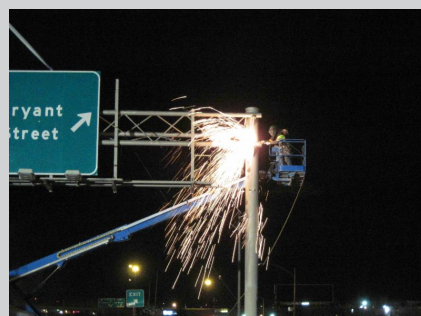


- Improve mobility and safety through the I-25/US 6 interchange
- Replace and improve impacted facilities in Barnum Park East

The Federal Highway Administration, the Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT), City and County of Denver and the Colorado Bridge Enterprise are all providing funding for this \$98 million project. Edward Kraemer and Sons, Inc. is the contractor of record and has enlisted the assistance of their lead design consultant, Felsburg, Holt & Ullevig and a bevy of subcontractors to complete the project on time and within budget.

Roadwork on the US 6 Bridges Design Build Project began in February 2014 and the project is scheduled to be complete by the fall of 2015 - nearly one year ahead of CDOT's original completion goal.

## CONSTRUCTION UPDATE



### *What we've accomplished*

- Demolished the following structures:
  - Knox Court bridge
  - Eastern portion of the Federal Boulevard bridge
  - Northern portion of the US 6 bridge over Bryant Street
  - Southern portion of US 6 bridge over I-25
  - 100 percent of the Phase 1 portion of US 6 bridge over South Platte River
  - 95 percent of the Phase 1 portion of US 6 bridge over BNSF tracks
- Began construction of new Knox Court bridge
- Permanently closed westbound US 6 off-ramp to Bryant Street
- Began work in Barnum Park North with parking lot improvements and trail widening
- Demolished and removed Days Inn lobby
- Installed storm drains on 5th Avenue at Decatur; constructed retaining wall and sidewalk on south side of 5th Avenue
- Completed new water main on Canosa Court (replacing the existing line dating back to 1906)
- Installed new water main between Alcott and Bryant

### *Coming in April*

- Begin construction of the new US 6 bridge over I-25
- Build center pier and setting of girders for new Knox Court bridge
- New traffic alignment on US 6, moving all traffic to the south side of the highway
  - This will result in a temporary closure of the westbound US 6 off-ramp to Lowell/Perry, scheduled to last six months
- *Barnum Park North*: Continue with trail and parking lot improvements
- *Barnum Park East*: Relocate outfield lighting; install new fencing in baseball field
- Ongoing work to rebuild each bridge structure
- Continued widening of Federal
- Reconstruct 5th Avenue between Federal and Decatur
- Retaining walls

## **MEET THE PROJECT TEAM**

The US 6 Bridges Design-Build Project is being designed and constructed by a single, unified team comprised of the construction contractor, Edward Kraemer and Sons, Inc., the designer, Felsburg Holt & Ullevig (FHU), and more than a dozen sub-consultants. These companies bring a true understanding of the community, having worked on more than 20 projects within a three-mile radius of this project area.

### **Colorado Department of Transportation (CDOT)**

The project owner is helping to fund this project along with assistance from Colorado Bridge Enterprise, Federal Highway Administration and City and County of Denver. CDOT leadership overseeing the project include:

- Matthew Pacheco, Resident Engineer
- Kevin Sullivan, Project Director

### **Edward Kraemer and Sons, Inc. (EKS)**

EKS was established in 1911 with roots founded in the construction of bridges and highways. Since then the firm, which has a regional office in Castle Rock, has grown into a fullservice heavy civil and industrial contractor. EKS leadership responsible for delivering the project include:

- Mike Ingram, Design Build Project Manager
- Nathan Corbin, Deputy Design Build Project Manager
- Kassie Watson, Construction Manager
- Ted Banks, Project Superintendent
- Kenda Schmeiser, Traffic Operations Manager



### **Felsburg Holt & Ullevig (FHU)**

Based in Centennial, FHU is a consulting firm that specializes in transportation and environmental planning, traffic engineering and transportation system design.



