



# THE US 6th SENSE



**US 6 Bridges  
Design Build**

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

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**May 2014**

## Greetings!

Please enjoy the May 2014 edition of *The US 6th Sense*!

## A KNOX TALE

The Knox Court bridge reopens this month, culminating a three-month process that began with crews demolishing the old bridge. We thought this would be the perfect place to pay homage to the noble old bridge, while properly welcoming the new and improved structure to the community.

The old Knox Court bridge (or Structure No. F-16-EL, as it is affectionately referred to around the Colorado Department of Transportation headquarters) was originally built in 1958 with the primary function of connecting the north and south sides of the newly constructed US 6. It is a bridge that has served the community for the years and, fortunately, we are able to replace it with an even stronger, wider and safer bridge that will better serve the community far into the future.

The old Knox Court bridge was 179.5 feet long and 60 feet wide edge to edge, while the new bridge is 157 feet long and 70 feet wide edge to edge. Sidewalks have been widened to 8.5 feet on each side. There are also dedicated bike lanes on each side of the new bridge.

To see a photo timeline of the reconstruction of the Knox Court bridge, from demolition to installation of guardrails, click [here](#).



Old Knox Court bridge



New, nearly complete Knox Court bridge

Here's to making the next half century even better than the first, Knox Court bridge!

## CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

### *April accomplishments*

- Began building the new US 6 bridge over I-25
- Built the center pier and set girders for new Knox Court bridge
- Formed and poured bridge deck and approach slabs for the Knox Court bridge
- Barnum Park North- Continued with trail and parking lot improvements
- Barnum Park East baseball field-relocated outfield lighting
- Reconstructed initial phase of 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue between Federal Boulevard and Decatur Street
- Constructed retaining walls at US 6 over BNSF; US 6 over I-25
- Installed storm drains on US 6
- Drilled caissons for center pier and abutment-US 6 over S. Platte River
- Installed embankment for multi-purpose sports field in Barnum Park East
- Installed time lapse camera at US 6 and Federal Boulevard

### *May look-ahead*

- Reopening the Knox Court bridge
- Full weekend closure of Federal Boulevard at 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue (see ALERT below) for complete intersection reconstruction
- Setting girders on the US 6 bridges over the BNSF train tracks and the South Platte River
- New traffic alignment on US 6, moving all traffic to the south (eastbound) 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

## **ALERT: WEEKEND CLOSURE OF FEDERAL BOULEVARD COMING MAY 9-12**

Beginning the night of Friday, May 9, both directions of Federal Boulevard will be closed at 5th Avenue for intersection reconstruction as part of the Colorado Department of Transportation's (CDOT) ongoing US 6 Bridges Design Build Project. The intersection will close around 9 p.m. on Friday night and reopen by 5:30 a.m. Monday morning, May 12.

"Doing this work over one weekend will allow the project team to complete work that would otherwise take at least several weeks and require multiple closures," says Kevin Sullivan, CDOT Project Director. "This will significantly speed up the construction schedule and minimize these particular impacts to one weekend only."

During the weekend closure, crews will:

- Remove the existing asphalt and concrete paving
- Remove existing curb & gutter, sidewalks and driveways
- Install storm drains
- Install new concrete paving, curb and gutter, sidewalks and driveways
- Install new traffic signal components
- Re-stripe Federal Boulevard through the intersection

Local business and neighborhood access will be maintained during this closure. To access eastbound US 6, motorists south of the closure can take 2nd Avenue to Bryant Street and go north to 5th Avenue. Motorists north of the closure can take 8th Avenue to Zuni Street and go south on I-25 to reach eastbound US 6. Access to westbound US 6 will be maintained for motorists north of the closure. For those south of the closure trying to get to westbound US 6, take 2nd Avenue to Bryant Street and go north on Bryant and Canosa Court to 8th Avenue then take 8th Avenue west to Federal Boulevard.

Regional through traffic is advised avoid the area altogether and detour around the work if possible by using Alameda Avenue to the south and Colfax Avenue to the north.

## **WORLD PINBALL CHAMPIONSHIP COMING TO GAME EXCHANGE OF COLORADO**

Memorial Day weekend is bringing an exciting event to the project corridor - the 11th annual International Flipper Pinball Association (IFPA) World Pinball Championship! It will run from Friday, May 23, through Sunday, May



25, and will feature 64 of the best pinball players in the world gathering at the Game Exchange of Colorado (2650 W. 6th Ave. Denver, Colo. 80204) to compete for the ultimate prize.

This year's stellar field promises to be one of the most closely contested events in the history of competitive pinball. Sixteen countries will be represented in the field of 64 with the top 16 ranked players in the world testing their flipper skills head-to-head for the first time. It will be a test, not only of endurance and perseverance, but also the artistry necessary to control the nuances of a 2.6 ounce silver ball.

The public is encouraged to attend and watch the competition between the hours of 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. to see the best action. Admission and parking are free.

For more information about the World Pinball Championship, click [here](#). For information about the Game Exchange of Colorado, visit their official [website](#) or [Facebook](#) page.

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

*For those who haven't heard, the much-discussed Lowell/Perry off-ramp from westbound US 6 will remain open following the conclusion of the project. I wanted to touch briefly on the issue and thank the community for their input.*

*We appreciate all the comments we received as we tried to come to a better understanding of the importance of the ramp to the community. We learned that it is a key part of the neighborhood and something most people did not want to lose. We were fortunate to be in a position to accommodate the desire of the community to leave the ramp open at this time.*

*Opening this up to the residents gave us the opportunity to hear directly from those who are most directly affected by this ramp, and we appreciate that so many took such a vested interest in the process. It speaks highly to the inspiring passion dedication of this community.*

*Sincerely,*

*Kevin Sullivan  
Project Director  
Colorado Department of Transportation*

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