The Colorado chapter of the American Council of Engineering Companies recognized FHU with its 2013 Engineering Excellence Award for the design of the I-25 and

Alameda Avenue Bridge reconstruction project. FHU leadership working in partnership with EKS on this project include:

- Bill Beams, Design Manager
- Kevin Maddoux, Environmental Compliance Manager

## **NATIONAL WORK ZONE AWARENESS WEEK**

Each April, National Work Zone Awareness Week helps bring attention to motorist and worker safety and mobility issues in work zones. This year's awareness week runs from Sunday, April 6, through Saturday, April 12.

Since 1999, the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) has worked with the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials and the American Traffic Safety Services Association to coordinate and sponsor the event. Over the years, other transportation partners have joined the effort to

support National Work Zone Awareness Week.

The following FHWA Public Roads article describes how the campaign began and what has made it effective throughout the years: [National Work Zone Awareness Week: A Decade of Safety Success](#)

Here are a few safe driving tips for traveling through work zones. Remember, in Colorado, the fines are doubled for most infractions that occur in a work zone. By practicing these safe driving tips, you will help keep Colorado's work zones safe:

- **EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED!** (Normal speed limits may be reduced, traffic lanes may be changed, and people may be working on or near the road.)
- **SLOW DOWN!** (Speeding is one of the major causes of work zone crashes.)
- **DON'T TAILGATE! KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE BETWEEN YOU AND THE CAR AHEAD OF YOU.** (The most common crash in a highway work zone is the rear end collision, so leave two car lengths between you and the car in front of you.)
- **KEEP A SAFE DISTANCE BETWEEN YOUR VEHICLE AND THE CONSTRUCTION WORKERS AND THEIR EQUIPMENT.**
- **PAY ATTENTION TO THE SIGNS!** (The warning signs are there to help you and other drivers move safely through the work zone. Observe the posted signs until you see the one that says you've left the work zone.)
- **OBEY ROAD CREW FLAGGERS!** (The flagger knows what is best for moving traffic safely in the work zone. A flagger has the same authority as a regulatory sign, so you can be cited for disobeying his or her directions.)
- **STAY ALERT AND MINIMIZE DISTRACTIONS!** (Dedicate your full attention to the roadway and avoid changing radio stations or using cell phones while driving in a work zone.)
- **SCHEDULE ENOUGH TIME TO DRIVE SAFELY AND CHECK RADIO, TV AND WEBSITES FOR TRAFFIC INFORMATION.** (Expect delays and leave early so you can reach your destination on time.)
- **BE PATIENT AND STAY CALM.** (Work zones aren't there to personally inconvenience you. Remember, the work zone crew members are working to improve the road and make your future drive better.)

## NATIONAL WORK ZONE AWARENESS WEEK 2014



Fines . . . jail time . . . a life  
Work Zone Speeding:  
A Costly Mistake  
[wsdot.wa.gov/safety/brake](http://wsdot.wa.gov/safety/brake)



For more information, visit the links below:

[CDOT page](#)

[FHWA page](#)

### **NOTE FROM KEVIN SULLIVAN, PROJECT DIRECTOR**

*This project is one that should get people excited. In the construction world, it's a fast mover with a highly aggressive schedule designed to complete nearly three years of work in fewer than two.*

*When we are finished, US 6 will be a safer and more efficient thoroughfare to take commuters where they need to go, while connecting locally impacted neighborhoods and communities.*

*To the traveling public, local businesses, impacted residents and anyone else with a stake in the successful completion of this project, we would all like to thank you for bearing with the short-term pain and understand that the long-term gains will be substantial, making for a safer, high-functioning US 6 and thriving neighborhood communities.*

*Sincerely,*

*Kevin Sullivan  
Project Director  
Colorado Department of Transportation*

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US 6 Bridges Design Build Project | 2590 W. 2nd Avenue | Suite 24 | Denver | CO | 80219